



NAVIGATE 2014

summary report MARCH 13 - 16 • BANFF, AB



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Inside Education is proud to share the stories and outcomes emerging from the very successful Navigate 2014.

Navigate 2014 was a dynamic four-day educational experience that facilitated meaningful discussions about our water landscape and inspired action through water education projects in Alberta schools and communities.

With the goal of developing understanding and thinking critically about water issues in Alberta, Navigate 2014 was a truly memorable and unique learning opportunity. Teachers, students, industry professionals, academics and environmental leaders came together to explore multiple perspectives and to engage in conversations that will shape the future of our water.

Inside Education extends many thanks to the partners, water experts, dedicated teachers and students who all contributed to the success of Navigate 2014.

THE PARTICIPANTS

Navigate teams were comprised of four student leaders and two teachers from each of the 20 participating Alberta schools. Teams were selected based on their eagerness to apply their learning with a water education project. Special considerations were also given to ensure geographic diversity and inclusion of communities with unique water challenges.

The high level of engagement and commitment to water literacy shown by each of the 20 student-teacher teams is commendable and inspiring. These individuals showcase the passion that is needed to advance conversations and play a key role in the future of our environment and natural resources.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS/COMMUNITIES:

Athabasca Delta Community School | Fort Chipewyan

CBe-learn Career & Technology Centre | Calgary

Caroline School | Caroline

Chief Napewew Comprehensive School | Frog Lake

David Thompson High School | Condor

H.J. Cody High School | Sylvan Lake

Harry Ainlay High School | Edmonton

J.A. Williams High School | Lac La Biche

J. Percy Page High School | Edmonton

Lacombe Composite High School | Lacombe

Little Buffalo School | Cadotte Lake

Lloydminster Comprehensive High School | Lloydminster

M.E. LaZerte High School | Edmonton

Medicine Hat High School | Medicine Hat

Oilfields High School | Black Diamond

Ponoka Secondary Campus | Ponoka

Robert Thirsk High School | Calgary

Siksika Nation High School | Siksika

Springbank Community High School | Calgary

St. Mary's High School | Calgary



THE PROGRAM

Navigate 2014 was a truly unique and dynamic program that explored water issues, challenges and opportunities from multiple perspectives.

Major topics and themes included:

- **Water & natural resource development in Alberta** ▪
- **Perspectives on water management in Alberta** ▪
 - **Major water issues in Alberta** ▪
- **Water stewardship, including conservation, citizen science and personal/team action** ▪

The exploration of key topics and ideas allowed for valuable conversations and critical thinking about the environmental, social, economic challenges and opportunities related to water use and development. A series of interactive workshops, hands-on activities, speakers and reflection exercises enabled both students and teachers to connect their learning back to their classrooms and communities.

Over 30 expert guests from a wide array of sectors participated in the program. Each one contributed valuable perspectives and knowledge to help inform the conversations of the water literacy journeys.

The program format included:



Keynote plenary sessions

Jigsaw speaker sessions

Hands-on, interactive water education activities



Leadership challenges

Skill-building project workshops

Team water project planning



Gala dinner with concert

Social events

PROGRAM FEEDBACK & OUTCOMES

Inside Education is proud to share the outstanding results and feedback we received from the teacher and student delegates.

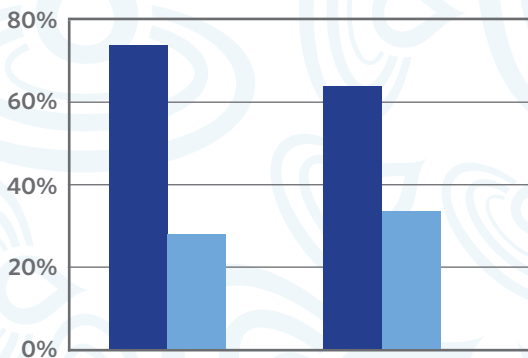
How would you rate the overall quality of Navigate 2014?



