



PRESS RELEASE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN July 13, 2009

REGIONAL DISTRICT HOLDS PHOTO CONTEST

Calling all shutterbugs! The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen in cooperation with the South Okanagan-Similkameen Invasive Plant Society invite all amateur photographers to enter their best digital photo of an Okanagan-Similkameen invasive plant for a chance to win some great prizes.

An invasive plant is non-native to BC and typically lacks the natural pathogens or predators that would normally keep it from spreading in its homeland. Invasive plants establish aggressively and out-compete native vegetation, bringing detrimental impacts to humans, animals and ecosystems.

To ensure that the plant you are photographing is indeed an invasive species, refer to any of the three following websites for help with identification: www.rdos.bc.ca, www.weedsbc.ca and www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca.

Entry forms and rules and regulations are available at the Regional District office located at 101 Martin Street in Penticton or an entry form may be downloaded from the **Invasive Plant** tab under *Quick Links* on the regional district's website www.rdos.bc.ca. The contest is only open to B.C. residents.

The photo submission deadline is August 31, 2009. There is a youth and adult category. The youth (18 years old or younger) contest winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate for Sirius Science and Nature. Adult prizes include a \$50 or \$25 gift certificate from Canadian Tire.

D. Ashton

RDOS Board Chair

DISTRIBUTION:

All Press
All Directors
RDOS Intranet
RDOS Internet
VOHINO (e-mail cfroese@pcmg.ca - only if relative to Electoral Area E)
B. Newell, Chief Administrative Officer
P. Derkach, Human Resources Manager

File: 1470.01