

Climate Prepared Schools

2025/2026 School Year Report



June 9, 2026
Edmonton, Alberta



Introduction

Inside Education is pleased to report on the final year of the **Climate Prepared Schools Project** in partnership with the City of Edmonton. This initiative is dedicated to increasing climate change awareness and empowering students to take action for climate in their neighbourhoods, focusing on Edmonton-specific impacts and initiatives, ensuring a localized perspective that resonates with students. This project has three main components: classroom presentations, learning resources, and educational tours and events.

This report outlines the work that was completed over the 2025/2026 school year, including:

- Classroom program delivery and evaluation for elementary, junior and senior high grade levels
- Classroom resource distribution
- Climate Innovation Day programming and student/teacher feedback

Classroom Programs

Throughout the 2025/26 school year, Inside Education offered three different classroom presentations aligned with the Alberta Program of Studies. These programs highlighted climate impacts and mitigation strategies and explore how communities can build resilience and adapt to a changing climate, drawing on resources from the “Neighbourhoods for Climate” toolkits. The presentations aimed to increase climate change awareness, empower youth, and inspire meaningful individual and school community action.

By the end of the 2025/26 school year, the Climate Prepared YEG programs had reached **72 classes** and a total of **1,614 students**, all exclusively within the City of Edmonton, indicating a high demand for climate-focused programming.



YEG Climate Expo climate monitoring tools station

“It was an amazing way to assess their understanding of the Climate unit while providing hands-on experiences to deepen their learning!”

-Dani Veldman, teacher, St. Elizabeth Seton



YEG Climate Expo waste sorting station

Classroom Programs Continued...

Classroom Program Delivery from September 2025 to June 2026

Program	Classes	Number of Students
YEG Climate Expo (Elementary)	52	1,124
Changing Climates - Exploring Impacts and Adaptation in YEG (Junior High)	13	333
Building Climate Resiliency in YEG (Senior High)	7	157
TOTAL	72	1,614

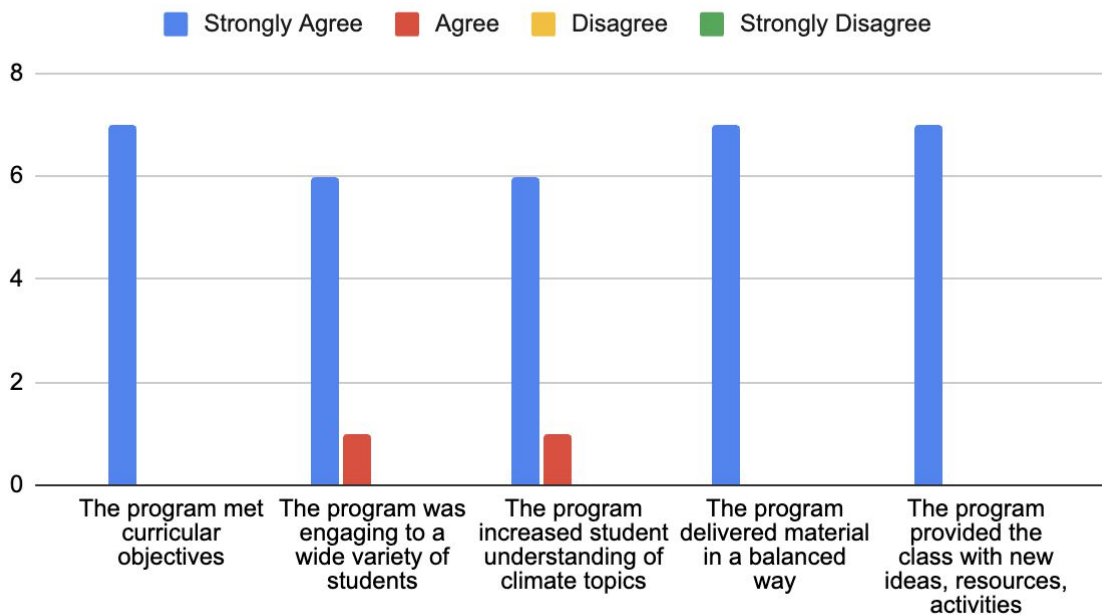


Building Climate Resiliency Senior High Program

Classroom Program Summary and Feedback

Through post-survey assessments, teachers reported that the programs aligned well with curriculum outcomes, engaged a wide range of students, and were easy to incorporate into their classrooms. Many emphasized the importance of the optimistic approach to climate education, noting how challenging it can be to create engaging, hands-on learning experiences in this area. Teachers appreciated having accessible programs that effectively support these lessons, while leaving students feeling empowered to make a change. Overall, there was strong interest in continuing the programs, with many educators expressing a desire for ongoing access and future implementation.

