

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Agriculture in Alberta

October 5-6, 2022 | Calgary



Inside Education is pleased to report on this, our second successful agriculture themed teacher professional development program in the 2022 calendar year! The evolution in pandemic adaptation has happily seen the return of, and significant interest in in-person teacher PD programming. Inside Education is thrilled to find continued demand for hands-on, experiential learning for Alberta teachers.

The purpose of the Agriculture in Alberta program was to introduce teachers to the diverse world of modern agriculture in Alberta while providing teachers background knowledge and tools to supplement agriculture education and project-based learning in their classrooms.

The Program

Through this program **33 educators** had the opportunity to connect to local agriculture projects through speakers, tours, and a resource sharing session where organizations with agriculture classroom resources were given a chance to share their offerings with participants. The intent was for participants to leave the program with first hand experience interacting with local producers and tools to translate those interactions into enhancing their classroom lessons.

Effort was made to incorporate diverse types of agricultural practices highlighting topics like innovations and sustainability. This goal brought the tour to a climate controlled mushroom farm, a regenerative farm in the middle of Calgary, a ranch where native grasslands are protected with grazing cattle, and much more!

“This is super inspiring even if you are not interested in agriculture! Agriculture is relevant in the learning outcomes in many subjects, and the concepts around it will prepare us to build better communities.”

- Heather Malenfant, Our Lady of the Snows, Canmore



PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, October 5th	Thursday, October 6th
The Future of Agriculture - David Hill, University of Lethbridge	<i>The Farm</i> - Agriculture Focused Education
Living Soil Solutions & Highfield Farms	WiseEats Mushroom Farm
Chinook Honey Company	WA Ranches - Learning & Research Farm
Stormy Acres Hops	Resource Sharing Session - Guardians of the Grasslands, Project Agriculture, AB WaterPortal

The Participants

The 2022 Agriculture Teacher Professional Development Program saw an overwhelming number of applicants from all across the province and in total welcomed 33 educators to join the two-day exploration of agriculture in Alberta.

Overall, we were extremely pleased to see such a large number of high-quality applicants covering a large span of teaching experience and geographic area of the province, with teachers from as far away as High Prairie gathering to learn about the future of agriculture in the province.

“Fantastic program that bridges the gap between producers and eaters. I hope to see more agricultural programming as it fills a super important need in our workforce, economy and health of our planet”

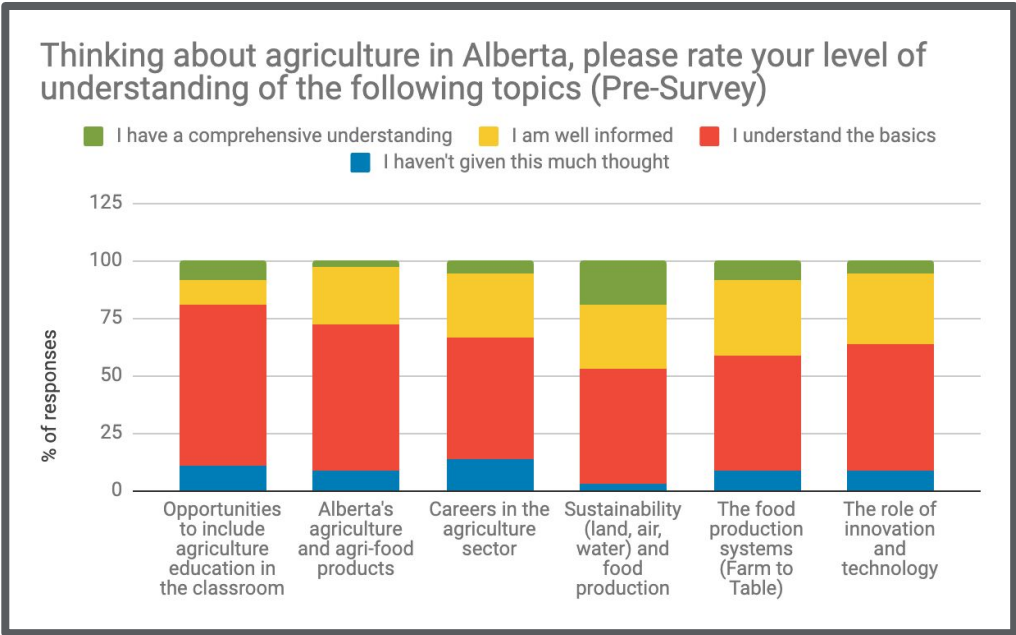
Lindsay Oh, École J.E. LaPointe School

Jesslyn Alguire | E.W Pratt High School | High Prairie
Adam Argento | Oilfields High School | Black Diamond
Ryan Barfuss | Mountain View School | Mountain View
Lara Barnett | Careers: The Next Generation
Samantha Bunes | Parkland Composite High School | Edson
Katherine Campbell | Wainwright High School | Wainwright
Sean Christensen | J.C. Charyk School | Hanna
Zac Coupland | St. Joseph School | Coaldale
Kelly Craigue | Apostles of Jesus | Calgary
Nahtasha Damson | Holy Cross School | Calgary
Yue Gong | St. Mary's University | Calgary
Sean Green | Career and Technology Centre | Calgary
Alexandra Hassel | Hawkwood School | Calgary
Brad Hayes | Black Gold Outreach | Leduc
Taren Holden | Round Hill School | Round Hill
Halea Kohel | New Humble Community School | Calmar
Laurel Howard Mason | Hawkwood School | Calgary

