

Careers and Diversity in Alberta's Natural Resources Sector:

Summary Report



April 10 – 11, 2013



Teachers gear up for a day of learning about Natural Resource Careers

Our expert guests shared important information about careers including these interesting statistics:

- 114,000 Worker shortage anticipated in Alberta by 2021 – *Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education*
- 78% Environmental employees are fully engaged in their work – *ECO Canada*
- 330 New immigrant participants in the “Learning the Language, Learning the Land” program – *Alberta Parks*
- 380,000 Jobs will be supported by investment in oil sands sector in next decade - *CAPP*

Connecting Careers & the Classroom

Alberta's natural resources are as plentiful and diverse as Albertans themselves; with the development of these natural resource there comes a need for a vast network of skilled employees. For many young people the first exposure to careers is in the classroom with the support of teachers, career counselors and career education practitioners, which is why Inside Education brought together these educators with a wide range of career experts.

With a focus on career trends and opportunities in the environmental and natural resource sector, this one-day program highlighted unique opportunities to engage diverse student populations including aboriginal, women and newcomers to Canada. The result was a unique, inspirational and informative careers education program that empowered career educators with information and tools to bring environmental and natural resources to the forefront in their classrooms.

Program

Goals:

- Raise awareness of career trends in the natural resources sector
- Share information and resources that support career education for diverse student populations
- Create networking opportunities for teachers and partners working in career development



Participants

Julie Gonneau, Alberta Distance Learning Centre, Edmonton

Teresa Lin, Employer Relations Advisor, Edmonton

Charlene Foster, Calgary Christian School, Calgary

Sherryl Loman, Picture Butte High School, Picture Butte

Paul Jespersion, Vilna School, Vilna

Crystal Ozment, Nipisihkopahk School, Hobbema

Karen Knull, Aboriginal Youth in Transition Project, Red Deer

Keely Johnston, Employment Consultant, Rocky Mountain House

Teri Awasis, Ermineskin Junior Senior High School, Hobbema

Christie Borle, Alberta Distance Learning Centre, Edmonton

Kevin Husky, Sturgeon Composite High School, St. Albert

Agnes Tomkow, K-12 teacher, Athabasca

Program Highlights

Solving Workforce Challenges: Engaging and Empowering Youth

Laurette Morris, Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education

Workforce Trends in the Oil & Gas Industry

Andrea Dubé, Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP)

Natural Resource Programs & Site Tour, S.A.I.T

Alan Jack, S.A.I.T Polytechnic, Petroleum Engineering Technology



Participants have a hands-on experience with the Forestry Tools of trade Education Kit

Touring SAIT Well Production Education Centre



Career Trends in the Environmental Sector

Rebecca Dickson, ECO Canada

Connecting Newcomers to Alberta's Natural Areas

Kevin Cantelon, Alberta Parks

Career Education for Aboriginal Learners

Vicki Bouvie, University of Calgary, Native Centre

Trends in Natural Resource Careers

Lloyd Desjarlais, Learning Clicks

Evaluation

Our professional development programs are designed with a very high standard for authentic, experiential learning that can be leveraged by our participants, in their classroom. We are thrilled with the results from this program and inspired by the feedback we received from our participants.

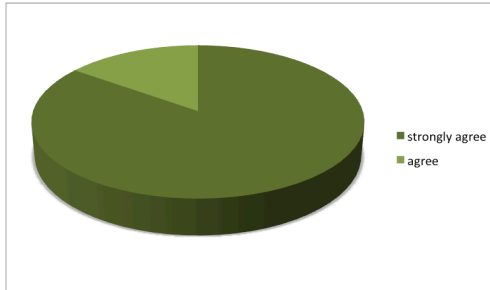


Learning about workforce strategies in the oil & gas sector with Andrea Dubé, CAPP

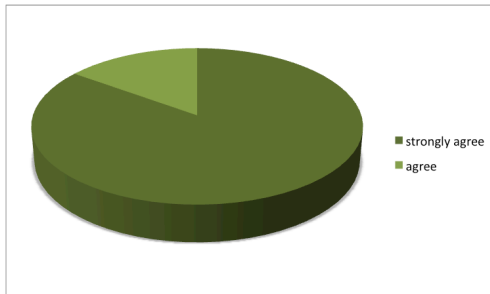
So much great information about careers relating to our environment. Definitely re-enforces my belief that there are many opportunities and students should be interested in pursuing careers in environment. Great session! – Sherryl Loman, Picture Butte

Enjoyed hearing about the multi-disciplinary nature of environmental work, reasons people enter the field, and the skill sets that employers seek of students entering the field. – Teresa Lin, Edmonton

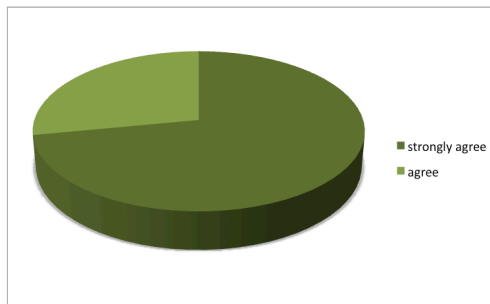
All of the workshops that I have attended through Inside Education have provided with valuable information about a variety of careers in Alberta. I look forward to passing on the exciting information to students in my school. - Sherryl Loman, Picture Butte



This education program exposed me to a breadth of careers available in the natural resource sector.



I have gained the knowledge needed to advise my students of the natural resource career opportunities in Alberta.



I am excited to learn more about career opportunities for my diverse student population.

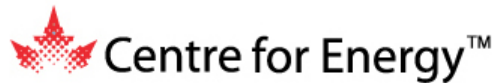
100% of respondents rated the program as:

enjoyable
balanced educational
worthwhile fun
high-quality

Our Partners

Inside Education sincerely appreciates the time and support of our partners who came together to make this program a great success. These relationships have allowed us to offer a truly valuable professional development opportunity for teachers.

Thank you to all of the organizations that provided expert speakers and tours for the program. A special thank you to the partners who provided the financial support that made this program possible:



Where do we go from here?

The Careers and Diversity Program was a success thanks to the commitment of our partners, enthusiasm of the highly dedicated teacher participants and the contributions of the time and expertise of the expert speakers and guides.

It is evident from the feedback above that this program is a highly valued professional development opportunity for educators across the province. While it was the first time we tackled this topic with a focus on diversity, our experience and commitment to supporting teachers helped guide our development of the program, and will continue to guide future programs related to careers in the natural resources sector. We believe the knowledge and experiences gained on this program will be transmitted through these teachers to the hundreds of students they work with throughout their careers.

For more information about this and other Inside Education programs contact:

Inside Education
780- 421- 1497
info@insideeducation.ca
www.insideeducation.ca

