



## LAC LA BICHE, AB FALL 2017 REPORT



### Careers Education Summit for the Boreal Region

On October 17-18th, 2017 Inside Education brought the 8th rendition of the Alberta Boreal Careers (ABC) Project to the Lac La Biche region in Alberta! Since the beginning of the project in 2013, ABC has been to Grande Prairie, Conklin, Whitecourt and Peace River regions as well.

ABC is a careers education program designed for junior and senior high school students living in and around the boreal region of Alberta. Through ABC, students are able to explore the variety of natural resource related careers in northern Alberta, allowing for them to begin planning their career paths. Students are given the opportunity to **engage** with professionals working in the boreal region, to **explore** opportunities for careers in the region and to have day-in-the-life **experiences** in these careers.

Inside Education believes in inspiring students to consider these career paths as a way to become lifetime stewards of their environment and natural resources. By allowing students to have first-hand experience with these careers, and by providing resources that allow students to make informed decisions about their careers, Inside Education is proud to support students in searching for their career path.

#### Program Goals

1. Introduce students to natural resource careers
2. Connect students to actual employees/employers to ask questions
3. Understand a sense of work life in the boreal
4. Identify the career planning steps required to work in these sectors

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*Above photos: Left - Calling Lake student learns about forestry post-secondary education opportunities at NAIT  
Centre - Learning Clicks gets everyone engaged in their career path  
Right - Aurora Middle School student figures out how to use wildlife tracking equipment*



## Program Overview

**52 students and 9 teachers from 5 schools** in the Lac La Biche area participated in the two-day ABC Project on October 17-18th 2017. The program ran as follows:

Tuesday October 17th	Wednesday October 18th
<p><b>9:00 - 9:30</b>  <b>Registration, Snacks, &amp; Welcome</b>  <i>Inside Education welcomes you to ABC and sets the stage for the next two days</i></p>	<p><b>6:30 - 7:30 Breakfast &amp; Check Out</b>  <b>7:45 - 8:00 Bus to Devon Jackfish</b></p>
<p><b>9:30-10:15</b>  <b>Engage: Your Career Path</b>  <i>Defining your interests, skills, and career path options</i></p>	<p><b>8:00 - 12:00</b>  <b>Experience: Day-in-the-Life of SAG-D</b>  <i>Tour a SAG-D facility and shadow some of the workers in their everyday tasks.</i></p>
<p><b>10:30 - 11:45</b>  <b>Explore: Job Opportunities Round Table</b>  <i>Meet people who work in Alberta's natural resources and environmental sectors and learn about potential future careers</i></p>	<p><b>12:00 - 1:00 Lunch</b></p>
<p><b>11:45 - 12:45 Lunch</b></p>	<p><b>1:00 - 3:30</b>  <b>Travel Back to Lac La Biche</b>  <i>End of Program</i></p>
<p><b>1:00 - 1:30</b>  <b>Engage: Your Career Path</b>  <i>Take a few moments to digest all the information and debrief with peers to further explore the meaning for your own career path</i></p>	
<p><b>1:30 - 3:30</b>  <b>Experience: Careers in Motion Workshop</b>  <i>Get involved in meaningful hands-on activities. Work alongside career experts to build skills and experience what that career might be like</i></p>	
<p><b>Bus to Conklin Lodge &amp; Dinner at Camp</b></p>	
<p><b>Overnight at Conklin Lodge</b></p>	

**Thank you also to the professionals from the following organizations who donated their time and expertise:**

- Portage College
- Devon Canada
- Government of Alberta
- Learning Clicks
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
- Lakeland College
- CAREERS: The Next Generation
- Lakeland Agricultural Research Association
- Work Wild
- First Nations Technical Services Advisory Group
- University of Alberta

