

# **Toronto CMOS Centre 2019 Education Report**

**Prepared by:  
Joan Klaassen  
Education Coordinator, Toronto CMOS Centre**

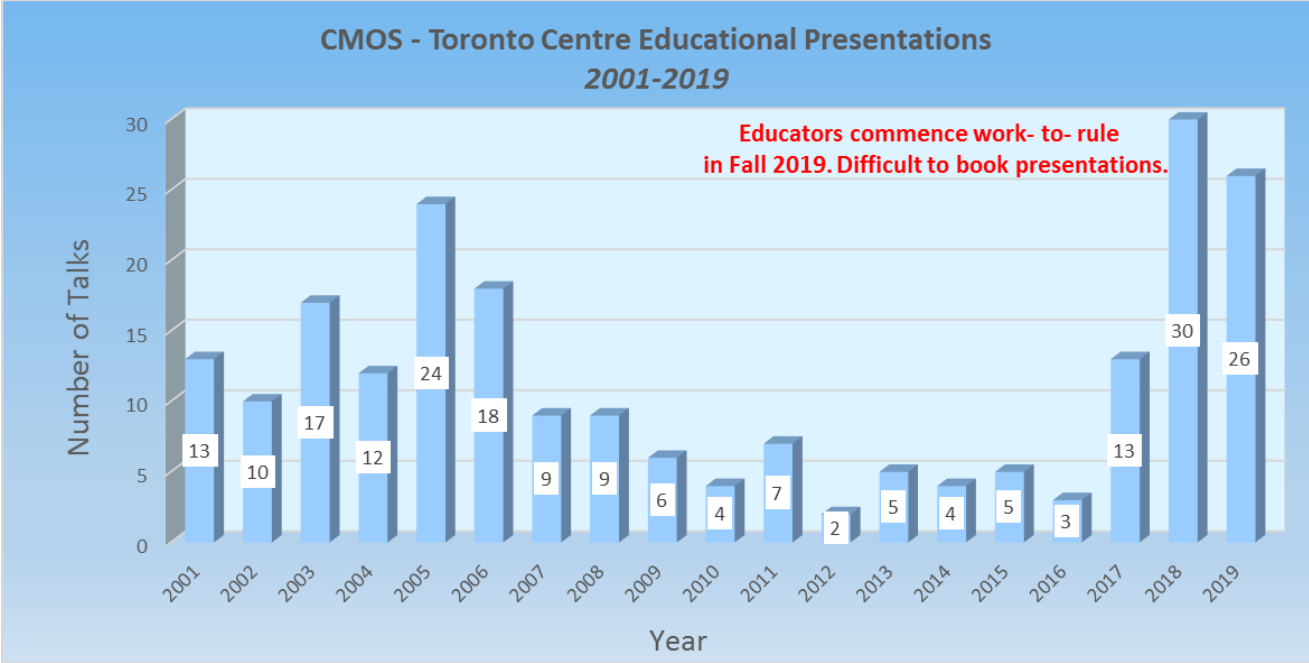
## **1. Presentations**

In 2017, the Toronto CMOS Centre education program was revamped and 13 climate, climate change and severe weather presentations were delivered to students. This number increased to 30 in 2018. Prior to 2017, the highest annual total was 24 presentations in 2005, with the lowest number of 2 in 2012 and fewer than 10 presentations given each year from 2007 through 2016.

In 2019, 26 climate, climate change and severe weather presentations were given to elementary (Grades 7/8) and high school (Grades 9-10) students, Scouts Canada, Girl Guide groups and other organizations. Presentations were given by Joan Klaassen (17), Rob Kuhn (5) of Environment and Climate Change Canada and Geoff Coulson (4), retired Environment and Climate Change Canada. David Phillips, Environment and Climate Change Canada, also promoted CMOS whenever possible.

The 2019 annual total of 26 presentations was the second highest since 2001 when the presentation program started, but lower than the record number of 30 in 2018. The reduction in annual presentation numbers compared to 2018 was primarily linked to the elementary and high school teacher contract negotiations in the fall of 2019 that led to work-to-rule and rotating strikes. The majority of Guide and Scouts Canada groups meetings are also held at schools. As a result, a number of teachers, Scouts Canada and Girl Guide groups were unwilling to book presentations from September to December, 2019.

Climate, climate change and severe weather presentations continue to be available on the Toronto CMOS Centre website: <https://www.cmos.ca/site/toronto>. The presentations are password protected, and passwords are available upon request from Joan Klaassen ([jklaassen13@gmail.com](mailto:jklaassen13@gmail.com)).



**2. NEW: Science Fairs**

The Toronto CMOS Centre sponsored the 2019 Toronto Science and York Region Science and Technology Fairs. A cash prize of \$150 was awarded at each Fair to the Grade 7-12 student with the best project in Meteorology, Oceanography or related sciences. A second place prize of \$75 was also awarded at the Toronto Science Fair. In addition, the winning students received free membership to CMOS for a year. Steve Jacobs, Toronto Centre Vice-Chair and Oscar Koren, Toronto Centre Secretary, judged Fair projects eligible for the award and presented the students with their awards at the Fairs’ Award Ceremonies.

Joan Klaassen contacted the winning students’ schools after the Fairs and delivered climate change presentations to the schools’ students.



Steve Jacobs presents CMOS Award at 2019 Toronto Science Fair to Grade 8 student Gabrielle Walji (1<sup>st</sup> place, left) and Grade 10 student Krish Dogra (2<sup>nd</sup> place, right)



Oscar Koren presents CMOS Award at 2019 York Region Science and Technology Fair to Grade 8 student, Fatima Saadatfard

### 3. **NEW: School and Public Education Committee (SPEC)**

Over the past few years, the National CMOS School and Public Education Committee (SPEC) has been headed by a Chair but with no other active members. In 2019, CMOS recruited new volunteer members to serve on the Committee, including Joan Klaassen. The SPEC's current Terms of Reference are being reviewed, and will be revised as required.