



gener 2015

SUMMARY REPORT


Aha moments since 1985

MARCH 12 - 15, 2015
BANFF, ALBERTA

INTRODUCTION

Inside Education is excited to share the story of Generate 2015. It is a story of **inspiration, collaboration, and innovation**. It is a story that begins with 120 students and teachers from across the province eager to gain knowledge and perspective about Alberta's energy landscape. Most importantly, it is a story that starts at the Summit and continues to be told by delegates, speakers and partners alike; encouraging new chapters to be written, shared, and ultimately inspiring stewardship.

What makes Generate 2015 different from the other energy and environment education events available to high school students and teachers? An effective emphasis on **experiential learning, critical thinking, and student leadership**.

Despite being the newest addition to the Inside Education's suite of resources and programs, Youth Education Summits are fast becoming a cornerstone of the organization. Its unique student-focused, experiential learning format fosters the next generation of environment and natural resource stewards. Furthermore, Inside Education's youth summits are well received by Alberta teachers and high school students as shown in the over abundance of applications and positive feedback.



THE PARTICIPANTS

Generate teams were comprised of four student leaders and two teachers from each of the 20 participating schools. These teams were selected based on their application indicating the desire to participate and eagerness to take action through their energy education project and at the same time ensuring a great balance of participants from across Alberta.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:

Charles Spencer High School, Grande Prairie

Chief Jacob Bearspaw Memorial School, Eden Valley

Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School, Calgary

École Desrochers, Jasper

École Secondaire Notre Dame High School, Red Deer

École Voyageur, Cold Lake

Edwin Parr Composite School, Athabasca

Forestburg School, Forestburg

Hillside Jr./Sr. High School, Valleyview

Hughenden Public School, Hughenden

J. Percy Page High School, Edmonton

Kainai High School, Cardston

Langdon School, Langdon

Medicine Hat High School, Medicine Hat

Peace River High School, Peace River

Robert Thirsk High School, Calgary

Rocky Lane Public School, Fort Vermilion

School of Alternative Education, Edmonton

Sherwood Park Next Step Senior High, Sherwood Park

Sundre High School, Sundre



PROGRAM GOALS

Engaging high school students: providing opportunities to interact with topic experts, peers and teachers at a professional summit designed for multiple learning styles.

Inspiring students: Showcasing local examples of youth who have become leaders in Alberta's energy scene during the Young Energy Leaders panel.

Experiential learning: Encouraging students to step outside of their comfort zone and ask the hard questions to industry experts, academics, environmental leaders, peers and themselves.

Critical Thinking: Exploring program themes through multiple perspectives while providing delegates tools to develop understanding, evaluate information and form their own viewpoint.

THE PROGRAM

Major topics/themes included:

- » Energy and the Environment
- » The Future of Energy
- » Energy Dialogues
- » Young Energy Leaders

The exploration of key topics and themes allowed for valuable conversations and critical thinking about the environmental, social and economic challenges and opportunities related to energy 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 - **Idea Generators** - from a wide spectrum of energy and environmental fields participated in the program. Each Idea Generator contributed valuable perspective and understanding that helped lead the conversations that shaped the student's energy education journey.

A program highlight was the youth energy leaders panel featuring young scientists, including former Generate participant Charles Nokes, Student Energy founder Kali Taylor, U of A student researcher Kelcie Miller-Anderson and Google Science Fair winner Hayley Todesco.

For a complete list of the Generate 2015 Idea Generators, please visit: www.gener8.ca/summit-program/activities-and-workshops



GOLDEN GALA

The Gala dinner on Friday, March 13 featured a very special keynote speaker in Olympic Gold Medalist, **Sami Jo Small**. Sami Jo dazzled the crowd with her story of perseverance and teamwork as a three-time member of the Canadian women's hockey team.

PROGRAM FEEDBACK

On average summit participants will share the information gained from Generate 2015 with 290 people. Inside Education is honoured to share the outstanding results and feedback we received from the teacher and student delegates.

