

## E3 2018 Regional Youth Summit

# Edmonton Energy Efficiency

December 5-6, 2018 | Edmonton

An experiential learning summit for students to draw links between energy efficiency, climate change, and sustainability.



# Introduction

Back in 2012, Inside Education first hosted the first regional summit under the name Generate Edmonton, and again in 2014 as Energize: Youth Energy Symposium (EYES). In 2015, the Edmonton regional youth summit was rebranded Edmonton Energy Efficiency (E3) Education Program.

E3 2018 was a two-day experiential learning, based out of MacEwan University and branching out through the city. The program examined how local energy efficiency and conservation actions connect to the larger conversation about climate change and sustainability.

The event included research facility and campus sustainability tours as well as workshops and expert presentations on energy efficiency, Edmonton's climate adaptation and mitigation strategy, and the optimistic voices of engaged youth leaders. The program also provided tools and resources to empower students and teachers to get involved and take action at their schools and in their communities.

The 2018 E3 program was open to teams of junior and high school students from grades 7 - 12 across the greater Edmonton area. This year, E3 was fully subscribed with 116 participants: 97 students and 19 teachers from 11 different schools from Edmonton and area. 2018 marks the sixth year that Inside has offered a youth summit exploring energy in Edmonton.



# E3 2018

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Wednesday December 5 Start: 9:30 AM at Feigel Conference Centre	Thursday December 6 Start at 9:30 AM at Feigel Conference Centre
<p><b>Program Welcome and Introduction to Energy Efficiency, Climate and Sustainability</b> How are energy, climate change and sustainability connected? What does this mean for you and your community?</p>	<p><b>Recap and Re-energize</b> We'll review E3 day one and prepare for another full day of ideas and inspiration.</p>
<p><b>Morning Keynote</b> Energy Efficiency 101</p>	<p><b>Sustainability and School Spotlight Tour</b> We'll flip our groups and check out the amazing work at our spotlight school: Kate Chegwin Junior High! Group A/B: Bus to Kate Chegwin Junior High Group C/D: MacEwan Food Sustainability Tour</p>
<p><b>Youth Leaders Panel</b> Elizabeth Gierl &amp; Chelsea Donelon Be inspired by young leaders who will share their stories of making a difference</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
<p><b>Lunch</b></p>	<p><b>Home Energy Audits and Summits for Credit</b> Aaron Dublenko Learn how to perform a home energy audit.</p>
<p><b>Climate Adaptation &amp; Mitigation</b> Heather Wheeliker &amp; Stefanie Drozda Hear and contribute to how Edmonton can change and respond to Climate change.</p>	<p><b>Expert Circuit</b> Work with local experts and your peers to determine the pieces that need to come together to build a sustainable community.</p>
<p><b>Energy and Sustainability Tours</b> Hop aboard the bus and get ready for a tour of future energy, sustainability, and renewable technologies. Group A/B: MacEwan Food Sustainability Tour Group C: UofA Future Energy Systems and Campus Sustainability Lab Tour Group D: NAIT Renewable Technology Lab</p>	
<p>Program End: 4:00 PM at Feigel Conference Centre</p>	<p>Program End 3:30 PM at Feigel Conference Centre</p>

## PROGRAM GOALS

- **SHOWCASE** local Energy Efficiency initiatives and research
- **INSPIRE** and provide opportunities for Energy Efficiency initiatives for schools, communities, and homes
- **FACILITATE** a broader understanding of the connection between energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate change

## Participating Schools

**Waldorf Independent School of Edmonton** | Independent School  
**Aurora Charter School** | Charter School  
**Saint Clement Elementary/Junior High** | Edmonton Catholic School Division  
**Avalon Junior High** | Edmonton Public School Board  
**Kate Chegwin Junior High** | Edmonton Public School Board  
**Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour School** | Edmonton Public School Board  
**Wildwood School** | Grand Yellowhead Public School Division  
**Sister Alphonse Academy** | Greater St. Albert Catholic School  
**Camilla School** | Sturgeon School Division

Attracting twice as many applications as the previous year's summit, E3 2018 challenged us to decide on how to handle the increased interest. In the spirit of blending a quality program and exposure to the most students, we opted to limit participation in E3 to junior high students and teachers. This permitted us to keep content and dialogue focused and relevant.

Students and teachers came in teams from Edmonton, St. Albert, Sturgeon County, and Wildwood. We hosted a diverse group of students from seven different school boards, and a combination of public, charter, and private schools. Each of the schools attending brought unique perspectives.

The invited schools' applications included a variety of levels of energy efficiency literacy. While some teams were already involved in clubs or school projects that fit within the scope of the summit's themes, consideration was also given to teachers who demonstrated ideas or desires to increase the capacity of their schools.

Common among applications was a desire to help foster citizenship and local community engagement.



# Partners, Expert Guests, and Tour Hosts



Our "Expert Circuit" guests

We extend deep thanks to our program partners for their laudable support of E3 2018. Teachers and students alike voiced their appreciation for making the program such an accessible opportunity.

We'd also like to thank the following guest speakers and tour hosts, for providing the backbone of the E3 experience!

