



REACH NEWS



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Director's Summary

It's been an exciting year of 'Reach' play, with hundreds of school teams pressing buzzers across the country.

Check our website at www.reachforthetop.com during the coming year for updates from provincial co-coordinators on the play schedules in each province, and send photos or information on your 'Reach' activities that we can post on our 'Reach' site.

Our thanks to the teacher-coaches in every province who field teams, arrange play dates, ask questions, judge answers and generally make the Schoolreach tournament system work from sea to sea.

Thanks also to the provincial co-coordinators (see their reports on the following pages) who organized and ran the provincial finals and produced uniformly strong teams to represent each province at the Nationals; to the editorial board of 'Reach,' **Jeremy Willard, Patricia Beecham-Cooper, Stephen Finlay** and **Ian Greig** and to the National Director **Daniel Hill**, and National Co-ordinators **Eric Novakovics** and **Frank Russell**.

Congratulations to everyone involved in 'Reach' for a year of successful games and best wishes for a relaxing summer.


Paul G. Russell
Executive Director,
Reach For The Top

Congratulations to the 2013-2014 National Champions Martingrove C.I.

Mark Greig, Paul Kasinski, Fox Slawnych, Isaac Thiessen,
Jonah Thiessen and Coach Michael Goldberg

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Nova Scotia Report

By Hans Budgey,
Nova Scotia Provincial Co-ordinator

A successful 2013-2014 season of Reach for the Top-Schoolreach, in Nova Scotia, culminated in the two-day Provincial Finals, held this year in Bible Hill, at the Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus, Haley Institute. Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia Provincials sponsor, provided a \$1000 award to the winning team, as well as gift bags to all participants and coaches. On Saturday, April 26th, the preliminary round-robin tournament ended with Dartmouth High School in first place overall. The round-robin standings were as follows:

Rank	Team	W	L	PF	PA	Diff.
1	Dartmouth High School	5	0	1520	620	+900
2	Cobequid Educational Centre	4	1	1260	910	+350
3	North Colchester High School	3	2	1020	950	+70
4	Three Oaks Senior High School	2	3	940	950	-10
5	Glace Bay High School	1	4	560	1190	-630
6	Auburn Drive High School	0	5	520	1200	-680

On Sunday, April 27th, the finals were held; using the seeding results from Day 1 of the competition, the following playoff schedule took place: (with point differentials in brackets for the losing teams)

#1 Dartmouth HS	440
#6 Auburn Drive	120 (-320)
#2 Cobequid Ed. Centre	340
#5 Glace Bay HS	190 (150)
#3 North Colchester HS	160 (90)
#4 Three Oaks Senior HS	250

Semi-Finals

Dartmouth HS	340
North Colchester HS	200
Cobequid Ed. Centre	320
Three Oaks Senior HS	190

3rd Place

North Colchester HS	180
Three Oaks Senior HS	290

Final

Dartmouth HS	380
Cobequid Ed. Centre	260



Congratulations to the champions from Dartmouth High School: Stephanie Fitzner, Dennis Gallant, Maddie Hache, Joshua Kean, Adam Lavergne, Gibson Savell and Kayley Wartman and their Coach/Teacher Advisor, Lynne Wordsworth.

Manitoba Report

By John Martens
Manitoba Provincial Co-ordinator

Reach for the Top in Manitoba this year featured re-aligned divisions and more parity. Our provincial winning teams this year, for both Intermediate and Senior Reach, represented Kelvin High School. This is the first time since 2000 that a public school has captured the Intermediate title and the first time a school has won both in the same year since I have been involved.

We welcomed Maples Collegiate into the Reach ranks this year (one of the largest high schools in the province). We also had Beaver Brae join us again, significant because they are actually from Kenora, Ontario. We are hoping to add more teams next year.

A highlight of the year was a celebrity match in which our provincial champs played a team comprised of local television and print media personalities. The mayor, Sam Katz, read the games in which the students from Kelvin roughly doubled the points scored by the media. Fun was had by all.

The senior runner-up teams were from St. John's-Ravenscourt (senior) and Fort Richmond Collegiate (intermediate). All qualifiers for the Provincials fell within a narrow range of points per game average yielding exciting round-robin play. Thanks to all teams that participated.



Congratulations to the champions from Kelvin H.S.:
Players: Sam Anthony, Ian Shapira, George Penner, John Manning and Nigel Silversides and Coach Raymond Sokalski

Quebec Report

By Nancy McDougall,
Quebec Provincial Co-ordinator



We wrapped up provincial play in Quebec with a very hard-fought series of final games. Going into the play-offs Dawson had been in first place, Marianopolis in second, LCC in third and RWA in fourth. However, In the finals Marianopolis defeated Dawson 390 to 320 to become Provincial Quebec Champions after a nail-biter of a match. Congratulations to the team from Marianopolis and their coach, Cory McKay.

