

Fish Futures Inc.

Conservation and Enhancement
of Freshwater Fisheries



www.fishfutures.net

Volume 7
Issue 3
Fall '08

Fish News

KIDS CATCH FISHING FISH FUTURES' FOCUS ON YOUTH



Todd Longley of City Cats Guiding Service with two lucky anglers. Todd volunteers for kids fishing programs like Fish Winnipeg, the Winnipeg Fish Festival, Fall Fishing Derby, summer camps and learn-to-fish clinics.

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PROVINCIAL YOUTH ANGLING CONFERENCE

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FISH WINNIPEG 5,000 KIDS, GONE FISHING

Fish Winnipeg is a one-day event that raises money for youth-at-risk angling programs in Winnipeg. Corporate and media sponsors are paired with professional fishing guides in a challenge to see who can catch the most fish. Considerable bragging rights are at stake, but the kids are really what this event is all about.

Over the past 11 years, Fish Winnipeg has raised over \$150,000 for programs that give kids a fun, fishing experience and teach kids how to be safe and responsible anglers.

Fish Winnipeg works with the City of Winnipeg to offer daily fishing trips for children in July and August. Two groups go out each day, the children ride in a van donated by The Winnipeg Foundation, and each child receives a new rod and reel combo from Fish Futures. The Fish Winnipeg Challenge has raised enough money to give over 5,000 kids this fishing experience.

Fish Winnipeg also helps with kids fishing camps. These one-week camps give kids the opportunity to fish the Red River, visit the Whiteshell Fish Hatchery, fish with a pro, ride in a pontoon boat, and much more.

These Fish Winnipeg programs are free, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and the dedication of our volunteers. This year's event took place on June 16th. The following winners proved that they were the best on the water that day:

2008 MEDIA CHAMPIONS

1st Place: HOT 103 - Total Fish: 752 cm.
Guide: Steve Wintemute

Biggest Fish: Conway Black - Thunder Voice - 91 cm. channel catfish
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: City of Winnipeg

2008 CORPORATE CHAMPIONS

1st Place: Swancoat Investments - Total Fish: 1,615 cm.
Guide: Dan Thibeault

Biggest Fish: Tracey Penner - Manitoba Hydro - 89 cm. channel catfish
Delta Real Estate Conservation Award: Too Many to Name!

UPDATE

PROVINCIAL YOUTH ANGLING CONFERENCE

November 30th and December 1st, 2008 - Victoria Inn - Winnipeg

The Provincial Youth Angling Conference is another first for Fish Futures. Fish Futures has taken a leadership role in promoting youth angling and this two-day event will bring together interested groups and individuals for round-table discussions and presentations.

Our goal is to give all kids – boys or girls, rich or poor, young or old – every opportunity to learn how to fish and to gain an appreciation for the outdoors.

With the support of the Fisheries Enhancement Fund, Fish Futures hired Don Lamont as the Provincial Youth Angling coordinator. This position was a first for Canada, and the Provincial Youth Angling Conference will be the culmination of Don's efforts to promote youth angling over the past six months.

We hope to gain enough support for the Conference to become an annual event, and we are looking for sponsors to build upon the momentum surrounding this youth angling initiative. Already, we have generated many great ideas to help kids catch the fishing bug.

One idea is to introduce a free Youth Angling License. This collectable card would feature as a fish stamp the winner of the youth artwork competition. Another idea is to coordinate with Travel Manitoba a new Youth Master Angler category with special prizes and media recognition.

The Provincial Rod and Reel Program is another ambitious initiative that with more support could grow in leaps and bounds. It has already reached 14 northern communities, where free rod and reel combinations were distributed to kids through schools. This past year, five northern communities were visited by PYAC coordinator Don Lamont and Garry Gurke, a major contributor and owner of Nueltin Fly In Lodges.

Fish Futures has established a new website to help bring this youth angling initiative together. The web address is www.pyac.net, and this dynamic site is designed to connect kids with the angling events in their neighbourhood. The site includes links to programs like the Recreational Fishing League, Learn-to-Fish clinics, youth angling camps, and the fall fishing derby. It is also the place for kids to share photos and fish stories, play computer games, read picture books, and browse a fishing guide.

The Provincial Youth Angling Conference is the start of something big. Fish Futures is committed to teaching another generation about the conservation and enhancement of Manitoba's fisheries resource. And above all, we want to help kids realize just how much fun it is to go fishing.



*"Working Today
for Tomorrow's Fisheries Resource"*

What is Fish Futures Inc.?

Fish Futures Inc. is a non-profit, registered charitable organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of freshwater fisheries through:

- Sponsorship, development and encouragement of research projects.
- Habitat preservation, enhancement and management projects.
- Public education to increase awareness of the value of freshwater fisheries and the need for conservation and enhancement of fish stocks and habitat.

Fish Futures is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of members of the public and representatives of government, industry and the scientific community.

For more information about Fish Futures Inc. please contact us at:

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City Cats / UAP Fall Fishing Derby

This year's Winnipeg City Cats / UAP Fall Fishing Derby was the biggest ever. Thank you to all the volunteers especially Todd Longley of City Cats Guiding Service for his incredible work and dedication both behind and in front of the scenes. And thanks to the generous donations of our sponsors, over \$5,000 worth of prizes were given away and a substantial donation was made to the Never Alone Foundation in support of CancerCare Manitoba.

Date: September 13th 2008 (10:00 am to 3:00 pm)
Location: Red River walkway at the Forks
Number of Participants: 400 anglers (275 adults and 125 kids)
Number of fish caught: 142 fish caught (12 different species)

Winners: Kids Category

1st Place – Matthew Pasker – 84 cm Channel Catfish
2nd Place – Nicole Klassen – 83 cm Channel Catfish
3rd Place – Andrew Proulx – 77 cm Channel Catfish
Conservation Award – Johnny Druxman
Hidden Length Award – Nicholas Brown
Weirdest Catch Award – Julia Burtnick (a log)

Winners: Adult Category

1st Place – Mark Thibert – 79 cm Channel Catfish
2nd Place – Scott McDonald – 78 cm Channel Catfish
3rd Place – Eric Labaupa – 77 cm Channel Catfish
Conservation Award – Gina Barsby
Hidden Length Award – Jason Klassen
Weirdest Catch Award – Jon Hill (a belt and the Splash Dash Boat)

Thank you to the partners that came down during the day to make this event happen, including the Canadian Auxiliary Coast Guard, Never Alone Foundation, media celebrities, Teleco, The Keg Restaurant, and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers players, staff, mascots, and cheerleaders.