I really found that Generate gave me optimism for the future ahead.
Dave, École Secondaire Notre Dame High School

An inspirational, unforgettable weekend. I don't have the words to say how much of an impact this weekend has had on my life.
Brianna, Langdon School

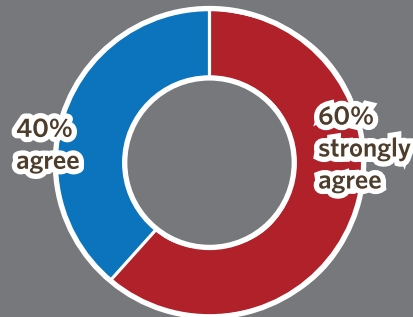
I've learned so much over the past few days, not just about energy but about life.
Daryl-Lynn, Edwin Parr Composite School

My mind has been buzzing the entire weekend here because of the many solutions we could put into action in the future to help the environment.
Pascale, École Desrochers

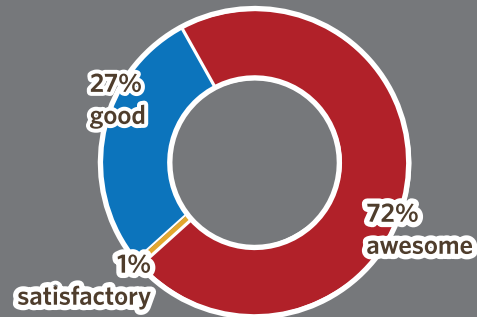
It meant so much that my school had the opportunity to learn and grow in such a positive and innovative environment.
Vienna, Medicine Hat High School

98%
of respondents agree or strongly agree with the following statement: "I'm now more aware of different perspectives on energy in AB"

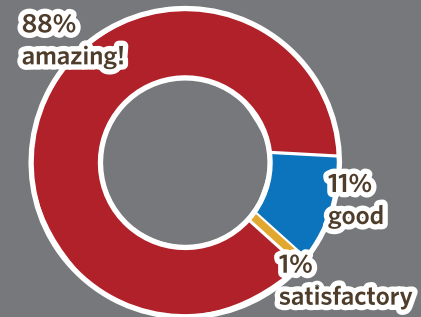
I now have a better understanding of energy in Alberta.



What did you think of the Idea Generators (speakers)?



Overall, Generate 2015 was...



THE ENERGY STORY CONTINUES

ENERGY EDUCATION & ACTION PROJECTS

At the core of the Summit are the energy education projects, with the ultimate goal being that the teams gain knowledge, perspective and tools to ensure their projects have a lasting legacy within their communities. We are proud to share a small sample of some of the inspiring action plans formulated at the Summit.

École Desrochers • The team connected with Jasper High School to develop programs to educate K-12 students on energy production, consumption and conservation. They have since applied for an A+ for Energy grant to purchase equipment for a net zero portable classroom which will be used in the education programs.

Forestburg School • This team is writing the first chapter of its school's energy story by planning and hosting an energy education event for Grades 4 - 7 called Energy Around Us. The event will include sessions on energy sources, a game reviewing the energy sources, and a community specific energy story.

École Voyageur • In order to improve the indoor air quality and aesthetics in their school, this team plans to install a living wall. To date they have done extensive research on living walls, applied for grants, and shared information with the school's administration and students.

Visit www.gener8.ca/education-projects for more energy action plan updates from our Generate teams.



This experience was unforgettable. It was a learning opportunity that I am thankful to have the chance to attend. I hope that my team can make a positive impact in our community, that we can share our knowledge with others and help make the world a better place.

Olivia, Sherwood Park Next Step Sr High

OUR PARTNERS



Inside Education extends its thanks to all the program partners. Each participating school was paired with one of the partners; providing effective, meaningful connections and building relationships between schools, organizations and Inside Education. The Generate team continues to foster these relationships by connecting schools with established funding and recognition programs. Many teachers commented how grateful they were to have full scholarship for such a high-calibre education event. Most schools would not have the budget available to attend otherwise, and it is through the support of Inside Education's partners that these opportunities are made possible.

FUTURES

The incredible success of Generate 2015 exemplifies why the 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 our full suite of programs and resources, we make these connections possible for thousands of students and teachers across Western Canada each year. With this in mind, planning is already underway for a multitude of other natural resource-based programs for teachers and students, and for **Navigate 2016 - Youth Water & Environmental Leadership Summit**, to be held March 10-13, 2016 in Canmore, Alberta.



INSIDE EDUCATION

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