Congratulations to **Marianopolis College**:
Players: **Frederick Tombs, Eric Boeckh, Andre Capretti, Arjun Kaul, Si Jia Li, Nicholas Millot, Matthew Schwartzman** and Coach: **Jeffrey Freeman**

Ontario Report

By Pat Beecham-Cooper
Ontario Finals Senior Judge

The Provincial Finals took place on May 10, 11, and 12 at **Pope John Paul II Catholic Secondary School** and **University of Toronto Scarborough**. 43 teams arrived from all across Ontario. These were the winners of their zone playoffs. There were several teams that had a long history at the Ontario Provincial Finals, but this year, we had several schools that were making their first appearance at the Finals. A warm welcome to all teams.

Saturday was a "get acquainted" day. Teams signed in to their residences on the UofT Scarborough campus, and after a short walk arrived at PJP II. They received their game packages, got instructions, set up buzzer systems and played a practice game, to get used to the procedures of changing rooms, reporting to the judges' table with results, and getting used to playing without their coaches present as the coaches were off judging other games. The 43 teams were divided into 3 - 9 team and 2 - 8 team divisions.

After the practice round, they returned to residence and gathered in The Meeting Place to enjoy an excellent banquet and an exciting and fun game of "True or False", now dubbed "Traffic Light Trivia," conducted by **Fraser Simpson**, the coach of **University of Toronto Schools**

On Sunday, the Ontario Tournament began. Each team played 7 games in a Round Robin in each division. The top two teams in each division advanced to the Championship rounds the next day. There were some very exciting matches and close scores, but in the end, we did not have to have any sudden death snappers to break a tie.

On Monday, the Championships began. The day began with five games played. The winners of these games and the highest scoring non-winner advanced to the quarter finals. The three game quarter final round sent the three winners and the highest scoring non-winner to the semi-finals. Then the two winners played for the Championship. The winner, **London Central Secondary School**, and the second place team, **Martingrove Collegiate Institute**, from Etobicoke, and the third place team, **University of Toronto Schools**, were all invited to the National Finals to be held on May 24, 25, 26 at UTS Schools and U of T's downtown campus. It was a great tournament with many exciting games. Congratulations to all teams for great sportsmanship and a very successful tournament.

Many thanks to the Staff and volunteers from PJP II who ran quiz packs, helped guide students and helped out generally on Saturday: Coaches **Antony Hagman, Chris Premolas**, and student volunteers **Astrid Almeida, Karel Li Guardia, Nitish Sharma, Danesha Jeevanantharaja, Vidursana Thirariyarah, Myla Fernandez, Hashveen Manoharan, Felix Fung, Livia Jia, Cynthia Li and Mason Zhou**. Thanks also to a wonderful production staff from the Reach Organization whose organization was remarkable. Special kudos to **Eric Novakovics** whose mind works in wonderful ways to figure out amazing schemes to get everything to work. Thanks also to my co-judge, **Ravi Lall**, whose probing lawyer mind is such an asset on hard to determine challenges.

Congratulations to **London Central Secondary School**:
Players: **Bryce Pratt, Julian Saddy, Andrew, Joel Navarathinam, Merlin Beier, Andrew Johnston, Jake Clark, Bill Liu, Jon Franchetto, Vaughan Murphy** and Coach: **Michael Pizzuti**



Alberta Report

By David Rose,
Alberta Provincial Co-ordinator

First of all, Thanks to everyone for the hard work and efforts in making this a very successful Reach season. As it is my second year as coordinator, I rely on the Alberta teacher-coaches to make the 'Reach' schedule enjoyable for all concerned.

The 2014 Provincial tournaments were very entertaining with numerous games decided by less than 40 points or by tie breaker questions. I would like to thank the tournament coordinators, Brian Grant, Linda Bergquist and Dee Elder, for their efforts in hosting such great events. Their hard work and time commitment were appreciated by all Provincial Tournament Results:

Senior - April 12, 2014 (@ Bellerose, Brian Grant coordinator)

1st - Old Scona A
2nd - Webber Academy
3rd - Strathcona Tweedsmuir
Sportsmanship Award - Ponoka B
Chris Zarski Award Recipient - Laura Senior, Old Scona

