



**Western**  
Sarnia-Lambton  
Research Park

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

### **Awards Presented at 17th Annual Capstone Design and Competition** Friday, March 31, 2023

**Sarnia, ON** – Awards have been handed out at the 17th annual Capstone Engineering Design and Competition, held in-person at the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park.

Panels of judges, comprised of local community and industry leaders, presented first and second place awards in the categories of *Biomass Thermochemical Conversion Processes*, *Carbon Dioxide Utilization and Hydrogen Production*, and *Chemical Production and Resource Recovery* following presentations made by more than 50 students from the Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at Western University.

#### **Biomass Thermochemical Conversion Processes**

##### ***First Place: Blue Ammonia Production from Sugarcane Bagasse***

Project Engineers: Adi Venkatesh, Nicole Davies, Jay Sangameswar, Nicholas Sanghera, Jovan Williams

##### ***Second Place: Forest Residues to Ethanol via Gasification and Mixed Alcohol Synthesis***

Project Engineers: Austin Dearlove, Jack Woodall, Mia Van Oirschot, Vanessa Benitah

#### **Carbon Dioxide Utilization and Hydrogen Production**

##### ***First Place: AquaGen: Generating Aqua Hydrogen Through Methane Pyrolysis***

Project Engineers: Kaitlin Cacic, Chloe Chong, Monica Perlotto, Ciara Pinto, Cole Beattie

##### ***Second Place: Utilizing Industrial CO2 Emissions in the Production of Green Methanol***

Project Engineers: Abubaker Elneihoum, Vince Jiang, Adam Shubert, Basil Zammo, Michael Zeljeznjak

#### **Chemical Production and Resource Recovery**

##### ***First Place: BAJA ME Ltd. - Bioethanol Fuel Production from Sugar Beet Fermentation***

Project Engineers: Megan Estabrooks, Erin McLean, Brooke Crawford, Jessica Sprunt, Alyssia Burgos, Adam Sawyer

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**Second Place: Co-Product Recovery from Sugarcane Bioethanol Production**

Project Engineers: Alexander Law, Andrew Markham, Isabella Parent, Ashley Richard, Mark Soeder

"The annual Capstone competition continues to deliver a wealth of experience for participating students," said Dr. Katherine Albion, Executive Director of the Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park. "Feedback shared by the engineers, researchers and other community professionals helps to form the future careers of these students. It is exciting to see the students' new ideas associated with the future of chemicals and energy production."

Sponsorships totaling \$11,500 were generously donated by: Bluewater Power, CF Industries, Generate Upcycle, Imperial Oil Research, INEOS Styrolution, Kent, Montrose Environmental Group, NOVA Chemicals, Suncor Energy Products, Western Research Parks, Western Sarnia-Lambton Research Park, and Worley.

The Western-Sarnia-Lambton Research Park was created in November 2003 with the inception of the County of Lambton Community Development Corporation, owned by the County of Lambton. The Research Park manages and operates the property owned by the CLCDC. It boasts 270,000 square feet of leasable area. In addition to its labs and research space, it is home to a number of high profile tenants including Nova Chemicals, Enbridge, the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership, and Worley.

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**Please contact:**

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