6 September 2021

The recent COVID outbreak has created some uncertainty around the format of our event this year. We are committed to reviewing and celebrating all entries, including awarding more than $8000 of prizes donated by local businesses and organisations for winning projects. Although the expo itself won't be on held on the scale as in previous years, we want to make it a positive experience for students and schools. To this end;

- Science boards are still an acceptable form of entry BUT students need to be prepared to submit a series of good quality photos that enable our judges to read and review all the material on their board should this be required.

- For those who have not yet completed their projects, we strongly encourage you to consider one of these two options;

  ➢ Presenting it in powerpoint or google slides. We suggest 10-15 slides but ultimately you are welcome to use more if you think your project requires it.
  ➢ Presenting it on a wall chart. This would be similar to a science board, only it's in digital format. Ie you present it in one big poster where judges can zoom in to read that different sections on your project.

All entries still need to be registered by 1 October via the Cawthron Scitec Expo webpage. Those who select the digital presentation option will receive an auto-reply email with a link they can use to upload their digital entry. Digital entries need to be uploaded by Friday 22 October. We will give at least a week's notice if photos are required for science board presentations.

The format of the event will depend on the restrictions in place at the time, and we will make a further update on this in early October. Students should be prepared to be interviewed virtually if necessary. Interviews will be arranged in a way that best minimises disruption to the school timetable and student learning.

We will be providing some further advice and templates to students around condensing their projects into effective digital presentations. Meanwhile, they might like to take a look at some of these virtual science fair examples.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work our way through the changes required for this event.

Please feel free to email us with any questions.