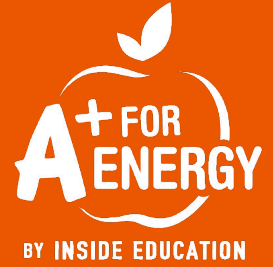


# A+ for Energy

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**August 28-29, 2023**

*Calgary, Alberta*



A+ for Energy grant recipient teachers gathered in Calgary and traveled through SE Alberta for a two day workshop to learn about Alberta's energy landscape, network, collaborate, celebrate and prepare for the implementation of their 2023-2024 A + for Energy projects.

## Introduction

The **A+ for Energy Teacher's Workshop** was planned by **Inside Education** to give teachers who received an A+ for Energy grant a chance to network, collaborate and celebrate. Thirty-five teachers from across Alberta attended the program, which included two days of speakers, workshops and tours throughout southern Alberta. In the upcoming 2023/2024 school year, the A+ for Energy projects led by this group of teachers will impact over 6,500 students across Alberta, and participants seem to agree that the professional development program was the perfect way to kick off the year.

We are pleased to share the outcomes and impacts from this engaging professional development program through this report. The demand for A+ for Energy grants as well as the overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants indicates a strong desire for the continuation of the A+ for Energy program, as well as other energy education initiatives throughout Alberta.

"The A+ PD experience was a much needed boost to get the school year fired up! I can't wait to get back to my community and start implementing our project!"

**Andre Morson, Harry Collinge High School (Hinton)**

"The A+ PD is always the best. It allows me to have accurate, current information to connect with my students around a topic that's always changing so fast."

**Cole Hintz, Strathmore High School**



# The Program

“Awesome experience! It was fantastic to see the “behind the scenes” aspects to energy production in Alberta!”

**Robert Tymofichuk, New Myrnam School**

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE:

**August 28 - 29, 2023**

### Speakers & Workshops:

Energy Innovations Talk  
*Kim Welby (Southgrow Regional Initiative)*

Energy Education Workshop  
*Inside Education*

Project Kickoff & A+ Next Steps  
*Inside Education*

### Tours:

ENMAX Kettles Hill Wind Farm

Stirling Net Zero Village

Lethbridge Biogas

**Celebration Dinner at Wildrose Taproom**



# The Participants

The A+ for Energy Professional Development Program brought together 35 Grade 4-12 teachers from the schools that will be implementing innovative energy education projects throughout the school year.

- Cochrane High School** | Jander Talen, Stephanie Bennett
- Crestwood School (Medicine Hat)** | Vanessa Yamazaki, Marsha Johnson
- Foothills Academy (Calgary)** | Danielle Wombold, Tanya O'Brien
- Harry Collinge High School (Hinton)** | Andre Morson, Jennifer Wolton
- High Park School (Stony Plain)** | Kathrin Paruk, Jennifer Podhaniuk
- Innisfree Delnorte School** | April Huppert
- Medicine Hat High School** | Jennifer Matt
- Michael Strembitsky School (Edmonton)** | Julie Arsenault
- New Myrnam School** | Britney Urichuk, Moriah Ostropolski, Robert Tymofichuk
- North Haven School (Calgary)** | Florin Panaitescu
- Notre Dame School (Calgary)** | Mike MacDonald
- Peace Wapiti Academy (Grande Prairie)** | Matthew Vavrek
- Ross Sheppard High School (Edmonton)** | Ty Dempster, Marcus McCann
- Rundle College (Calgary)** | Lisa Corbett, Julie Naugler
- Spruce Avenue School (Edmonton)** | Liane Spillios, Natalie Hendricks
- STEM Innovation Academy (Calgary)** | Dan McWilliam
- St. Martin de Porres (Red Deer)** | Morgan McCullen, Kelsey Paetz
- St. John Paul II Catholic School (Grande Prairie)** | Meaghan Vavrek
- St. Joseph School (Coaldale)** | Zac Coupland
- Strathmore High School** | Cole Hintz, Justin Silva
- Wheatland Crossing School (Standard)** | Adam Sommerfeldt, Linda Moczulski
- Westmount Charter School (Calgary)** | Heather Lai



“Excellent PD opportunity for anyone interested in energy education. So many great venues and speakers!”

**Zac Coupland, St. Joseph School (Coaldale)**



“To stand inside a wind turbine and see a biogas facility was a one of a kind opportunity that I will never forget! I highly recommend Inside Education programs.”

**Jennifer Wolton, Harry Collinge High School (Hinton)**

“I am blown away by the quality of the PD we had. I grew personally in my knowledge and my energy taste buds were sparked. My head is spinning with ideas for the school setting and I can't wait to implement them. The passion of the instructors was contagious and I felt they were very knowledgeable. I plan to take as many more Inside Ed PD opportunities as I can.”

