

# Belfountain Public School Wins Prestigious Province-Wide Award for Environmental Education Excellence

**The University of Toronto's Edward Burtynsky Award to be  
Presented June 18th at the School's Annual Sunset Barbecue**

**Belfountain, Ontario (June 15, 2010)** — Belfountain Public School has won the grand prize of the prestigious **Edward Burtynsky Award** recognizing Teaching Excellence in Environmental Education. The award is offered by the Institute of Child Study at the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). Winners were announced June 8, 2010. The award will be presented at 7:00 p.m. by Lorraine Chiarotto at Belfountain PS's annual Sunset Barbecue on June 18th on the school's learning grounds at 17247 Shaws Creek Road in Belfountain.

This Award was created to recognize and celebrate outstanding elementary school teachers in the province of Ontario who, through their exemplary teaching methods, create learning situations that inspire students to become environmentally conscious, responsible stewards who take sustainable actions that protect and restore the environment, thereby preserving our earth and creating hope for future generations. This is the first time this award has been presented.

"We've seen first-hand how hard our entire staff has worked to build the school's eco program and we're so proud that this remarkable effort is now being recognized by their peers," said Heather Kendall, who co-chairs the Belfountain School Council along with Kara McIntosh.

"We're all so grateful for the dedication of our school's entire staff to make learning fun and engaging by connecting our children in a meaningful way to the environment around them," said McIntosh.

Belfountain Public School is the first primary level public school in the province to offer a school-wide eco-based curriculum. Their mission is to develop environmental, authentic learning for head, heart, and hands by combining:

E-Environmental Education  
C-conservation  
O-Outdoor recreation.

The school's goals are to foster in students eco-literacy, learning by living, an environmental ethic, and a philosophy of contributing to their community.

Belfountain Public School has also received the Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (EECOM) K-12 Award for outstanding contribution to environmental education and learning; and the Friends of The Credit Certificate of Merit Award for the adoption of an ecological focus in the delivery of Ontario's Elementary Curriculum and on-the-ground projects to restore and enhance the Credit River Watershed.

**For more information on Belfountain PS's Edward Burtynsky Award, the Sunset Barbecue, or the school's eco program in general, contact:**

**Belfountain School Council Co-Chairs:  
Kara McIntosh at 905-838-0128,  
kara.mcintosh@sympatico.ca, or  
Heather Kendall at  
519-927-3061, heatherkendall@rogers.com or  
visit the school's website at [http://  
schools.peelschools.org/1458](http://schools.peelschools.org/1458)**