

# Civic Pulse Team wins Master Angler and Fifth Place Overall

**F**ishing was great on the waters of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers on September 4, 2002, as the Civic Pulse team took part in the 5th Annual Fish Winnipeg Media/Corporate Challenge. The Fish Derby is a one day angling event to promote the world class fishing which exists here in the City of Winnipeg and raise money to provide angling opportunities for at risk, inner city youth. Each summer for the last four years, approximately 600 kids were given a rod and reel and had an experience of their lifetime to try out fishing on the rivers. This year's event raised over \$10,000. The goal is to put a smile on a child's face and let them experience the wonderful world of fishing along our urban rivers and streams.

The Civic Pulse team along with 10 other media groups headed out on the river at sunrise for two and a half hours of exciting fishing experience. All groups were piloted with one of Winnipeg's premier professional fishing guides who provided boats, tackle, bait and their time to take the members of Winnipeg's media community on the Assiniboine and the Red.

The Civic Pulse team included Tony Esposito, John Armitage, Val Saltel and pro-fishing guide Dave Marshall.

Dave found the right fishing spot on the Red River's east side kiddy corner from the Riverboat launch. With Dave's guidance, the team cast their lines...waited....and momentarily enjoyed the brief peaceful City at sleep.

But it was not a long wait for action, as the taps on the lines brought us a fortune of fish. John started off the team with the first catch of the morning, a 27-inch channel catfish. Tony followed with a 20-inch catch. "I felt really good," said Tony. "Every year my fishing gets better - next year I'm going to practice and catch the big one!"

This 5th year challenge was a highlight and an unforgettable experience for the Civic Pulse team. The final and winning catch of the day was a master angler-size fish at 34 1/4 inches reeled in by Val. "The brute force of this big ugly channel catfish challenged me all the way," said Val. "With no experience in angling, I had to learn on the fly. Team support was with me all the way. As I hung on and kept reeling the monster in, my heart pounded a million miles an hour. I kept reeling and reeling, which felt like forever, and afraid that this catch would rip the rod right out of my hand. I felt I was losing the strength in my arm. The team urged me on, instructing me to hang on and keep reeling it in. What an experience!"

The Civic Pulse team caught and released six fish, totalling 160.5 inches that gave us a fifth place standing in the Fish Winnipeg Media Challenge.

Come out, enjoy and explore the fishing experience on the Assiniboine and Red Rivers. Come for the adventure and you may also become a Master Angler.



Val Saltel with the winning 34 1/4 inch Channel Cat Fish - Master Angler Award



Civic Pulse Team  
L to R:  
Tony Esposito,  
Val Saltel,  
Dave Marshall,  
John Armitage



A quick set of measurements and the click of the camera are proof enough of battles won by the Civic Pulse team.

## Fish Media Challenge

### Final Results:

1. A-Channel 245.3 inches
2. Global TV 216.75 inches
3. CIOB 178 inches
4. Wpg Free Press 163 inches
5. **Civic Pulse 160.5**
6. Thundervoice 353 cm
7. CKJS 343 cm
8. CBC 323 cm
9. My Winnipeg 229 cm
10. FREQ 107 46 cm
11. CKUN 29 cm

(Special Award for the Shortest Fish - 11.4 inches)

Total Fish Caught: 70