**Morgan McMullen, St. Martin de Porres School (Red Deer)**



# The Projects

After the professional development program, the teachers returned to their communities to begin implementing their A+ For Energy projects. 23 projects will be implemented in 14 different communities across Alberta and will have an impact on thousands of students.



## 2023/2024 A+ FOR ENERGY GRANT RECIPIENTS

**Cochrane High School, Cochrane**  
ROAMS CAPSTONE PROJECT | \$2,500

**Crestwood School, Medicine Hat**  
ENERGIZING EDUCATION | \$3,500

**Divine Mercy School, Calgary**  
HEALTHY HUMANS; HEALTHY EARTH | \$1,390

**Dixonville School, Dixonville**  
DX ACTIVE SOLAR GREENHOUSE | \$5,000

**Foothills Academy Society, Calgary**  
WIND POWER - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE | \$4,925

**Harry Collinge High School, Hinton**  
USING 3D PRINTERS TO DESIGN WIND TURBINES | \$4,465

**High Park School, Stony Plain**  
SOMETHING FISHY AT HIGH PARK SCHOOL | \$5,000

**Innisfree Delnorte School, Innisfree**  
THE POWER OF PASSION PROJECTS | \$2,500

**Medicine Hat High School, Medicine Hat**  
PEDAL TO POWER | \$5,000

**Michael Strembitsky School, Edmonton**  
WHEN IS ZERO ACTUALLY ZERO? | \$5,000

**New Myrnam School, Myrnam**  
AN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP STORY | \$2,806

**North Haven School, Calgary**  
INSULATION POWER | \$4,005

**Notre Dame High School, Calgary**  
SOLAR POWER AND BEYOND | \$5,000

**Ross Sheppard High School, Edmonton**  
PROJECT GREENHOUSE | \$5,000

**Rundle College Jr/Sr High School, Calgary**  
EVERY DROP FOR EVERYONE | \$4,967

**Spruce Avenue School, Edmonton**  
SPROUTS OF THE FUTURE | \$5,000

**STEM Innovation Academy, Calgary**  
THE 'BIGFOOT' CARBON FOOTPRINT GAME | \$5,000

**St. John Paul II Catholic School, Grande Prairie**  
NOTHING FISHY ABOUT A FREE [SOLAR] LUNCH! | \$4,705

**St. Joseph Coaldale, Coaldale**  
GOLF CART CONVERSION: GOING FOR A SOLAR RIP | \$5,000

**St Martin de Porres, Red Deer**  
60 GREEN, GO GARDEN | \$2,721

**Strathmore High School, Strathmore**  
NATIVE POLLINATOR DEMO GARDEN | \$2,219

**Westmount Charter Mid-High School, Calgary**  
2024 MICROBIAL FUEL CELL OLYMPICS | \$5,000

**Wheatland Crossing School, Standard**  
GROWING IN THE COOL | \$5,000



"I really enjoyed the tours and the opportunity for networking with other teachers. Teachers who have experience doing these projects had suggestions that I hadn't even considered, and offered support, which was fantastic!"

**Meaghan Vavrek, St. John Paul II Catholic School (Grande Prairie)**

"I feel more confident sharing about the different facets of the energy sector. I look forward to teaching my students about the opportunities and challenges of different energy sources."

**Adam Sommerfeldt, Wheatland Crossing School (Standard)**

Over 6,500 students will benefit from A+ for Energy projects this school year!

## Summary & Futures

Professional Development is a vital part of the A+ for Energy program overall, and the 2023 A+ For Energy Professional Development Program was a great success. The feedback collected from teachers in the post-program survey was overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to supporting them as they return to their schools to implement their creative, innovative and inspiring energy education projects.

Inside Education remains committed to providing high quality professional development programs for teachers and supporting energy education in schools across Alberta. As Alberta's energy landscape continues to transform, it is essential that the teachers and young people of Alberta become informed decision makers and stewards. We expect the demand for energy education programs to continue to increase, especially considering the pilot Alberta Program of Studies (curriculum) contains energy content at all grade levels. There is no doubt that the A+ for Energy program will continue to support this positive future!

## Partners

Thank you to our program partners for supporting the 2023/24 A+ for Energy Program and Professional Development workshop:



For more information, contact:  
**Inside Education Society of Alberta**  
[www.INSIDEeducation.ca](http://www.INSIDEeducation.ca)

**Kathryn Wagner**, Program Director | [kwagner@insideeducation.ca](mailto:kwagner@insideeducation.ca)  
**Steve McIsaac**, Executive Director | [smcisaac@insideeducation.ca](mailto:smcisaac@insideeducation.ca)  
**Mila Mezei**, A+ for Energy Coordinator | [mmezei@insideeducation.ca](mailto:mmezei@insideeducation.ca)

