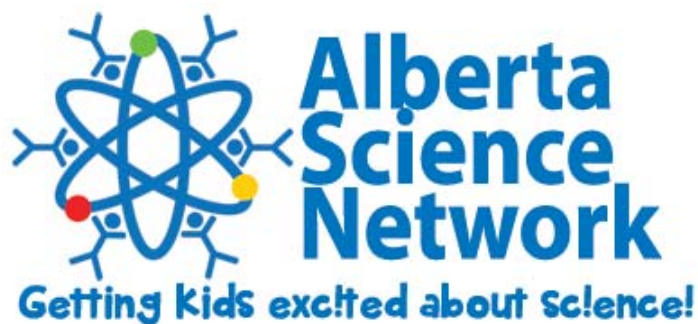


Report to the Community 2018



Highlights 2017-2018
Year ended June 30, 2018

*Reached 68,852
grade 1 to 12
students and their
teachers*

*1,109 Scientists
& Engineers-in-
the-Classroom
presentations to
27,144 students*

*23,175 students
awed by Chemistry
All Around You
presentations*

*All day Walk through
the Forest for 1,039
grade 6 students*

*1,938 grade 1
students were given
a tree and learned
how to care for it on
Arbor Day*

*Delivered 52 science
PD workshops to 878
teacher attendees*

*9,968 students
used our science
equipment kits*

Alberta Science Network
AlbertaScienceNetwork.ca



Getting Kids Excited about Science

Alberta Science Network's practicing scientists, engineers and subject matter experts engage students and their teachers with hands-on demonstrations and experiments that support the Alberta Education Science Curriculum.

Our signature Provincial program is the award-winning Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom (SEitC). Volunteers take time out of their workdays to go into classrooms during regular school hours and inspire kids about science.

Chemistry All Around You is a SEitC-like program that requires a gymnasium sized space due to the scale of the equipment used for these demos. The content is always customised to be grade appropriate and impactful even when presented to up to 250 students at once.

Teacher Science Workshops is science professional development for teachers. Educators learn curriculum linked science from experts and then take that knowledge back to their classrooms.

Grande Prairie's Walk Through the Forest is hosted in partnership with local forestry groups and associations and targets grade 6 students. Arbor Day is a SEitC-like presentation for grade 1 students and includes delivering a tree sapling to each student to take home and plant.

On behalf of the students and teachers that we support, thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, partners, and other stakeholders.

Provincial programs

SCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS-IN-THE-CLASSROOM

Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom is supported by Program Coordinators based in Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary, Lethbridge and our affiliate in Medicine Hat. The program is available to all public, separate, private and charter schools with topic coverage subject to volunteer availability. Demand from teachers continues to exceed volunteer availability so volunteer recruitment is ongoing. If you know a scientist, engineer or other science expert who might enjoy volunteering to support their community and their profession please contact us.

We also now support schools outside of our main urban centers. While on occasion volunteers who are based in an urban area will travel to rural schools, the best solution to serve rural Alberta is to find volunteers in those communities.

We continue to search for an anchor donor to help us launch operations in Fort McMurray. To introduce the program we are looking for a minimum of three years' worth of operational funding support.

Over 85% of our classroom presentation requests are for grades 2 to 6 and that is likely because most elementary grade teachers have little or no post secondary science experience. This age also suits us best as we believe that the key to inspiring youth in science is to show students at an early age that science can be fun and easy to learn when explained by someone who knows the science.

Qualitative teacher feedback via our online feedback process continues to be excellent with the highest response ("strongly agree") in nine of ten categories exceeding the sum total of all of the other four options. The only category where the feedback is more balanced between the top three responses is in respect of a statement regarding "influencing future career choices", which given the age group that we reach is clearly difficult for a teacher to quantify.

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Teacher Science Workshops continues its strong growth in the Edmonton area and is maintaining its long history in Calgary. While the number of workshops delivered in the year did not change much from last year, overall average attendance increased from 15 to 19 per workshop.