100% of respondents would recommend an Inside Education Youth Summit to other teachers and students

97% of respondents stated that they see value in another Youth Summit for Alberta high school students and teachers

Navigate 2014:



Enhanced my knowledge and understanding of water in Alberta

Increased my awareness of the multiple perspectives related to water in Alberta

LEGEND ■ STRONGLY AGREE ■ AGREE

One Navigator's Story

I was in a vehicle along with Mrs. Cumberland, Mr. Jenkins, Lee, Chandelle and Sherry on our way to Banff to Navig8. Since moving to Edmonton 2 1/2 years ago, I had never been to a city other than Edmonton. I hadn't been on that long of a road trip, and forget staying at a place like the Banff Center - I had never even slept in a hotel before.

As we got closer and closer to the mountains, I couldn't help to cry softly, for they were sending me a reminder that the world is so much bigger than the piece of it I see every day. After several stops to buy supplies for our "jellyfish," we drove into the Banff Center, and I was going to begin the most life changing weekend of my entire life.

I dove into water literacy, met new friends, connected with the speakers and learned so much about myself. I had the greatest time that weekend.

This weekend will mark the day I realized I didn't want to point fingers of blame, I didn't want to do nothing, that nature was beautiful, that there existed a table where people are finding solutions, and that I wanted to sit at that table. For the rest of my life.

I was running around the Banff Center trying to answer all the questions as we "geocached." And spilling water all over my face as we did the different activities regarding water availability, or jotting down endless notes for each and every speaker and asking questions.

We all hopped onto buses and had a great dinner and dance! I was nervous, but eventually warmed up to it, even leading the train we had made!

And now, I am planning a water literacy project with the team. And next year I (God willing) will be studying engineering with the goal of become a water resource engineer. And today, today I am writing you this email. Because you deserve it, the staff at Navig8 deserve it, and Inside Education deserves it. Because it is all of you (and our sponsors) that make this experience possible. And no amount of words, no matter how many I write, will ever be able to express how grateful I am.

So thank you, thank for doing this. For it is an understatement when I say it had meant the world to me.

Maryam
J. Percy Page High School, Edmonton



WATER LITERACY BEYOND THE SUMMIT

One of the unique challenges presented to the Navigate Teams was to continue their learning beyond the Summit and to share and apply their newfound knowledge through their Water Literacy projects. The student-driven projects demonstrate leadership, engagement and a significant commitment to environmental stewardship. These school and community-based projects inspire awareness of water issues and extend the reach of the learning far beyond the Summit.

We are proud to share a sample of the projects that showcase the hard work, innovative ideas and the inspiring voice of the water leaders that will shape our future.

M.E. Lazerte High School

Low-flush toilets installed in the school

J.A. Williams High School

Presentations of their original children's book to Grade 2 and 3 students

Ponoka Secondary Campus

A water quality study developed for biology students

Robert Thirsk High School

School environment club launched with water education activities

Springbank Community High School

Outdoor classroom, and study to assess water literacy

Medicine Hat High School

Children's puppet show and board game, and mini water education summit

CBe-learn

Art installations to bring awareness to water conservation

Caroline School and St. Mary's High School

Water conservation policy virtual town hall and a white paper to present to the Alberta government

"What Navig8 provided was the pinnacle of interactive learning - this is the blueprint of how education should be offered to students. Our kids returned energized, motivated and with real innovative ideas."
 > NADINE SPENCER, TEACHER, MEDICINE HAT HIGH SCHOOL, MEDICINE HAT

"These sorts of experiences have a lasting impact in students' lives and provide opportunities not otherwise available."
 > ANETT PON, TEACHER, SIKSIKA NATION HIGH SCHOOL, SIKSIKA

OUR PARTNERS

Inside Education extends its sincere appreciation to the Navigate program partners for their generous support and commitment to water education. The model of pairing schools with partners has been effective in creating the meaningful connections necessary to advance water literacy.

Thank you for making such an exceptional education opportunity possible.



FUTURES

The incredible success of Navigate 2014 exemplifies why youth summits have become a keystone in Inside Education's programming. These unique learning opportunities demonstrate Inside Education's vision of fostering the next generation of stewards of our environment and natural resources.

Inside Education believes creating memorable opportunities to experience our natural world creates a lasting connection to it. Through our unique approach to education and full suite of programs and resources, we make these connections possible for thousands of students and teachers across Western Canada each year. The 2014-2015 school year will offer a multitude of natural resource based programs for teachers and students, including **Generate 2015: Energy Education Youth Summit**, to be held **March 12-15, 2015** in Banff, Alberta.



INSIDE EDUCATION

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