Post Classroom Program Survey Feedback



“The program was super engaging, and the instructors were very knowledgeable. You can tell the students really enjoyed the opportunity to try some hands-on activities.”

- Kyle Yakemchuk, teacher, Michael Strembitsky School

Climate Innovations Days

Participants

Londonderry School

- 33 Grade 8 Students

Hillcrest School

- 35 Grade 8 Students

Svend Hansen School

- 31 Grade 7/8/9 Students

Joey Moss

- 35 Grade 8/9 Students

Over the 2026 school year, Inside Education hosted two Climate Innovation Days, offering students in Grades 7-12 the opportunity to connect with local experts, explore sustainability projects, and witness climate action and resilience efforts firsthand. These hands-on experiences encouraged students to reflect on their role in a changing climate, adopt sustainable practices, and consider careers in environmental fields.

Climate Innovation Day - January 21, 2026

Students from Londonderry and Hillcrest schools toured the Kathleen Andrews Transit Garage, where they learned about the bus fleet, its use of renewable energy, and the building's LEED certification. Over lunch they met with the City of Edmonton's Environment and Climate Resilience team to discuss local climate mitigation and adaptation strategies. Finally, students explored sustainability initiatives at the Edmonton Convention Centre, including waste sorting, renewable energy use, building retrofits, and sourcing local food. The day concluded with student reflections on how they can contribute to energy conservation and climate action in their own communities.



Edmonton Convention Centre

"I think any time students can get out into the real world and see people who are passionate about the topic is incredibly important. To learn in a different way, and to be in a different environment and see the relationship between materials learned in school and how organizations are using that knowledge to impact the world is amazing!"

- Jackie Fuga, teacher, Hillcrest School

Climate Innovation Day - April 22, 2026

Students from Svend Hansen and Joey Moss School began their day with a presentation on climate change, including a trivia activity to introduce the day's topics. They then traveled to the University of Alberta South Campus, where they explored the work of Prairie Urban Farms, learning about community gardening initiatives and food donation programs. The visit included a tour of the Cattle Research Centre, where students learned about the impact of dairy and beef industries on methane emissions and the innovative research being done to reduce it. In the afternoon, students toured the Edmonton Waste Management Centre, where they explored waste reduction strategies and the importance of proper sorting practices. The day wrapped up with a reflective session, giving students the opportunity to share key takeaways and their newfound understanding of the environmental topics addressed throughout the day.



Edmonton Waste Management Centre

"The Climate Innovation Day taught me so many new things about our environment, and what I can do to protect it. It's really cool to see what's going on in our community too."

- William, student, Londonderry School

Learning Materials

As part of the Climate Prepared Schools Project, Inside Education and the City of Edmonton developed the Climate Prepared YEG poster, a curriculum-based resource connected to the Neighbouring for Climate Toolkit. The poster illustrates what a climate-prepared community looks like and encourages critical thinking and stewardship both in the classroom and at home. A complementary Teacher’s Guide was also developed as part of this project, containing lessons and activities aligned with the Grade 3–10 curriculum. Through these activities, students develop a better understanding of climate change and its impacts, while reflecting on their own lives and ways they can make more climate-friendly choices.

Following each Climate Prepared YEG program, the coordinating teacher received the poster, a digital copy of the Teacher’s Guide, and additional resources, such as the Climate Prepared YEG Activity Cards, to support continued learning in the classroom. Over the 2025/2026 school year, 113 Climate Prepared YEG posters were distributed to schools in the Edmonton area through classroom programs, Innovation Days, and teachers convention. In addition to the poster and guide, schools who participated in a Climate Innovation Day also received a LIFX smart light bulb and the City of Edmonton’s AQHI Light Bulb Setup Guide, allowing classrooms to monitor indoor air quality and further engage in hands-on environmental learning.

Teachers have communicated an increased need for climate-focused teaching resources in response to recent curriculum changes. The poster and guide are interactive and engaging tools for exploring climate change and personal action and has proven to be both a fun and effective learning resource across a range of grade levels.

Summary

Over the 2025/2026 school year, the Climate Prepared Schools programs have been well received by teachers and students, offering hands-on, engaging, and meaningful learning experiences that highlight climate awareness and personal action. Climate Prepared YEG has seen strong success during its implementation, including record demand for the Elementary Climate Expo, continued interest in Climate Innovation Days, and requests for programming beyond Edmonton. Inside Education is pleased to continue to provide climate change-related programming in the City of Edmonton, the Climate Prepared YEG poster and Teacher’s Guide will continue to serve as valuable resource for Edmonton schools.



YEG Climate Expo poster scavenger hunt