

UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL: 3:00pm, July 5th 2016

BC's investment in technology skills brings enormous success for three local students

Trio to compete among world's best at Microsoft Office skills championship

Langley, BC – Three students from British Columbia have proven to be the best in Canada in a Microsoft Office Specialist skills competition.

With British Columbia's new initiative to foster computer science and technology in the classroom, this national win for three BC high school students demonstrates the incredible education technology accomplishments that are coming out of British Columbia, and Canada. Building this foundational knowledge and skill level will help the students thrive in their future careers and education.

The winners of the Microsoft Office Specialist National Championship achieved top test scores in:

Microsoft Excel 2013: Noah Stelting (Surrey Christian School)

Microsoft Word 2013: Connor Grant (Westview Secondary School)

Microsoft PowerPoint 2013: Cassandra O'Callaghan (Westview Secondary School)

The trio will move forward with an all-expenses paid trip, sponsored by CCI Learning to represent Canada at the 2016 Microsoft Office Specialist World Championship in Orlando, Florida from August 7th-10th 2016.

Last year's championship attracted more than 600,000 unique candidates from 80 countries. This year, Microsoft is expecting even more candidates from all over the world. Candidates will compete for a chance to win a \$7,500 scholarship and the title of "World Champion" in their respective categories.

Malcolm Knox, President and CEO of CCI Learning, is proud of the success at Westview Secondary School and Surrey Christian School. He adds, "Canada is an innovative nation, and these students are a reflection of the educational excellence that is being fostered in schools in both BC, and Canada as a whole. I could not be more proud of their brilliant accomplishments at the national level. They now go on to compete against their global peers to see who will be crowned World Champion."

Visit <u>ccilearning.com</u> for more information.

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About CCI Learning

CCI Learning is an education technology company specializing in interactive courseware, certification, software licensing, and educator services. At CCI Learning we take a human-centered approach to learning by focusing on the needs of each individual, offering a variety of learning solutions in productivity, computer science, digital literacy and creative computing. CCI Learning researches and develops award winning courseware for print, electronic and assessment engines that is sold and distributed globally. Founded on this world-leading courseware, CCI Learning has developed Jasperactive, the world's first kinesthetic Microsoft Office learning and validation system mapped to the Microsoft Office Specialist Global Standard.

As a Microsoft Authorized Educational Partner, CCI Learning advances digital literacy, productivity skills and information technology for students, faculty, and staff in academic institutions worldwide by providing globally recognized Microsoft certifications, learning solutions and educator services. CCI Learning has also recently partnered with Code Avengers to offer quality coding curriculum and teaching resources to students across North America.

For additional information, please contact:

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