



Wood Buffalo Student Sustainability and Careers Summit

2019 Regional Youth Summit

November 26-27, 2019

Fort McMurray/Conklin, AB



Introduction

Inside Education hosted the **2019 Wood Buffalo Student Sustainability and Careers Summit** based out of Fort McMurray. This year's summit combined the success of the 2017 and 2018 regional programs, as well as on the Alberta Boreal Careers (ABC) summits which have been running since 2014. This experiential program explored sustainability and careers in the boreal region of Alberta by providing expert workshops and on-site tours for junior and senior high school students.

Incorporating a careers focus alongside sustainability allowed students to fully explore their role in current and future initiatives in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB). This year's program emphasized sustainability in local businesses, renewable energy opportunities in northern communities and the importance of youth involvement in building innovative solutions.

The 2019 summit was a two-day learning experience for students in grades 7-12. The program was fully subscribed, with **47 students and 9 teachers from 5 schools**. The program was intended for local students to learn more about their community, but there was interest to attend from schools across the province.

The summit included guest speakers, workshops, as well as site tours of local businesses. The students also had the opportunity to immerse themselves in a day-in-the-life of a worker in the region through an overnight at an oil sands camp. Highlights of the program included a talk by Councillor Calvin Waquan from the Mikisew Cree First Nation and tours of the Acden building, Northland Forest Products and the Cenovus Christina Lake in-situ operation. The rest of the program can be seen on the following page.



The Program

PROGRAM GOALS:

- Examine how our local actions connect to the global climate and sustainability conversation
- Explore sustainability initiatives already in place in the RMWB, as well as innovations that are being developed
- Consider our role, collectively and as individuals, in creating a sustainable energy future in Alberta

Fort McMurray	Conklin
<p>9:00-9:30 AM Program Welcome and Introduction to Energy, Climate and Sustainability Location: Radisson Hotel and Suites</p>	<p>7:00-8:00 AM Breakfast</p>
<p>9:30-10:15 AM Sustainable Community Keynote</p>	<p>8:00 - 11:30 AM Cenovus Site Tour See how oil and gas sites operate and talk with the people working in oil and gas careers Cenovus - Christina Lake</p>
<p>10:15-10:30 AM Snack and Break</p>	
<p>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Taking Stewardship Action through Careers Talk with people working in various natural resource/environmental careers to see stewardship at work</p>	<p>Lunch and Travel</p>
<p>12:00 - 1:00 PM Lunch</p>	<p>1:30 - 2:00 PM Sustainability Trailblazers Get inspired by young change-makers who are taking action on sustainability, climate, and energy issues in their communities.</p>
<p>1:00 - 3:30 PM Sustainability in our Community Students will visit local businesses to learn and experience their sustainability and energy efficiency initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acden Industrial and Commercial Services • Northland Forest Products Ltd 	<p>2:00 - 3:00 PM Stewardship Send-Off Write to a fellow Inside Education summit delegate from across Alberta. Share your experience and challenge them with a stewardship action of your own! Leave S3 feeling empowered and inspired to take action!</p>
<p>Overnight at Civeo Conklin Lodge</p>	<p>Program End: 3:00 PM WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL</p>

Participating Schools

Westwood Community High School | Fort McMurray

Fort McMurray Islamic School | Fort McMurray

Holy Trinity Catholic High School | Fort McMurray

Father Patrick Mercredi High School | Fort McMurray

APEGA STEMester Program | Stony Plain



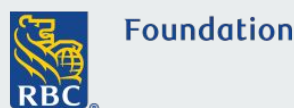
Partners, Expert Guests, and Tour Hosts

Inside Education would not be able to offer these engaging and valuable youth summits without the support of program partners, expert guest speakers, and tour hosts. We would like to extend our thanks to all the people and organizations that made the 2019 Wood Buffalo Student Sustainability and Careers Youth Summit a success!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FANTASTIC EXPERT SPEAKERS AND TOUR HOSTS, THEIR COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED:

- Councillor Calvin Waquan | *Mikisew Cree First Nation*
- Jessica Piercey | *Syncrude*
- Tyler Tracksell | *Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA)*
- Kimberley Wetton | *Owl Moon Consulting*
- Crystal Carwardine | *Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo*
- Erin Woodland | *Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries*
- Alyssa Laviolette and Michelle Drummond | *Acden*
- Kim Norris | *Northland Forest Products*
- Jessica Yarnell | *Cenovus*

PROGRAM PARTNERS

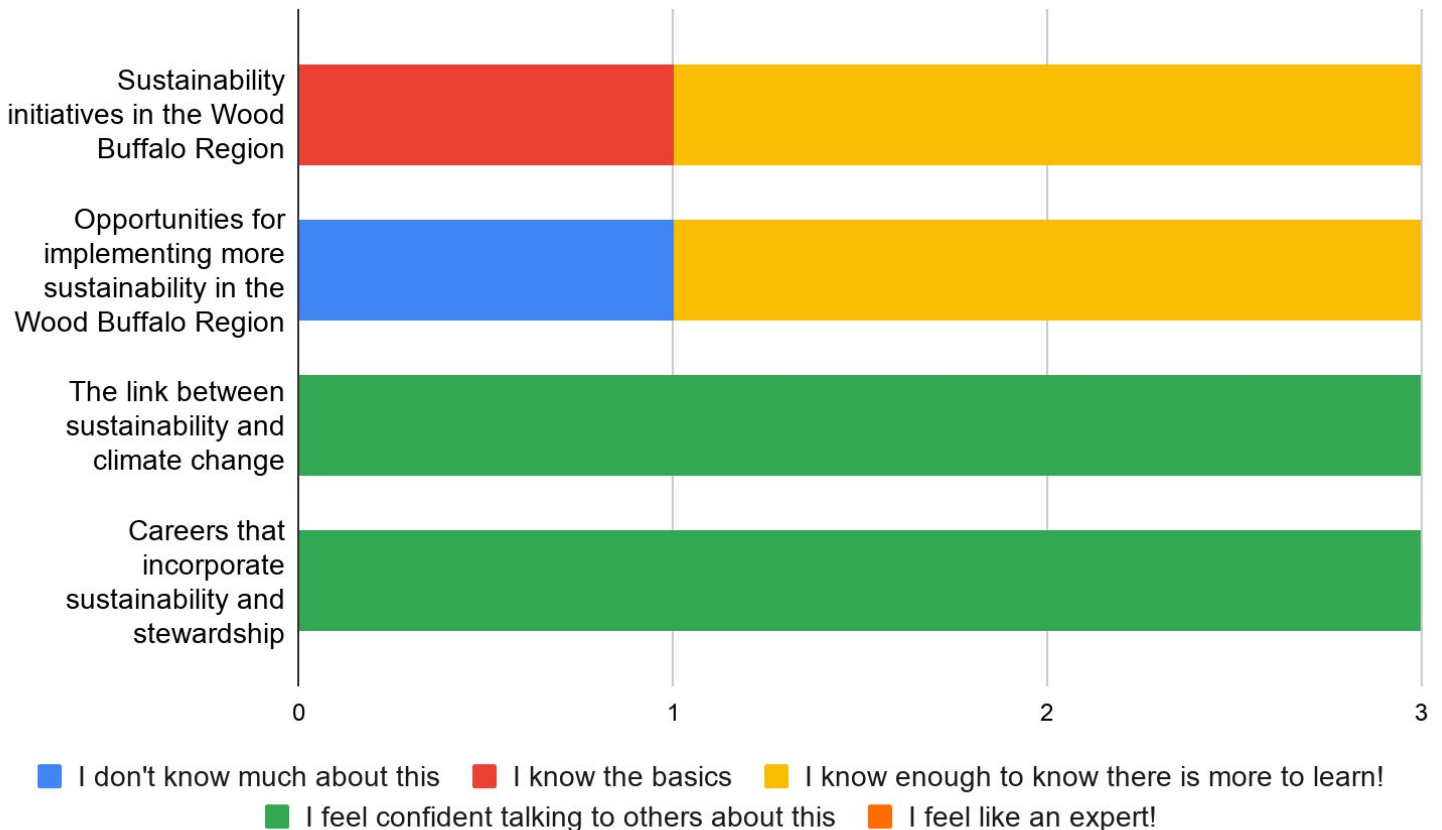


Program Impact and Feedback

“The students I took for the trip are now committed to improve our school, they spend 40 min of their lunch time 3 days a week, running eco-eagles club. They're bumped and excited.”
- Fahmo Rage, Fort McMurray Islamic School

After the program, participants were sent a survey to evaluate the impact the program has had on their understanding of sustainability related topics. The results are below:

Post-S3 Understanding of topics addressed at the summit



When asked to rate the summit out of 5 stars, survey respondents rated their experience...



“It is very informative and educational. Diverse topics in the theme of sustainability. Speaking with professionals helped to give what we were exposed to context.”

**- Tom MacIsaac, Father
Patrick Mercredi High School**

Participant Feedback...

Students were asked “What does sustainability mean to you?” at the beginning of the summit. Their responses are shown to the right:



Summary and Futures

Inside Education is very happy to report on another successful Wood Buffalo Student Sustainability and Careers Youth Summit. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants, and we are pleased that the goals and outcomes of the summit were met successfully. Students and teachers consistently demonstrate that they value the opportunity to experience places like Cenovus Christina Lake site, the work camp and local businesses with sustainability initiatives firsthand.

Youth summits are just one part of the suite of energy and climate-related programming that Inside Education provides, which includes classroom programming, teacher professional development, and project grants. Thanks to our program partners, we are pleased to be able to provide these educational opportunities for students and teachers in the province, and hope to continue to do so for many years into the future.

For More Information Contact:
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