



For Immediate Release

Manitoba Students Attend Global Youth Institute

(Winnipeg, MB October 21, 2014) – Agriculture in the Classroom-MB Inc. (AITC-M) recently welcomed home two Manitoba high school students from an outstanding experience at the Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa.

Last week 160 students from across the world attended the GYI which is held annually in conjunction with World Food Prize and Borlaug Symposium. This year marked the 100th birthday of the late Norman Borlaug and 20th anniversary of the GYI. The two students from Manitoba felt extra proud, as not only did they win the opportunity to attend through writing a paper on world food security, but this is the first time in history that Canadian students have attended the summit. Along with two students from Saskatchewan, Carson Rodgers from Macgregor Collegiate and Sydney Taylor from Portage Collegiate Institute represented their country with accompanying teacher Kim Tait and chaperone Karen Hill, project coordinator with AITC-M.

“The 2014 GYI was held in conjunction with this year’s Borlaug symposium themed: The Greatest Challenge in Human History – Feeding 9 billion in 2050”, stated Johanne Ross , AITC-M Executive Director. “We were thrilled with the opportunity brought forward to us by Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD), to partner together to sponsor and mentor two deserving high school students to experience such a world class symposium. What an amazing growth and learning opportunity for Sydney and Carson, not only to contribute to the proceedings but to experience world renowned speakers and presentations. We are very excited to hear what they will report back.”

A highlight would have been the presentation of the World Food Prize to Dr. Sanjaya Rajaram of Mexico, who led the wheat breeding program that developed 480 wheat varieties that have been released in 51 countries on 6 continents and have been widely adopted by small and large scale farmers. His research led to an increase in world wheat production by more than 200 million tons. As well, his breakthrough breeding technologies have had a significant impact in providing more nutritious food around the globe and alleviating world hunger.

AITC-M plans to bring opportunities to both of these young students to present their experiences gained at the GYI and World Food Prize at several events in the coming school year.

Special thanks to MAFRD and the Manitoba Canola Growers Association for joining together to support this opportunity for Sydney and Carson.

Agriculture in the Classroom- Manitoba Inc. is a non-profit organization supported by individuals and the agriculture industry. The organization runs several programs throughout the year including the Amazing Agriculture Adventure, The Made in Manitoba Breakfast Program, gardening projects, farm tours and other special events. AITC-M also develops and distributes teacher resources to help deliver agriculture information for use within the school curriculum.

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