



NEWS RELEASE

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WINNERS RECOGNIZED FOR UPCYCLING EXCELLENCE

From furniture for people and pets to sculptures, outfits, and kids' play kitchens, an array of artistic and functional creations were entered in the 4th Annual Upcycling Challenge.

Presented by the Township of Langley and the Langley Arts Council, the Challenge encouraged residents to think about the items they may be throwing out and use their imaginations to turn them into something useful and attractive. The event culminated with an awards presentation at Willowbrook Shopping Centre on April 28.

"We were so impressed with the entries – they just keep getting better year after year," said Krista Daniszewski, Langley Township's Sustainability Programs Specialist and coordinator of the Challenge. "We were really happy to once again have them on display at Willowbrook, where so many people can walk by, say 'look at that,' and think about things they may throw out, which could actually be repurposed. It's very inspiring."

This year, four new categories were introduced and the judges ranked the entries so closely, several honourable mentions were added. Prizes were supplied by Willowbrook Shopping Centre, Sierra Waste, and Urban Impact, and were presented to the winners by Township of Langley Mayor Jack Froese and Councillor Angie Quaale.

The recipients were:

- Best Youth (Age 10 – 17): Michelle Quan for her denim pocket bags
- Best Use of Textiles: Phyllis Sabean for her Ribbon Dancer garden art
Honorable mentions went to Shari Bronson for her dress with vest and Samantha Cox for her sandals
- Most Practical: Chris Loewen for his chairs and wine racks made from old skis
Honorable mentions went to Diana Collins for her pet bed and Nancy Eng for her glass serving ware
- Best in Show: Doug May for his Man Cave motorcycle table
Honorable mentions went to Natasha Vanderzwan for her hawk sculpture Stella and Benjamin Vanderkwaak for his sailboat coffee table
- The People's Choice Award, as voted by visitors to the display, went to Natasha Vanderzwan for her Stella sculpture. This is the second year in a row she has won the award.