

## The Mouseratti – This Year’s Winner of MET’s Mousetrap Powered Car Race

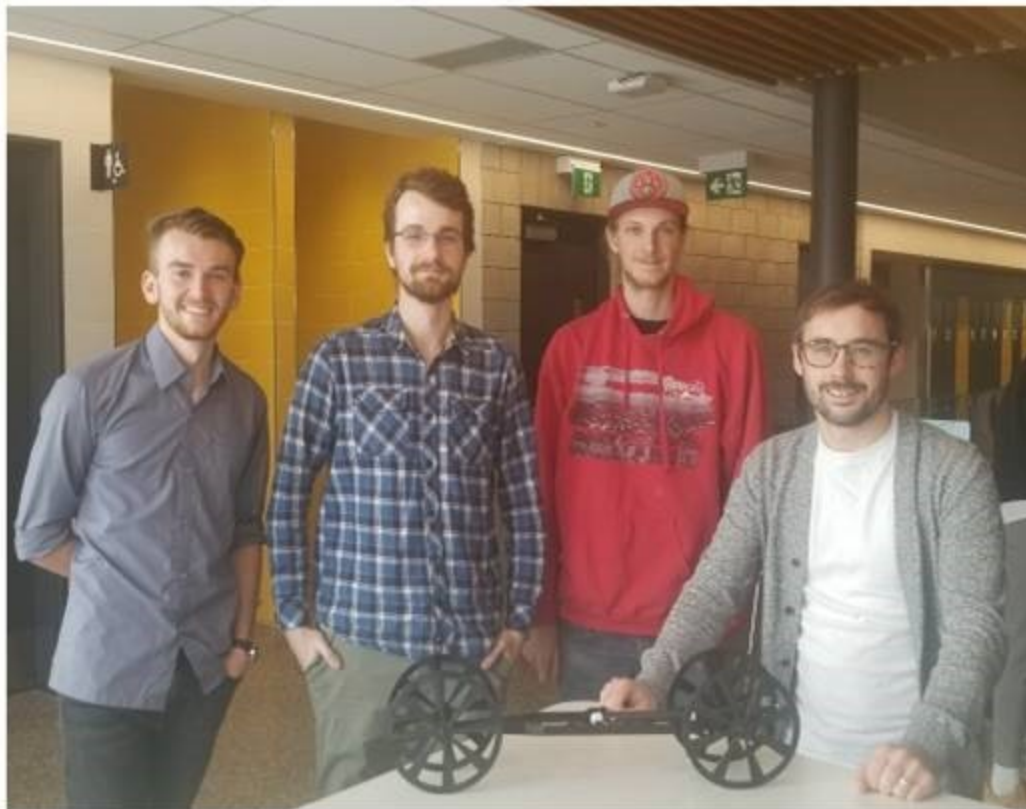
K Davis, Technical Communication

This year, Team Mouseratti went the distance for Teamwork & Communication, achieving nearly 200 feet in the Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET) Mouse Trap Powered Car Race held annually at Red River College.

The competition has been happening since 2000, and encourages MET students to work together to compete against other MET students to design, build and race a car using only a mousetrap spring for propulsion. The project idea is not new, but it does require project/time management, design, manufacturing, and collaborative documentation (e.g. Google Docs). Our little competition has grown up.

While this year’s project did not set an MET record for distance (2002, Kwong, Peters, & Werbowski–370’) it has certainly set a precedence for design and manufacturing. The car was designed using SketchUp (students train on SolidEdge in term 2). The design was converted to an STL file and then 3D printed on a Pruse Mark 3 (via g-code). To achieve the distance, the design was improved and reprinted. The process might sound pretty routine, but these students were in just the 3<sup>rd</sup> month(!) of the MET program.

If you’re looking for a great co-op summer student, I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend any of these fine students. Want to post a job ad? Please email me at [met@rrc.ca](mailto:met@rrc.ca)



(L–R) Noah Gunderson – Project Manager, Nathan Harnish – Editor & CFO, Mitchell Rogers – Design & Technical Sales, Neil Fogg – Design & 3D Printer