Congratulations to **Old Scona H.S.** from Edmonton, Alberta.
Players: **Morgan Csekinacz, Ahmed Yali, Alex McPhee, Daniel Jin, Marco Valacco, Laura Senior, Cindy Qian, Cen Yang, Louisa Lu** and Coaches: **Rishi Nair, Dee Elder**

Intermediate - May 3, 2014 (@ Harry Ainlay, Linda Bergquist and Dee Elder coordinators)

1st - Webber Academy
2nd - Old Scona B
3rd - Harry Ainlay
Sportsmanship Award - St. Augustine

Junior - May 3, 2014 (@ Harry Ainlay, Linda Bergquist and Dee Elder coordinators)

1st - Calmar
2nd - Webber Academy
3rd - Webber Academy
Sportsmanship Award - Westmount

Finally, in order to help promote Reach for the Top, please upload some photos you may have of your various events this year to the Reach for the Top Facebook page ([facebook.com/reachforthetop](https://www.facebook.com/reachforthetop)) and encourage Reach players to join the page as well.



New Brunswick Report

By Sean Newlands and Jonathan Logan
New Brunswick Provincial Coordinators

The 2013-2014 Reach for the Top season provided plenty of exciting competition and camaraderie in New Brunswick.

Seven tournaments were held throughout the province during the season. From mid-November until April, tournaments were held at **Nackawic High School** in Nackawic, **St. Malachy's High School** in Saint John, **Bernice MacNaughton High School** in Moncton, **Kennebecasis Valley High School** in Quispamsis, **Oromocto High School** in Oromocto, and **Sir James Dunn Academy** in St. Andrews, culminating with Provincials at **Fredericton High School**.

It was clear from day one, that there would be a battle for top spot in the province between two teams. At each of the seven tournaments, **Kennebecasis Valley High School** from Quispamsis, defeated **Bernice MacNaughton High School** from Moncton in the Senior Final. But as the season went on, the results became closer and closer setting up an exciting Provincial Championship Tournament, where **Bernice MacNaughton** defeated **Kennebecasis Valley** in the preliminary round. **Kennebecasis Valley** was able to rebound for the victory in the championship game and earn their second straight provincial title.

The results in the Intermediate Division were much more varied. **Kennebecasis Valley** defeated **Bernice MacNaughton** at the Nackawic tournament, with **Bernice MacNaughton** taking the title over **Kennebecasis Valley** at the St. Malachy's tournament. **Bernice MacNaughton** emerged victorious at their home tournament, defeating **Fredericton High** in the final. **Kennebecasis Valley High School** dominated their home tournament with two teams from the host school facing off in the finals. Home school advantage continued to be a huge factor with **Oromocto High** winning over **Bernice MacNaughton** at their tournament. At the Sir James Dunn Academy tournament, **Fredericton High** defeated **Bernice MacNaughton** in the final. At the Provincial Championships, a strong team from **Oromocto High School** became Provincial Intermediate Champions with a close win over **Fredericton High School**.

At three of the tournaments this year, there was also a third division, for Grade 9 and 10 students only. **Kennebecasis Valley High School** defeated **Sir James Dunn Academy** in the final of the KVHS tournament. **St. Malachy's High School** defeated **Kennebecasis Valley High School** at the Sir James Dunn Academy Tournament. **Bernice MacNaughton** won the Grade 9-10 Provincial Title with a victory over **Kennebecasis Valley High**.

Thank-you to all the coaches/advisors, tournament organizers, volunteer quizmasters, parents and especially to the players for another successful season of Reach for the Top in New Brunswick. We are all looking forward to another exciting season next year. Have a wonderful summer vacation. See you in the fall.



Congratulations to champions from **Kennebecasis Valley H.S.:** Players: **Sam Cookson, Alexis Lamontagne, Chris Huddleston, Keegan Reynolds, Sam White, Ryan Queen** and Coaches **Jason Thorne, Jason Gilbert**



British Columbia Report

By Donna Choo
British Columbia Provincial Co-ordinator

The 2013-2014 season of B.C. Reach for the Top involved 32 to 38 schools from the Lower Mainland, Victoria, and the Okanagan playing at the Senior and/or Junior/Intermediate level in interschool games and/or in the annual provincial tournaments.

On March 7th, the 2014 Junior/Intermediate Provincial Tournament was held at York House School (Vancouver), where twenty-two school teams competed for the championship. Many thanks go to David Riendl, his student volunteers, and the York House staff for hosting and organizing this smoothly-run and high-tech event.

The 2014 B.C. Intermediate Reach for the Top Champion is Eric Hamber Secondary (Vancouver) who was awarded the school trophy and gold medal. Second place and silver medal went to Burnaby North Secondary (Burnaby), and third place and bronze medal to Sir Winston Churchill Secondary (Vancouver). Congratulations to all the teams and their coaches!

