

Canada World Youth  
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For the second year the Canadian Ecology Centre and the Forestry Research Partnership have had the opportunity to host six Canada World Youth participants during the autumn. Canada World Youth is an organization that “designs and delivers international educational programs for youth (aged 17-29) with a focus on volunteer work and community development in a cross-cultural setting” ([www.cwy-jcm.org](http://www.cwy-jcm.org)). The participants lived with host families in North Bay and volunteered their time at the CEC/FRP, gaining varied experience ranging from school programming, to painting cabins, to using multimedia tools, to helping researchers during their busy fall season of field data collection.

The eager and open attitudes of the participants made them a great help to all those they came in contact with. The tremendous success of the CEC/FRP/CWY relationship is evident by the resounding acclamations received from the researchers who received assistance. Andrée Morneault, a researcher with the MNR Southern Science and Information branch in North Bay, had this to say about the CWY help at the red oak research site in Phelps Twp: “They were really great! Quick to learn, hard working, and they were a lot of help to us. If you are looking for other projects for them to work on, let us know and we can find something else for them.” Jeff Dech, another researcher at Phelps (from Nipissing University and the FRP) said “It was great working with the Canada world youth students. They were a dedicated, enthusiastic crew, who did an excellent job assisting us with our field work.” The CWY also aided Tom Noland with his Canada Yew study, and helped Wayne Kent and Nancy Young to measure the Gurd white pine progeny test.

Not only were the Canada World Youth a great help to the CEC, FRP, and partners, but the people and projects they interacted with also had a great impact on the youth. Dave Cuddy, from British Columbia, said “I really learned a lot from working with the researchers. It was a lot of fun and very interesting”. David who had previously worked in an outdoor education centre in British Columbia was eager to go out into the field whenever possible, desiring to expand his knowledge of the forestry sector.



L-R: Sarah, Robert Balidya (supervisor), Olivia, Samuel, Dave, Amardeep, Ikem Opera (supervisor), and Stephen.

Two of the CWY, Samuel Kiarie and Stephen Kamau, were from Kenya where they are heavily involved in a volunteer organization called Kenvo that does research, educational

programs, and forest protection and rehabilitation. For these two participants it was fascinating to observe forestry and forest research in a different country.

For Olivia Forte, Amardeep Singh, and Sarah Monyo, it was an introduction into the world of Forestry and Forestry Education. For Olivia (from Toronto), it was an opportunity to learn and grow, taking part in as much fieldwork as possible. Amardeep (from Hamilton) and Sarah (from Tanzania) enjoyed learning more about outdoor education at the Ecology Centre.

Regardless of their background all six participants hosted by the CEC/FRP left with a better understanding of forestry and outdoor education in north eastern Ontario. The Canada World Youth programme is a successful venture that the CEC and FRP will be sure to welcome back in the future.