

Alberta Boreal Careers Project

Grande Prairie, Oct. 6-7, 2015



Summary Report



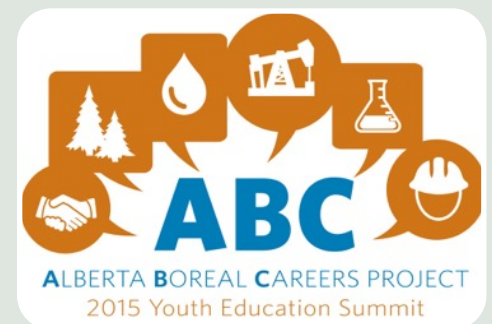
EXPERIENTIAL CAREERS EDUCATION!

Inside Education goes beyond the career fair by creating a comprehensive and hands-on career experience that provides students the information they need when considering their role in Alberta's natural resources sector.

On October 6-7, 2015, **29 students, 5 schools and 18 local experts** took part in Inside Education's Alberta Boreal Careers Project - Grande Prairie to gain a deeper understanding of career opportunities in Northwestern Alberta.

Inside Education was proud to bring the Alberta Boreal Careers (ABC) Project to Grande Prairie this fall. Building upon our successful ABC program model that has been delivered in Conklin, Lac La Biche and Peace River since 2013 we were excited to engage a new community of eager teachers, students and local experts; and for the first time we opened the program to junior high students along with senior high school.

Alberta has a myriad of career options in the natural resources and environmental sectors. Inside Education believes in providing students the chance to experience these careers for themselves while encouraging them to make informed choices as they navigate their career paths. Through tours, discussions with local professionals and career building activities, Inside Education guides students on an engaging exploration of the wide range of careers opportunities available in their own backyards.



PROGRAM



Inside Education designed the 2015 Alberta Boreal Careers Project - Grande Prairie, to incorporate the 3 E's - Explore, Experience and Engage - creating a dynamic program that engaged students, teachers and experts. The program brought in multiple voices from government, local industry and non-government organizations exposing students to a diversity of professions and perspectives. This opportunity to access professionals in the field, participate in unique tours and tailored workshops provided students a meaningful experience that will help them build their future careers.

PROGRAM SESSIONS AND EXPERT GUESTS

*FULL PROGRAM IN APPENDIX

EXPLORE

Planning Your Career Path, Joel Cardinal,
Learning Clicks Alberta

Careers in Motion Forestry, Andre Boraks,
Work Wild

Careers in Motion Trades & Technology, Becky Skopyk,
Skills Canada

EXPERIENCE

On-site tours:

Aquatera Water & Wastewater Facility

Encana Corporation

Evergreen Centre for Resource Excellence and Innovation

ENGAGE

Job Opportunity Roundtables featuring:

- *Alberta Environment & Parks*
- *Aquatera*
- *Community Futures, Grande Prairie Region*
- *Encana Corporation*
- *Weyerhaeuser*

PROGRAM EVALUATION



Learning together during the career roundtables

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Charles Spencer High School

Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

Home School Association

Grande Prairie Composite

Dawson Creek Secondary



Field tour at the Evergreen Centre for Resource Excellence and Innovation

The 2015 Alberta Boreal Careers Project - Grande Prairie was a success from the initial promotions to the final evaluations. Inside Education announced the program online and received numerous high quality applications from schools across the province. We had an equally positive response from local professionals eager to share their career stories; indicating a demand for this type of programming in Northwestern Alberta. During the program anecdotal evidence shared by teachers, students and experts alike affirmed that experiential careers programming is an ideal way to make meaningful connections to local opportunities. Following the program we encouraged teachers and students to share their thoughts about the program:

“Pleased with the whole event and felt it was very worthwhile for everyone of us. We appreciated learning about career and educational opportunities” - *The Homeschoolers of Grande Prairie*

“My students and I really enjoyed the 'hands-on' activities outside and the conversations with the experts to find out what they did and how they got to where they are now. It was refreshing to *speak* to people who were so excited about their careers!” - *Jackie Da Ros, Dawson Creek Secondary School*



A day in the life of a timber cruiser

The Alberta Boreal Careers Project is a cornerstone in Inside Education's full suite of education programs.

The success of the ABC project in Grande Prairie is indicative of the demand of this type of careers education programming in Northern Alberta where access to outside support organization may be limited. Inside Education is committed to making our education programming equally accessible throughout the province. The contacts, resources, and networking opportunities provided at no-cost to schools are invaluable for Alberta's young people as they develop an understanding natural resource development in the province and begin to explore the wide variety of locally based employment opportunities. With this Inside Education is eager to begin planning for two similar ABC projects in 2016:

- **March 10-13, 2016 - Navigate: Youth Water and Environmental Leadership Summit, Canmore**
- **Spring - ABC Project Lac La Biche/Conklin**
- **Fall - ABC Project Whitecourt**

These youth summits along with our teacher professional development programs, classroom presentations, field studies and learning materials offer teachers a full service no-cost support organization to support natural resource and environmental education in Alberta.



PROGRAM PARTNERS



For further information contact:

Kathryn Wagner, Program Director
kwagner@insideeducation.ca

Steve McIsaac, Executive Director
smcisaac@insideeducation.ca

Inside Education Society of Alberta
www.insideeducation.ca

APPENDIX: DETAILED PROGRAM



Inside Education Presents The Alberta Boreal Careers Project

October 6-7, 2015 Grande Prairie, AB

Tuesday, October 6

ABC KICK OFF - Get ready for one of a kind career education experience with *Inside Education*

ENGAGE: YOUR CAREER PATH - Consider your interests, skills and opportunities as you start out on your career path. *Joel Cardinal, Learning Clicks*

Break

EXPLORE: Career Conversations

Meet local professionals who work in natural resource and environment careers. Hear their stories and find out how they arrived at their current jobs.

- *Community Futures Grande Prairie Region*
- *Weyerhaeuser Timberlands Division - Grande Prairie*
- *Alberta Environment and Parks*
- *Encana*
- *Aquatera*

Lunch

EXPLORE: Careers and Innovation at Evergreen Centre for Resource Excellence and Innovation

An outdoor hunt for creativity, innovation, and interesting careers will catalyze students to explore the Evergreen Centre for Resource Excellence and Innovation. Bring outdoor clothes and be prepared to spend time outside!

Break

ENGAGE: The Next Steps - Reflect on how your experiences and consider the careers that are waiting for you. Facilitated by Inside Education

Wednesday, October 7

Meet at the ENTREC Centre and prepare for the weather!

ENGAGE: Natural Resource Tours

Students will tour one of two locations: Aquatera's wastewater treatment plant or an Encana compressor station. This is your chance to find out what it takes to work at one of these exciting sites. **Hosts:**

Aquatera and Encana Corporation

Lunch

EXPERIENCE: Careers in Motion Sessions

Get involved in meaningful hands-on activities. Work alongside one of our career experts to build your skills and experience. One session will be outdoors, so come prepared for the weather! Students will have the opportunity to meet in smaller groups to connect closer around the skills you need to succeed in the natural resource sector. **Work Wild with Andre Boracks and Skills Canada with Becky Skopyk**

ENGAGE: The Next Steps - Reflect on how your experiences and consider the careers that are waiting for you. Facilitated by Inside Education

Go to www.surveymonkey.com/r/ABC2015Post and tell us what you think!

Thank you to our program partners for providing support for the 2015 Alberta Boreal Careers Project - Grande Prairie



Aha moments since 1985