



## The All-Science Challenge: Dr. Peter Hackett

> **May 9, 2009**

> **Location: University of Calgary**

> **Welcoming Remarks**

Well thank you. It's a great pleasure to be here. The enthusiasm in the air is contagious, and I for one am very excited to be a part of today's event.

The All-Science Challenge is a growing phenomenon, one that is rapidly expanding across Canada. And the purpose is simple – to enrich our students in the sciences. All disciplines of science are important to who we are, and what we make of this world. And my hope today is you all understand that science is also fun, because it will be dedicated students like you who will be our future scientists and make this world a better place.

I know the organizing committee has worked very hard in making the science stations both challenging and practical. The format today, is much like “The Amazing Race” on TV, and to the students participating today, I have a few words of advice for all of you that I've learned from those teams participating on the show.

First, stay focused. Your success today will depend on how well you can remain committed to your task. Don't worry about what the other teams are doing, just focus on doing your best at each of the stations.

Second, take in your surroundings. On the TV show, the teams are exposed to an amazing variety of people and sights. Today is no different. Today's event is facilitated by volunteers who are just as excited and passionate about science, if not more. Talk to these people because you have the opportunity to hear from them what makes science exciting.

Finally, have fun. This is a competition, and there are bragging rights. But we would not be doing our job if you didn't enjoy yourself today. Although there will only be one team who finishes in first place, there are no losers here today.

So on that note, I wish you all the best today. And to take some words from the host of "The Amazing Race," I say:

The world is waiting for you...

Good luck...

Have fun...

GO!