The 2014 B.C. Reach for the Top Provincial Championship (Senior level) was held on April 11th at University Hill Secondary (Vancouver). Thank you to Vincent Tang, his student volunteers, and the University Hill staff for all of their hard work during the competition. This well-run event was enjoyed by the thirty-one schools who attended the tournament. All school teams play an initial round of five games to rank the schools. Then the sixteen highest scoring teams continue to the championship rounds. The enthusiasm and the talent of the students was evident throughout the competition. It was exciting to watch the players demonstrate their depth of knowledge and quickness of recall.

The 2014 B.C. Reach for the Top Provincial Championship team, from Eric Hamber Secondary (Vancouver), received the school trophy and the gold medal. The silver medal went to Sir Winston Churchill Secondary (Vancouver) and the bronze medal to Burnaby North Secondary (Burnaby). Congratulations to all the players on the winning teams and to their coaches/sponsors!

The two school teams from Eric Hamber Secondary and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary represented B.C. at the 2014 Reach for the Top National Championship in Toronto. It was a memorable experience for all our players as they competed and socialized with other RFTT students from across Canada.

Once again, it has been a most successful and enjoyable year for Reach for the Top in B.C. Thank you to all the students, their parents, and the team coaches/sponsors for their continued commitment and interest in RFTT. We've had a lot of fun playing School Reach! See you next season.



Congratulations to the B.C. Champions **Eric Hamber Secondary School** and team members: **Hector Rathburn, Ben Moir, Christopher Sims, Jared Pattison, Zak Vescera, Jerry Liu, Tamir Somerville, Paul Froese, and David Zhang**, and Coach: **Brenda Dowle**



National Report

By Paul Russell,
Executive Director, Reach

This year, Provincial Champions travelled by plane, train and car from across Canada and converged in downtown Toronto at the Chestnut Residence of the **University of Toronto** on Friday May 23, 2014.

On Saturday morning, after breakfast at the residence, teams made their way up town by subway or on foot to **University of Toronto Schools** in the city's Annex district. After a formal welcome and introductions in the Auditorium, a full round-robin tournament was conducted in the classrooms of the college.

We were fortunate to have these articulate and patient readers and judges for the tournament: **Britney Castleman, Alden Fong, Ian Greig, Daniel Salisbury** and **Andy Saunders**. The production crew, including **Chris Bentz, Jason Cooper, Rachel Crossman, Jay Misuk** and **Ryan Reany**, set up buzzer systems and auditorium staging under the supervision of Floor Director **Brenton Bentz**.

On Sunday, the National Finals series began with the first four games of the Consolation Tournament on the auditorium stage. After lunch, the Consolation series continued in a classroom while the quarter finals for the top eight teams from the previous day's Round Robin was underway. Every team had an opportunity to play on stage in the auditorium, answering rapid-fire questions from our tall and dashing 'Reach' quizmaster, **Ryan Vickers**. All of the activity was duly covered by photographer **James Bailey**.

Our thanks to our ever-alert judges for these games, **Patricia Beecham-Cooper** and **Ravi Lall**. Thanks also to U.T.S., our host school, and **Fraser Simpson**, the coach of the UTS team, for making us welcome.

The two Semi-Finals and the Championship game were played on Monday morning in the auditorium at UTS. The teams were evenly matched and every question was hotly contested. The final confrontation saw the victory go to the team from **Martingrove Collegiate** over **London Central High School**. Media Producer **Glen Gummerson**, Director of Photography, **Jorge Manzano**, with camera operators **Zach Arison** and **Alex Blom**, recorded the final game for website release.

Following the final game, a Gala Buffet Lunch was held at the nearby **Faculty Club** on the University of Toronto campus. Medals and prizes and beaming winning faces from across the country were captured by flashing cameras and a final raffle saw more souvenirs go out to players.

The announcement of the four **MVP's**, as selected by a panel of Reach production staff, received enthusiastic applause. This year's '**Dream Team**' consists of **Julian Saddy (London Central Secondary School)**, **Ahmed Yali (Old Scona High School)**, **Alexis Lamontagne (Kennebecasis Valley High School)** and **George Penner (Kelvin High School)**.

And finally, every participating team will receive a plaque commemorating the games, for public display at each represented school.



Nationals continued



Thanks to
Our National
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2014 Reach MVP-All Star Team:
Julian Saddy – London Central Secondary School
Ahmed Yali – Old Scona Academic High School
Alexis Lamontagne– Kennebecasis Valley High School
George Penner – Kelvin High School