- Holly Driscoll | *Energy Efficiency Alberta*
- Chelsea Donelon | *Government of Alberta*
- Elizabeth Gierl | *University of Alberta*
- Heather Wheeliker | *City of Edmonton*
- Stefanie Drozda | *City of Edmonton*
- Pierre Mertiny | *University of Alberta*
- David Nobes | *University of Alberta*
- Marc Secanell | *University of Alberta*
- Kerstyn Lane & Sustainability Team | *MacEwan University*
- Jim Sandercock | *NAIT*
- Colin Lacey & Students | *Kate Chegwin Junior High*
- Aaron Dublenko | *Innovate Program*

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FANTASTIC EXPERT SPEAKERS AND TOUR HOSTS, THEIR COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING EDUCATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

- Mayank Sabharwal | *University of Alberta*
- Jason Toner | *Alberta Energy*
- Shaun Brennan | *ENMAX*
- David Zimmerman | *Enerkem*
- Simon Irving | *Alberta EcoTrust*
- Teigan Kopec | *Alberta EcoTrust*
- Aaron Dublenko | *INNOVATE*
- Sadie Caron | *Riverkeepers*
- David Dodge | *Green Energy Futures*
- Gary Redmond | *Alberta Capital Airshed*
- Chris Van Tighem | *Alberta Economic Development and Trade*
- Mike Christensen | *EPCOR*
- Howaida Hassan | *City of Edmonton*
- Gregory Caswell | *Alberta Emerald Foundation*
- Dustin Bajer | *Urban Agriculture Consultant*
- Candice Paton | *Alberta Innovates*

"Thank you for allowing me to attend this amazing summit that made me rethink my own choices, strive to know more, and to appreciate the steps we've taken to ensure our city, and planet, becomes energy efficient."

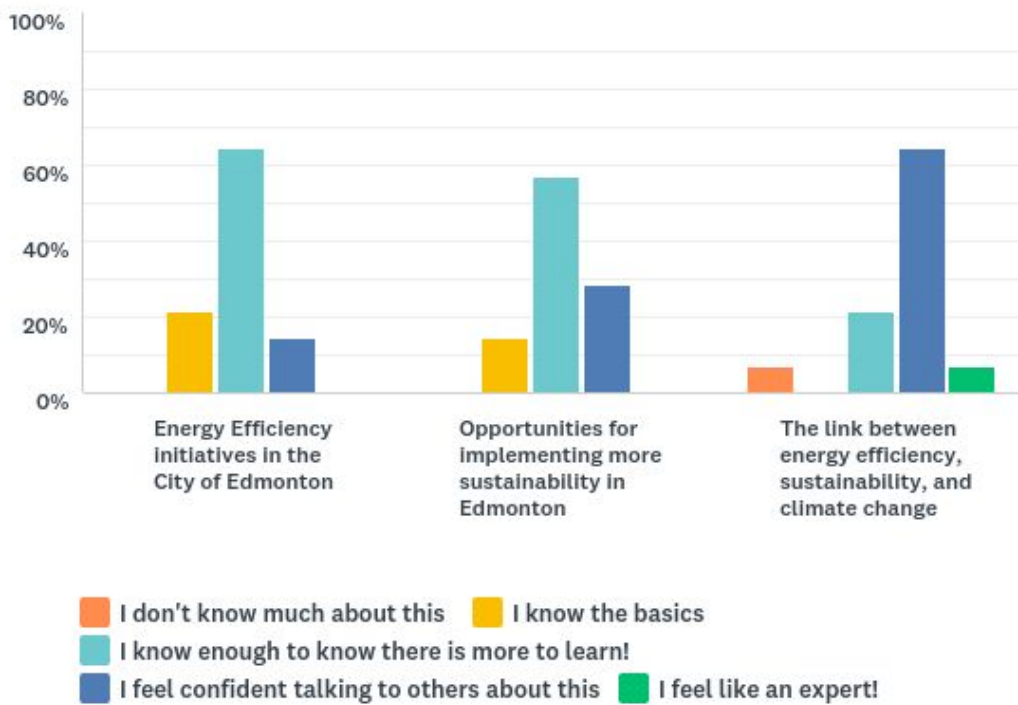
- Maya, Aurora Charter School



# Program Impact and Feedback

Inside Education is proud of the many successes of E3 2018. We invited participants to fill in a brief post-summit survey. We were delighted to hear that teachers and students alike have plans to incorporate the ideas from E3 into action at their schools and communities. We are pleased to share our program feedback below.

## Post-summit: Respondents' understanding about...



Teachers and students were given the opportunity to evaluate their experience at E3 through an online survey. All respondents shared very positive and encouraging reflections. Other feedback was obtained through direct email with teachers post-summit.

All of the respondents reported that overall of E3 was either “good” or “excellent”. Many of the respondents noted that they wished they could have attended all of the tours.

