

Eastern Slopes Forestry PD - October 15 - 17, 2026

Detailed Program Schedule

We acknowledge that this program takes place in the traditional territory of the nations represented by Treaties 7 and 6 which includes the Tsuu T'ina, the Itheka Stoney Nakoda, Siksikaitsitapi Blackfoot Confederacy, Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, and Nakota Sioux. Southern Alberta is the homeland to the Northwest Metis people and the Otipemisiwak Metis government of the Battle River territory, including the Calgary Nose Hill, Rocky View and Red Deer districts. We come together with respect for the land, a connection to the environment and a responsibility for stewardship of our natural resources.

Please check Inside Education's PD Corner for
all program details and FAQ:
<https://www.insideeducation.ca/pd-corner/>

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Program Start Location: If you need to leave a vehicle in Calgary: Double Tree by Hilton Calgary North (2120 16 Ave NE). Please register your vehicle at the front desk of the hotel. If you are local to Calgary and can/will get dropped off: Bow Habitat Station - do not leave vehicles here, they will get towed by the City!	Registration Start Time: 9:45am Program Start Time: - The bus leaves the DoubleTree hotel at 9:45am Sharp. - The program at Bow Habitat Station will start at 10:00am.
What to Bring in your Daypack • Closed-toed shoes • Other weather appropriate layers • Water bottle • Notebook/writing utensil • Anything you want for the bus!	Overnight Accommodations Mountain View Inn and Suites, 706 Main Ave E, Sundre, AB T0M 1X0
Important Notes • If you have rubber boots, you may want them for the workshop in the afternoon so keep them handy!	

Itinerary

9:30 - 9:45am - Bus Pickup at Double Tree by Hilton Calgary North (2120 16 Ave NE, Calgary, AB T2E 1L4)

For participants travelling from out of town or local participants who require somewhere to leave a vehicle for the weekend, please meet us and be prepared to depart at 9:30am from the Double Tree by Hilton Calgary North hotel. Vehicles need to be registered at the front desk of the hotel. IE staff will start the program registration process here.

9:30 - 10:00am - Registration at Bow Habitat Station

Participants that can be dropped off at Bow Habitat Station without needing to leave a vehicle can arrive to program registration anytime between 9:30 and 10.

10:00 - 10:30am - Welcome, Introductions and Program Kick-Off

Inside Education kicks off our 2026 Eastern Slopes Forestry PD! We are so excited to be your hosts and are looking forward to getting to know everyone as we gear up for our 3-day learning adventure.

10:30 - 11:00am - Eastern Slopes 101

Gain an understanding of what makes the Eastern Slopes region of Alberta unique and how natural resources are managed.

Speaker: Amy Berlando, Cows and Fish

11:00am - 12:15pm - Alberta's Native Trout



The Eastern Slopes of Alberta are home to a number of incredible species including many species of trout! We'll hear from Shawn Berube, a fisheries biologist with the Government of Alberta about these fish, issues they face, and what provincial and federal programs exist. We'll also take a tour of the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery and learn about the process to raise trout from eggs.

12:15 - 1:00pm - Lunch

During this time teachers may explore the Discovery Centre and Aquariums at BHS but all food must stay in our classroom so make sure you eat first!

1:00 - 2:00pm - Travel to Pinetop Provincial Recreation Area

2:00 - 4:00pm - Multiple Users and Environmental Stewardship in the Eastern Slopes



Welcome to Kananaskis Country! We'll be starting our exploration of the multiple users of the Eastern Slopes, how the landscape has changed over time and what assessment and stewardship actions are taking place. We'll take the chance to train our eyes and assess a habitat using tools available to the public.

Speaker: Sandi Riemersma, Jumpingpound Creek Watershed Partnership

4:00 - 5:15pm - Travel to Sundre

6:00pm - Dinner at Boondox Family Restaurant

Connections and Reflections

- What was your a-ha! moment of the day?
- Today's workshops focused on the aquatic and riparian areas of the Eastern Slopes. What do you already know about how these ecosystems connect to the forestry topics, and what connections do you anticipate learning about tomorrow during our harvest tour with West Fraser and Reclamation Tour with Canadian Natural?