**Thank you to these generous partners!**

**Syncrude**



**devon**



**CAPP**  
 CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCERS

**cenovus**  
 ENERGY

## Participant Schools

Aurora Middle School,  
Lac La Biche

J.A. Williams High  
School, Lac La Biche

Ecole Plamondon,  
Plamondon

St. Paul Outreach  
School, St. Paul

Calling Lake School,  
Calling Lake



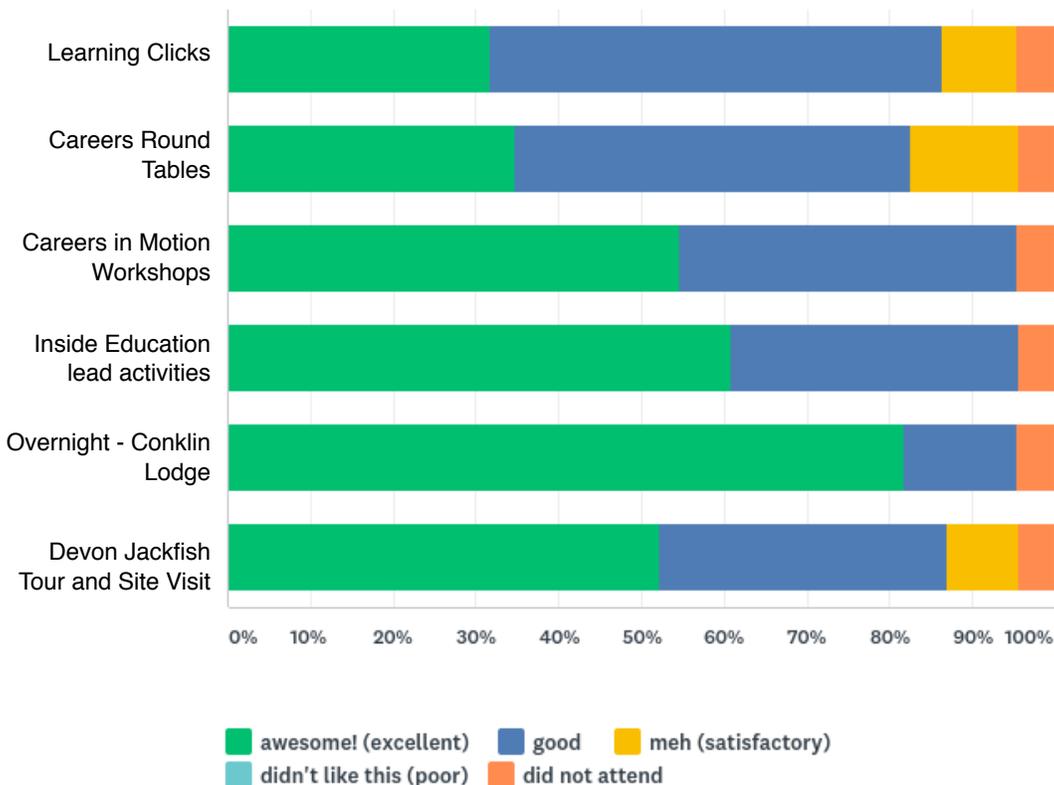
ABC Lac La Biche 2017 participants after their tour of the Devon Jackfish site and camp

## Program Evaluation

Teachers and students were given the opportunity to evaluate the Alberta Boreal Careers Project through an online survey. This information is of utmost value as we continually develop and improve our youth summits.

100% of respondents **feel aware of natural resource career opportunities** post-ABC

### Q8 Please rate the different parts of ABC:



84% of respondents are **excited by the career possibilities** in Alberta's boreal region

91% of respondents **would recommend ABC** to other teachers and students

## Successes:

- Variety of professionals who supported the program
- Participation by both junior and senior high school students
- Participation by schools from 4 different communities and school divisions

## Next Steps

- Continue developing program to meet specific needs of both junior and senior high students
- Incorporate more outdoor experiences into the program
- More in depth job shadow experiences

## Teacher and Student Feedback

*"This experience you gave us was once in a lifetime...I would recommend this to other students."  
- Zaina Bary, Student, Aurora Middle School*

*"It was a great experience because i got to see all the jobs and some i didn't know about until after the trip." - Marcus Biron, Student, Aurora Middle School*

*"My students are still talking about this experience and how amazing it was." - Shane Ennest, Teacher, Ecole Plamondon School*

*"I believe the conference is a great opportunity and venue for students to make the connection between learning and the workplace." - Lisa Dribnenki, Staff, J.A. Williams High School*

## Program Summary

Inside Education is proud to have hosted yet another successful ABC Project in Lac La Biche, Alberta. The variety of schools, students and professionals involved were all deemed to be great successes for ABC 2017.

Moving forward, Inside Education will use the feedback and experiences from this fall to continue developing the program to fit the specific needs of both junior and senior high school student's by considering the different career planning stages students may be at. Inside Education strives to incorporate more time outdoors experiencing the boreal forest, so students can develop the connection between our natural resources and careers..

Careers in natural resources in the boreal region of Alberta are one of the ways in which students can choose to show lifetime environmental stewardship. By learning about the local career opportunities and the strong ties between their own communities and Alberta's natural resources, students are able to develop their career path from an informed and conscientious perspective. The program was so successful that the next ABC Project will take place in Spring 2018 in yet another boreal community in Alberta!



Students at ABC Lac La Biche 2017 try out radiotelemetry with the Natural Resources Technician program at Portage College.