The partnerships that we started in 2016 with Alberta Education Regional Consortia continue to expand. This year we delivered science PD workshops in Red Deer, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge. And we have scheduled our first PD event in Grande Prairie for September 2018. Teachers drive in from as far as 150 km away. Many stating that they have never attended a science PD workshop in their career, simply because access to science support in rural communities is very limited.

Qualitative feedback collected at the conclusion of each workshop is very good to excellent. We thank teachers for their suggestions for improving the content, especially at events where the presenter is delivering their first workshop.

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ASN Regional Branches

- Calgary and Area
- Capital Region
- Peace Region
- Central Alberta
- Lethbridge Region

Affiliate Network

Praxis (Medicine Hat)
www.praxismh.ca

Regional programs

WALK THROUGH THE FOREST

Each May over three consecutive days we bus grade 6 students to a local nature area for a half day of forestry awareness. Hands-on presentations are delivered by volunteers from local forestry companies, environmental groups and City of Grande Prairie staff. Members of the local Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development office also lead forestry tours to educate students on forestry management.

ARBOR DAY

Over 100 community volunteers gather at 7 am to separate, and count over 1,750 tree saplings and then drive to regional schools to deliver them to grade one students along with a short presentation on how to plant and care for their tree.

Alberta Science Network thanks the Forestry Resource Improvement Association of Alberta and Grande Prairie Environmental Sciences Education Society for their generous support of programs in Grande Prairie.

CHEMISTRY ALL AROUND YOU

Chemistry themes appear in many of the 45 Alberta Education grade 1 to 9 science topics. Chemistry All Around You takes concepts from several and uses clever and impactful demonstrations and experiments to show students that Chemistry really is all around you every day.

SCIENCE RESOURCE KITS

Many schools cannot afford specialized science equipment or supplies. ASN in Edmonton and our affiliate Praxis in Medicine Hat maintain science resource kits that teachers can sign out for up to three weeks to help them fill a gap and make science more real for their students.

MORE PROGRAMS

Family science nights, Science Olympics, Rock 'N' Fossil Road Shows, Science Roadshows and Astronomy nights are just a few more of the events that ASN delivers in the communities that we and our affiliate serve.

"Absolutely wonderful presentation. She was well prepared and related well with the students. The hands-on circuit boards were fantastic. It was great to see a female engineer out to present to the classes, as it demonstrated to the girls in the class the opportunities of this field to them. Thank you so much! "

Teacher quote following a Grade 5 Electricity & Magnetism classroom presentation



"Amazing, he clarified things that I didn't know how to begin to teach! All of this applicable. Best PD I've been to."
Teacher quote following a Grade 3 Hearing & Sound Teacher Workshop



"This was my first ASN presentation and I was BLOWN AWAY. Devyn was very professional, came prepared, spoke to the students' level and interests, was patient and very informative. I can't wait to book another and would highly recommend the experience to colleagues."
Teacher quote following a Grade 1 Building Things classroom presentation



Thank You!

Ongoing partnerships, grants and donations allow us to continue to offer our programs to students and their teachers at no cost to schools. We would like to recognize one partner in particular whose members comprise over 30% of our SEitC volunteers. The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta regulates the practice of engineering and geoscience in the Province. Access to APEGA member media at the Provincial and Branch level is a valuable resource in the recruitment of new volunteers and as we expand our classroom program into rural Alberta.

We thank all of our partners, sponsors and stakeholders for their tremendous support.



Alberta Economic Development and Trade
Alberta Lotteries

The logo for Fluor, consisting of the word "FLUOR" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.



and...

ATCO Electric

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Cinders Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation

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Pratt & Whitney Canada (Regional donor)

Red Deer & District Community Foundation

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To find out how you can be a supporter of ASN and its programs, or to receive a copy of ASN's financial statements, please contact Ed Kusmirski P.Eng., Executive Director at ekusmirski@albertasciencenetwork.ca.

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