Friday, October 16th, 2026

Breakfast: Continental at the hotel, available starting at 6:00am Program Start Time: 8:30 am	
What to Bring in your Daypack: • Closed toed shoes • Long sleeve shirt and pants • Other weather appropriate clothing • Water bottle • Notebook/writing utensil	Overnight Accommodations: Best Western Rocky Mountain House Inn & Suites, 4407 41 Ave, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A5
Important Notes: • Closed toed shoes, long sleeve shirt and pants are required PPE for our tour with Canadian Natural	

Itinerary

8:30 - 11:30am - Harvest Tour - West Fraser Timber Company



West Fraser Timber Company is one of the largest forestry companies in North America and produces a variety of wood products from lumber to pulp. Get an up-close look at what forestry practices and the technology used to collect the wood for these products looks like in this behind-the-scenes tour of an active harvesting site west of Caroline, AB.

11:30am - 12:30pm - Travel to Canadian Natural

12:30 - 1:00pm - BBQ Lunch at Canadian Natural

1:00 - 3:00pm - Energy in the Eastern Slopes - Canadian Natural



Learn about Canadian Natural's practices in the eastern slopes and what it is like to be uniquely situated next to a Parks Canada historic site near Rocky Mountain House.

****PPE Required:** closed toed shoes, long sleeve shirt and pants

3:00 - 3:30pm - Travel to Des Crossley Demonstration Forest

3:30 - 5:00pm - Sustainable Forests Workshop



Immerse yourself in a local demonstration forest, while learning about the sustainable forests and recreation practices in the area from the Sasquatch & Partners program. Following this, Inside Education will host a workshop about forests and the carbon cycle, using tools and equipment to learn more about a forest's ability to act as a carbon sink or source.

Speaker: Amanda Sinclair, Clearwater County

5:00 - 5:30pm Travel to Rocky Mountain House

6:15pm - Dinner at Boston Pizza

Connections and Reflections

- What was your a-ha! moment of the day?
- What is one piece of technology, infrastructure, or a practice that you saw today that you think could change in the next 20 years, and why?

Saturday, October 17th. 2026

Breakfast: Continental at the hotel, available starting at 5:00am
Program Start Time:

What to Bring in your Daypack:

- Closed toed shoes
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Water bottle
- Notebook/writing utensil

Expected Arrival Back in Calgary: 3:00pm

Important Notes:

- If you have rubber boots, keep them handy for today's workshop!
- After the program is finished today please fill out our [post-program survey](#) (scan the QR code for easy access!)



Itinerary

8:00 - 9:00am - Travel to Sundre

9:00 - 11:00am - CABiN Workshop



The Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network is a collaborative effort overseen by Environment and Climate Change Canada to monitor freshwater ecosystems in a standardized way. The Red Deer River Watershed Alliance and Kat will lead you through some of the key components of what it takes to complete the assessment and how you can adapt it for your class!

11:00 - 11:10am - Travel to Sundre Community Centre

11:15am - 12:30pm - Education Workshop and Bringing it Back to your Classroom

Inside Education will join forces this morning to help you debrief the program. We'll sort through the stakeholder perspectives, wash away the rhetoric and channel our energy into helping each other turn this PD program into something tangible for your classroom come Monday morning!

12:30 - 1:15pm - Lunch

1:15 - 2:45pm - Travel back to Calgary, end of program

Connections and Reflections

- Over the course of the PD you heard from various stakeholders and experts, sometimes with different or competing priorities. Which one of your own perceptions about these stakeholder groups shifted the most for you, and why?
- After today's workshop on bringing this experience back to our classroom, what's one specific lesson, activity, or story from this weekend that you feel most confident teaching next year and what support or resources do you still need to make that happen?

This Inside Education Program is available because of the support of our program funders. A sincere thank you to:

