



cultiv8

YOUTH AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

October 20-23, 2022 | Olds, Alberta



SUMMARY REPORT

INSIDE EDUCATION WAS PROUD TO HOST CULTIVATE 2022: YOUTH AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT.

Cultivate 2022 brought together **18 teams from high schools across Alberta** to explore the agriculture sector in our province. Aligning with public trust outcomes the program aimed to build awareness and understanding about modern agriculture, food systems and the agri-food industry in Alberta. Throughout the summit the students developed knowledge, skills and experiences that will be shared with the broader community through the implementation of an agriculture action project.

The Cultivate participants demonstrated that young people are keen to engage with the agriculture sector and learn about how they can get involved through their actions and future careers. Alberta's youth are ready to ask big questions about a sustainable agriculture future and be part of the solution. They want to address climate change, learn about new technologies, innovations and understand Alberta's role in global food production in feeding a growing population.

We are proud to highlight this experiential learning summit and the positive and lasting impacts of Cultivate 2022.

“Cultivate was a really great opportunity to learn more about new agricultural possibilities and refreshing to see so many teenagers being engaged in something so important!”

Shannon Derry | Teacher
Rosemary School



“I am glad to say that I learned quite a bit about the agriculture industry and the diverse parts and careers that make it up. I learned lots about sustainability and how it is important and achievable.”

Adyson | Student
David Thompson High School



PROGRAM GOALS

ENGAGING HIGH SCHOOLS STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURE

Providing opportunities to connect with topic experts, peers and teachers at a professional summit designed for multiple learning styles.

INSPIRING LOCAL ACTION

Preparing students to share and apply knowledge and ideas gained at the summit through their agriculture action project.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Immersing students in Alberta's agricultural activities through on-site farm and college facilities tours.

CRITICAL THINKING

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



SUMMIT THEMES

- Sustainable agriculture through the lens of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: zero hunger, responsible consumption and production, climate change, and life on land
- Careers in agriculture
- Current and emerging issues
- Technology and innovation
- School and community based action

THE PROGRAM

Cultivate 2022 aimed to educate, empower and engage high school students and teachers in many facets of agriculture in Alberta. The multidimensional program included keynote speakers, panel, and breakout discussions, tours, producer roundtables, teacher resource workshop, rodeo and social event.

The summit encouraged participants to **think critically**, **make connections** and **explore current agriculture** practices while learning about research, technologies and innovations that are shaping the future.

Cultivate provided a unique opportunity to meet local producers during the Farm to Table session, tour local farms and the Olds College of Agriculture and Technology and meet with a wide variety of agriculture stakeholders.

“This was an awesome opportunity! The speakers that were here were amazing, I got to learn so many new things and meet so many great people.”

*Jamie | Student
Vegreville Composite High School*



Participants had the chance to meet program partners at our Cultivate gala dinner which was followed by a rodeo put on by the Olds College rodeo team. Saturday night the Alumni Centre was transformed and we danced, got dressed up in the photo booth and played giant board games before putting our ideas to action during the final project workshop on Sunday.

Our keynote speaker, Sarah Wells, inspired us to switch our mindsets towards life's hurdles and think positively in order to become strong leaders.

Speaker. Olympian. Founder. Amazing Race Contestant.



IDEA CULTIVATORS

Youth summits like Cultivate are a unique opportunity to be able to bring together students, teachers, sector experts and stakeholders from across the province. Inside Education is excited to foster these connections as they are the basis for furthering agriculture and environmental literacy in Alberta through exposure to new information, careers and networks.

Inside Education is thankful for the **39 unique organizations** who were represented at Cultivate by more than **60 Idea Cultivators**. These incredible stakeholders shared their expertise and perspectives which inspired the development and implementation of the agriculture action projects.



ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED

Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society
- Megan Andre

Farm Credit Canada
- Shaun Soonias

AgTechSTEAM - Luke Silinski

Freshpal Farms - Jianyi Dong

Alberta Canola - Tara Baycroft

Gateway Research Organization - Amber Kenyon

Alberta Chicken Producers
- Maria Leslie

Grazed Right Cattle Co.
- Ben Campbell

Alberta Egg Producers
- David Webb

Huntcliff Dairy Ltd.
- Martien and Tietsia Huyzer

Alberta Irrigation Districts Association
- Margo Jarvis-Redelbeck

Lacombe Composite High School Ecovision Club
- Steve Schultz & students

Alberta Pulse Growers
- Debra McLennan

Little Loaves Farm/Alberta Yak Company - Jerremie Clyde

Alberta Sugar Beet Growers
- Melody Garner-Skiba

Nutrients for Life
- Ray Cochrane

Alberta Water Portal
- Kaleigh Watson

Nutrien - Mike Nemeth

Alberta Wheat and Barley Commission - Stacy Zimmer

Olds College - Staff, students and Rodeo Team

Believe Initiative - Sarah Wells

Project Agriculture
- Patricia Ramsay

Bow River Basin Council
- Brooke Kapeller

Red Deer River Watershed Alliance - Rosemarie Ferjuc

Calgary Stampede Foundation
- Megan White

Rural Routes to Climate Solutions - Shiana Younger

Canadian Agricultural Youth Council
- B Pratyusha Chennupati

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology - Pablo Pina

Canada's Forest Trust
- Erika Bolliger

University of Alberta
- Dr. Edward Bork

Canadian Cattle Association
- Lysay Beavers

University of Lethbridge
- David Hill

Careers The Next Generation
- Corry Pepper

Van der Gun Dairy Farm
- Theo Van der Gun

Cows and Fish
- Norine Ambrose

WaterSmart Solutions
- Brie Nelson and Alison Regan

Edmonton Urban Farm
- Patty Mulligan

Wild Rose Farmer Inc./ Rural Woman Podcast
- Katelyn Duban



THE PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR PROJECTS

Inside Education hosted **101 high school students and teachers** from across Alberta.

The teams travelled from as far north as Fort McMurray and as far south as Milk River to come together in Olds to learn about agriculture, meet other students, and begin work on their agriculture action projects.

"The sessions were fantastic, I enjoyed hearing about the latest developments in agricultural sustainability."

- Sean Green | Teacher
Career and Technology Centre

**18
HIGH
SCHOOLS**

Bill Woodward School | Anzac
Career and Technology Centre | Calgary
David Thompson High School | Condor
Delnorte School | Innisfree
Lacombe Composite High School | Lacombe
Erle Rivers High School | Milk River
Fort McMurray Islamic School | Fort McMurray
Golden Hills Learning Academy | Strathmore
Mountain View School | Mountain View
New Myrnam School | Myrnam
Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy | Canmore
Rocky View Schools - The Farm | Airdrie
Rosemary School | Rosemary
Strathmore High School | Strathmore
Vegreville Composite High School | Vegreville
West Country Outreach School | Rimbey
Westwood Community School | Fort McMurray
WP Wagner High School | Edmonton



The ultimate outcome of Cultivate is the agriculture action project where teams transform the summit learning into tangible school-based actions. These projects promote student leadership and active local engagement while extending the reach of the summit. This was the first time that Inside Education hosted a youth summit early in the school year. We are excited to support the teams throughout the year as they put their ideas to action in their communities!

We are proud to highlight a small collection of the projects that will be happening at the participating schools:

ROSEMARY SCHOOL

Rosemary, Alberta

The team at Rosemary School is researching and planning how to implement a system to grow nutritious forage for their school's poultry program. The team will be starting a variety of seeds to learn how frequently growing cycles will need to be started and how best to grow the forage.

DELNORTE SCHOOL

Innisfree, Alberta

The team is expanding on their business and marketing skills by engaging with their community. They plan to use their school greenhouse to demonstrate how to grow produce, and marketing a variety of starter plants.

GOLDEN HILLS LEARNING ACADEMY

Strathmore, Alberta

These students plan to engage with their classmates by inviting speakers to present to the high school students on agricultural careers and feature community connections to the industry. For the elementary age students, they'd like to do a presentation on how food goes from farm.

LACOMBE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

Lacombe, Alberta

The LCHS EcoVision group is committed to improving food security for their students by partnering with the school's foods classes to offer students in need a healthy snack during school hours.

PRE/POST PROGRAM SURVEY

Before and after the program students and teachers were asked to evaluate their understanding of agriculture. Overall, the Cultivate program increased the understanding of food production systems and knowledge of sustainability within the agriculture industry on both a provincial and national level.

Before

After

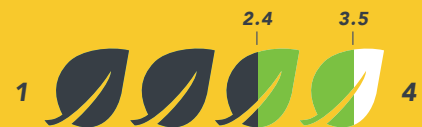
Understanding of how Alberta's food production system works



Understanding of Alberta's agriculture industry and their commitment to sustainability



Knowledge of Canada's agriculture industry and their sustainability practices



THE FUTURE

Inside Education is committed to developing high-quality learning opportunities to support agriculture and environmental education in Alberta. We are already looking forward to hosting our next provincial scale summits and agriculture education programs including:

- **Navigate 2023: Youth Water and Environmental Leadership Summit**
- agricultural water use, grassland biodiversity, sustainable technologies will be important themes for Navigate 2023.
- **Agriculture classroom presentations for students in Grades 7-12 offered throughout the 2022-2023 school year.**
- **Water and Wetlands teacher professional development program - Spring 2023**

We are currently working towards more agriculture leadership events including regional agriculture days.

As teachers and students implement their projects and share their knowledge, ideas, and experience we expect demand for agriculture education to grow. Inside Education recognizes that agriculture is an important area of study for today's students; the key to fostering a generation of informed stewards and decision makers

OUR PARTNERS

Inside Education extends its sincere appreciation to the program partners whose support made Cultivate 2022 possible. By pairing each participating school with one of the partnering organizations, Inside Education aims to make a meaningful connection and encourage collaboration between schools and organizations who are committed to advancing agriculture education in Alberta.



11428 100 AVE EDMONTON, AB T5K 0J4
1.888.421.1497
www.INSIDEeducation.ca

@insideeducation

