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News – Local, Regional

May 3rd, 2015

Top Five bound for Canadian Geographic (CG) Challenge final

- What:** Five geography students headed to Canadian Geographic Challenge final
- When:** 1 p.m., Monday, May 4th, 2015
- Where:** Barrick Salon, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, ON
- Who:** Anzo Nguyen, 15, Grade 10, Henry Wise Wood High School, Calgary, **Alberta Champion**
Aaron Abraham, 13, Grade 8, Connect Charter School, Calgary
Adrian Martin, 15, Grade 10, Riverdale Collegiate, Toronto
Malhaar Moharir, 13, Grade 8, University of Toronto School
Patrick Prochazka, 14, Grade 9, Pickering College, Mono, ON

For close to an hour, 20 contenders in the CG Challenge answered questions on topics ranging from geology and wildlife to international capitals. Then it was off to Rideau Hall, home of His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada and patron of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society. There, the contenders tested their map skills in a scavenger hunt to identify tree species, cultural landmarks and unique metals. Now the scores have been tallied and just five teens remain.

Tomorrow is the Challenge's final day. Under glaring stage lights and an audience of hundreds, the five contestants will face off against each other to prove their geography mettle. By hour's end, three will become award winners, but only one will wear the title of Canada's national geography champion. Ottawa celebrity radio host "Stuntman" Stu Schwartz, who also is the Ottawa Senators public address announcer, will moderate the quiz.

The top three will all share the excitement of receiving their \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000 awards from Alex Trebek, celebrity host of the popular game show *Jeopardy!* This live, face-to-face game style show competition was made possible by a US\$100K donation from Trebek to the National Geographic Education Foundation (NGEF). In April 2015, The Royal Canadian Geographical Society received a grant from NGEF to expand its annual Canadian Geographic Challenge to include a live event.

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