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Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
News – Local, Regional
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Top Five bound for Canadian Geographic (CG) Challenge final

What: Five geography students headed to Canadian Geographic Challenge final
When: 12:45 p.m., Sunday, June 5th, 2015
Where: Barney Danson Theatre, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, ON
Who: James Cogswell, Grade 9, Bernice Mac Naughton High School, **N.B. Champion**
Jessica Cao, Grade 10, St. Robert Catholic High School, Thornhill
William Chapman, Grade 7, Gouldbourn Middle School, Stittsville
Aaron Abraham, Grade 9, Webber Academy, Calgary, **Alberta Champion**
Jack Cheng, Grade 10, Western Canada High School, Calgary

It's been a busy day. The 20 Grade 7 to 10 student contenders spent an hour answering tough questions on topics ranging from geology and wildlife to international capitals. Then it was off to Victoria Island, a trade, spiritual and cultural exchange centre for the Algonquin nation on the Ottawa River to for a fieldwork test. They had to prove their map skills in a scavenger hunt to identify tree species, cultural landmarks and unique metals. It wasn't until the early evening that the scores were tallied. The room was tense when the moment of truth came and the final five Canadian Geographic Challenge contestants were announced.

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 in a quiz show style competition. By hour's end, three will become award winners, but only one will wear the title of Canada's national geography champion. The top three will receive, respectively, awards of $5,000, $3,000 and $2,000. Manon St-Jules will moderate the quiz.

The Canadian Geographic Challenge is supported by The Trebek Family Foundation, Google, Canadian North Airline, VIA Rail, the Canadian War Museum and EF Educational Tours Canada. Google provided support to refresh the quiz materials to ensure they dovetail with current trends in geography teaching.

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