

Poster Contest

Communities may want to offer a poster contest as part of their Local Government Awareness Program. By participating in this contest, school children, their teachers and parents learn more about the vital role local government plays in their day-to-day lives.

Feel free to use the contest guidelines and procedures below, or adapt to the needs of your community!

SAMPLE CONTEST GUIDELINES:

The contest is open to all children of elementary school age. The following topics have been suggested for this year's Poster Contest:

1. Local government provides...
2. The people who make up local government

The first topic will provide children with an opportunity to show the important services that local governments provide in their community. The second topic would work well if children are given a tour of local government facilities such as city hall/board office, recreation centre, recycling depot, fire hall, police station, etc. After meeting a number of people on their tour(s) the children will be able to put faces to the services that local governments' provide.

OR

If you prefer, you can choose another topic, as long as it relates to local government. For instance there may be a specific issue in your community that may work and better suit the needs of your community.

PROCEDURES:

Posters will first be submitted from the schools for judging within your own community. We suggest the following guidelines for assistance:



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARENESS

1. Judging should be done by representatives from the community; perhaps a local politician, media personality, educator, and/or other prominent and qualified residents in the community.
2. When submitted, posters should be clearly marked with the child's name, age, address, grade, school, municipality and chosen theme (if applicable). Entries will be divided into two categories:
 - a) Junior - Kindergarten to Grade 3 and:
 - b) Intermediate - Grade 4 to Grade 7

Since there will always be differences in age and ability amongst the candidates, each entry should be judged on its own merit, based on the age of the child. In this way exceptional achievement can be measured, based on effort, creativity, perception of local government, and artistic ability of the entry.

If possible, every child who enters the contest should receive recognition of some kind. There are several inexpensive methods of recognition, e.g. municipal/regional district pins, or a certificate from City Hall or regional board. All forms of recognition provide positive publicity for Local Government Awareness Week and more importantly for local government in your community. Those contestants who place first, second and third in each of the categories should receive prizes the community deems appropriate.