

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Forests, Forestry & Wildlife

July 6, 2021 | Kananaskis, Alberta

21 teachers from across Alberta spent the day at the Jumpingpound Demonstration Forest to deepen their understanding of Alberta's forestry sector and connections to wildlife to bring forest education to life in their classrooms.

The **2021 Forests, Forestry & Wildlife** teacher professional development program was designed not only to offer teachers insights into forest management and forestry in Alberta but also to support forest education in an unprecedented school year. This Inside Education program was our first in-person professional development program in 2021 and for many teachers it was the first time they had an opportunity to connect with educators outside of their own school districts as well as participate in an outdoor experiential education experience.

Building upon 34 years of experience designing experiential education programs using a multiple perspectives approach, Inside Education focused on connections between forest stakeholders, water and wildlife while showcasing activities and resources that support the classroom.

We are excited to share the outcomes and impacts from this unique teacher professional development program. The demand for this program in addition to overwhelmingly positive feedback from teacher participants indicates a strong desire for future teacher professional development on a wide range of forest topics.



The Participants

The 2021 Forests, Forestry & Wildlife Program attracted 21 keen educators from across Alberta. The group represented varying levels of experiences incorporating forest topics in their classrooms as well as representing all grade levels from K-12.

- Lindsey Bingley** | Foothills Academy, Calgary
- Lauren Clark** | Ronald Harvey School, St. Albert
- Christina Cleland** | Patricia Heights School, Edmonton
- Lisa Corbett** | Rundle College Junior High School, Calgary
- Tammy Earl** | Thorncliffe School, Calgary
- Sean Green** | Central Memorial High School, Calgary
- Rebecca Kuzek** | Brightview School, Edmonton
- Isabelle Leblanc** | Ecole Sainte-Jeanne d'Arc School, Edmonton
- Laura Loria** | St. Brigid School, Calgary
- Tariq Mahmood** | Cadotte Lake School, Cadotte Lake
- Deepali Medhekar** | Headway School, Edmonton
- Amanda Millette** | Rundle College Junior High School, Calgary
- Roopa Patel** | James Fowler High School, Calgary
- Kat Phelan** | Foothills Academy, Calgary
- Erin Raddis** | St. Josephine Bakhita, Calgary
- Amanda Sadler** | NorthStar Academy, Didsbury
- Kelly Sam** | Headway School, Edmonton
- Adam Sommerfeldt** | Wheatland Crossing School, Standard
- Luke Wasik** | Bishop David Motiuk School, Edmonton
- Katrina Yaworkski** | Aurora Middle School, Lac La Biche

The Program

Experts and Themes at a Glance

Forest Ecology Site Tour <i>Alex Drummond, NorQuest College</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forest Regions of Alberta ● Land Use ● Tree Measurements
Alberta's Forest Industry <i>Matt Denney, Spray Lake Sawmills</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forest Management Planning ● Harvesting & Silviculture ● Forests Pests & Disease
Forests & Water <i>Michael Wagner, Government of Alberta</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forest Hydrology ● Stream & Riparian Assessments ● Species at Risk - West Slope Cutthroat Trout
Forests & Wildlife <i>Amit Saxena, Canadian Natural</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oil and gas in the forest ● Pipelines ● Wildlife Management
Classroom Connections <i>Tyler Dixon, GEOEC</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bear safety Demo ● Wildlife Education
Forest Education Beyond the Classroom <i>Inside Education</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forest Education Tool Kit ● Additional resources & opportunities

Program Impact and Feedback

The follow-up survey results indicate that it was an exceptional learning experience that will translate into meaningful classroom impact. Inside Education estimates that over **>1500 students a year will benefit from the experience of the teacher participants** as they infuse their learning into their lessons. We are pleased to share our program feedback.

“Inside Education has a proven track record in providing high-quality teacher training that is accessible, valuable, and easily applicable. Inside Education does exactly what they say they do.

They support teachers and inspire students.”

*- Lindsey Bingley,
Foothills Academy, Calgary*

“This is an amazing opportunity to learn about the curriculum and beyond while outside getting dirty. The presenters are always from a variety of backgrounds providing a balanced perspective on the topic. ”

*- Jennifer Secord-Tomlin,
Louis Riel School, Calgary*



Classroom Connections

- *100% of post program survey respondents increased their confidence in teaching forest and wildlife topics*
- *>1500 students will benefit as teachers incorporate this experience into their lessons.*



“The variety of topics and expertise available through these programs is unmet through other PD opportunities.”

*- Christina Cleland,
Patricia Heights School Edmonton*

Thank you to our program partners & expert guests

We extend deep thanks to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta, its member companies and a special thanks to the fantastic expert guests. Inside Education along with the teachers and students appreciate your shared commitment to advancing forest education in Alberta.



Inside Education is a proud partner in the national-award winning Forestry Futures Alliance alongside *Work Wild* and *CAREERS: The Next Generation*. In addition to our ongoing forest field trip sites, classroom presentations, classroom resources and teacher programs; we will host the inaugural **Regenerate Forest Education & Leadership Summit** in March, 2022!

For More Information Contact:
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