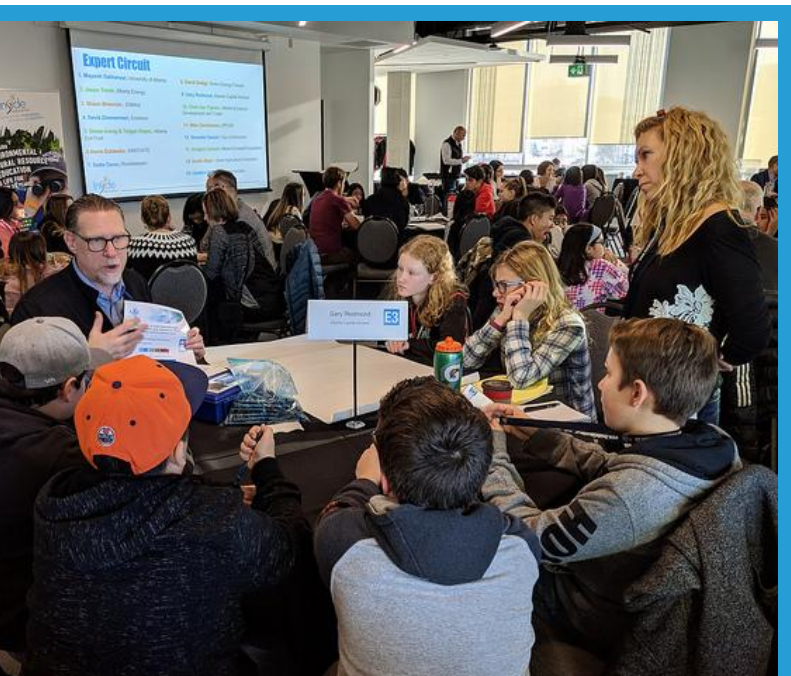
*“I feel overall this was an amazing and great experience for the students and so honoured to be given this opportunity for our students!!! It was evident that there was a great deal of effort in planning to have the great experts to speak to the students and the activities and experiences. Well done!”*  
**- Lisa Kleparchuk, Sister Alphonse**

Teachers and students reported overall an average understanding of local energy efficiency initiatives and opportunities for sustainability in Edmonton, However, the same respondents reported an above average understanding of the deeper theoretical connections between energy efficiency, sustainability, and climate change.

All respondents indicated that they felt more empowered to get involved in energy efficiency initiatives in their schools and communities.

*“I loved every part of it, and felt like it was such a good opportunity for me to learn and talk about things that I knew and things I wanted to learn.”*

*- Maya  
Aurora Charter School*



One highlight for participants was our Young Leaders Keynote, featuring Elizabeth Gierl (student and solar car team member at the University of Alberta, editor of the Green Medium blog) and Chelsea Donelon (senior policy analyst on the Coal Transition Team with the Government of Alberta). Students resonated with the messages and passion that these two speakers showcased.

The valuable feedback we received from our survey provides us with insight to continue to refine future iterations of the E3 program. Overwhelmingly, 65% of respondents shared that the most enjoyable aspects of E3 were “Speaking with sustainability experts from my community”, and “Touring interesting sustainability initiatives”. We hope to increase the number of direct interactions at future summits.

## School Connections

The extended impact of E3 beyond the two-day summit is evident in the enthusiastic responses from teachers and students who were inspired with many ideas that they could take home to their schools and communities.

*"We are going to have the students create some how-to video clips to share with the school, as well as put in tips for parents in our weekly school bulletins. We will also be creating a school climate change group. And growing more plants. (we already have a growing tower!)"*

**- Lisa Kleparchuk, Sister Alphonse School**

*"When we start our tower gardens again, I would love to help with growing the plants. I would also like to start using aquaponics in our school. We could use the vegetables for our foods classes."*

**- Shreya, Aurora Charter School**

*"With the building of our new school, there are lots of opportunities to get students involved with energy efficiency planning and improvements."*

**- Amy Soetaert  
Camilla School**



Top three associated words when you hear "energy efficiency"



## Summary and Futures

The Edmonton Energy Efficiency Summit on December 5-6, 2018 was a great success! We increased our capacity from previous years, involving 19 teachers and 97 students from 11 junior high schools across seven school boards; a blend of public, private, and charter schools. Collectively, we learned about local and global initiatives in energy efficiency, sustainability, and how these topics intersect with climate change. E3 2018 continued on the successes of previous summit iterations and Inside Education has now hosted 423 participants at its annual Edmonton regional youth summit.

Inside Education looks forward to improving upon the structure of E3 for 2019. Increasing the size of the summit posed inherent challenges to provide student access to experts. We aim to develop additional strategies to further connect attending youth to all guests and provide more diversity in tour locations and experiences for such a large cohort.

We are thrilled with the interest, commitment, and enthusiasm from participants, partners, expert speakers and tour hosts. E3 continues to be an excellent interface for students and teachers to learn about current technology and innovations directly from experts and stakeholders.

### Contact

For More Information Contact:

**Inside Education Society of Alberta**

[www.insideeducation.ca](http://www.insideeducation.ca)

**Andre Morson**, *Educator* | [amorson@insideeducation.ca](mailto:amorson@insideeducation.ca)

**Steve McIsaac**, *Executive Director* | [smcisaac@insideeducation.ca](mailto:smcisaac@insideeducation.ca)