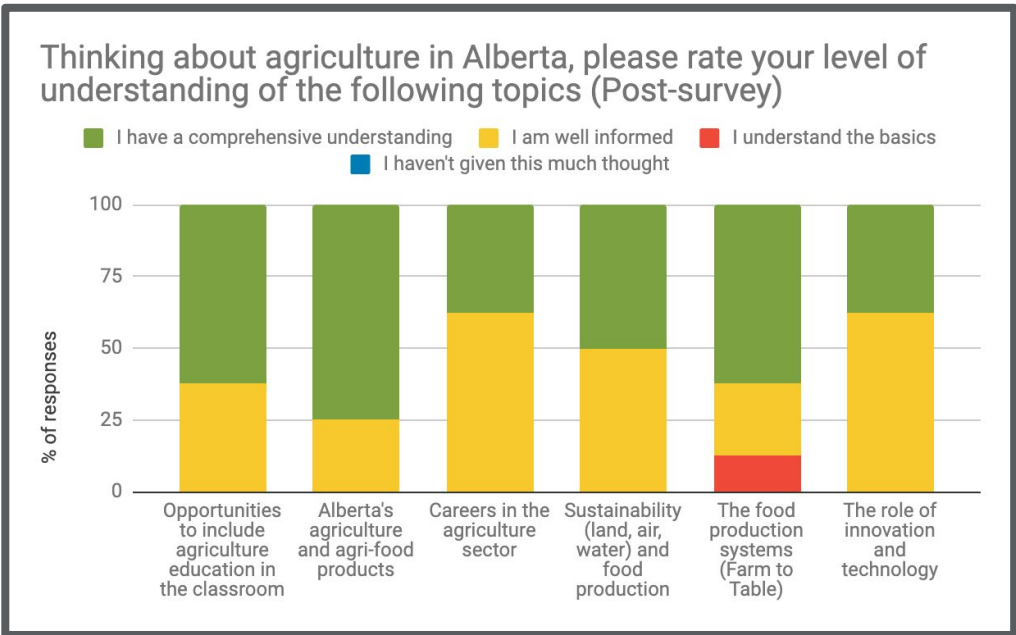
Jennifer Just | Mother Margaret Mary | Edmonton
Neil Lamont | Matthew Halton High School | Pincher Creek
Heather Malenfant | Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy | Canmore
Brynne Martin | University of Alberta | Edmonton
Derek McKinnon | Black Gold Outreach | Leduc
Joe Milne | Spruce Grove Composite High School | Spruce Grove
Lindsey Oh | École J.E. Lapointe School | Beaumont
Corry Pepper | Careers: The Next Generation
Kayleigh Redish | Foothills Academy | Calgary
Mike Romeril | Mountain View School | Mountain View
Jillian Senek | Foothills Academy Society | Calgary
Sam Sirianni | Rundle Academy | Calgary
Dorota Sokolowska | St. Mary's University | Calgary
Sara Strydorst | Spruce Grove Composite High School | Spruce Grove
Sarah Tryhurn | Parkland School Division |
Cindy Yong | Hawkwood School | Calgary

Impact

Feedback for this program was overwhelmingly positive, with the majority of survey responses indicating that the program was a high-quality, high-value PD opportunity!



Teachers surveyed indicated an overall increase in understanding in all of the intended outcomes



“This was hands down the best professional development session I have been to in my career!”

- Brad Hayes, Black Gold Outreach School, Leduc

Partners, Expert Guests, and Tour Hosts

Inside Education extends gratitude to our program partners for the 2022 Agriculture Futures Teacher Professional Development program. Inside Education could not put on high-quality PD programming such as this without their support. Our ability to offer no-cost professional development remains a huge draw for Alberta teachers.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GUEST SPEAKERS AND TOUR HOSTS! WITHOUT YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT, WE COULD NOT PUT ON SUCH A VALUABLE PROGRAM.



- David Hill | *University of Lethbridge*
- Mike Dorion | *Living Soil Solutions*
- Heather Ramshaw | *Highfield Farm*
- Cherie Andrews | *Chinook Honey Company*
- Logan Kotlar | *Stormy Acres Hops*
- Mark Turner | *Rocky View Schools "The Farm"*
- Sheri Vincent | *Wise Eats Mushrooms*
- Amie Peck | *Canadian Cattle Association*
- Brie Nelson | *Alberta Water Portal Society*
- Patricia Ramsay | *Project Agriculture*



Summary and Futures

Inside Education recognizes the interest and passion for agriculture-themed teacher professional development in the province and plans to continue to feature agriculture education as a part of our suite of natural resource programming. The survey results overwhelmingly indicated that teachers highly value the opportunity for in-person, hands-on, and *no-cost* educational opportunities. The experience of getting to hear from producers and researchers and educators face-to-face can not be overstated.

We look forward to supporting teachers in their future agriculture themed lessons and the opportunity to continue developing high-quality teacher PD for educators in Alberta and across the country!

Contact

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