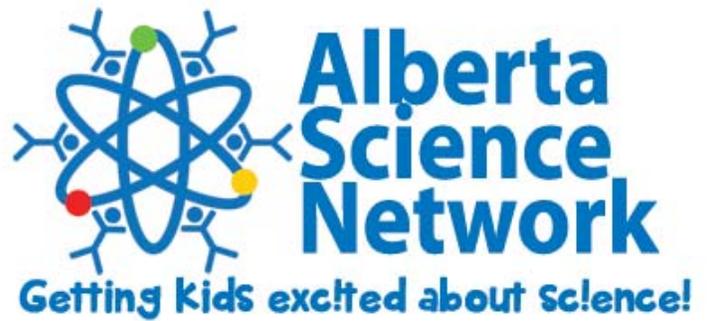


Report to the Community 2019



Highlights 2018-2019
Year ended June 30, 2019

*Face to face with
66,810 grade 1 to 12
students and their
teachers*

*Scientists &
Engineers-in-the-
Classroom 1,108
visits to 24,791
students*

*21,668 students
awed by Chemistry
All Around You
presentations*

*1,146 grade 6
students Walk(ed)
Through the Forest*

*87 classrooms
handed out saplings
to 1,736 grade 1
students on Arbour
Day*

*Teacher science PD
for 664 educators at
41 workshops*

*Science resource kits
to 10,148 students in
374 classrooms*

Alberta Science Network
AlbertaScienceNetwork.ca



Fort McMurray here we come!

The Alberta Science Network is pleased to announce that we will be expanding our award-winning Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom program into Fort McMurray in September 2019. Recent Fund Development successes including a very generous and targeted donation from the Anita and John Rossall Foundation have given us sufficient resources to begin to invest in the community. We are now recruiting volunteers and will make the program available on a topic by topic basis to selected schools and teachers as volunteers join and are oriented into delivering impactful classroom presentations to students and their teachers.

Look for our Chemistry All Around You program to make a field trip into the area in the Spring of 2020. Interested teachers and schools can contact us now to join the list for next Spring.

Teacher Workshops is just around the corner as well as we are working with the local Professional Development Consortia to schedule sessions starting this Fall.

Fort McMurray joins Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge as centres for our Program delivery. We also continue to prioritize the recruitment of volunteers in more rural communities to ensure that science outreach is available throughout the Province. If you are a member of an organization, science club or local group and need support with your community event, please contact us. We have the financial means and volunteers to help make your event a success. And perhaps you can help us to bring Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom into your community.

Provincial programs

SCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS-IN-THE-CLASSROOM

Scientists, engineers and subject matter experts volunteer their time to go into classrooms across Alberta and deliver hands-on and Alberta Education science curriculum linked presentations to students and their teachers. The program is available to public, private, separate and charter schools and subject only to volunteer availability. Generous donations and grants from our stakeholders makes SEitC free and accessible to all schools.

Currently available through Program Coordinators based in Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, we add Fort McMurray into the equation starting in September 2019. The program is, however, not just for the more urban communities in the Province. In the year we delivered 68 presentations in more rural communities such as Ardmore, Picture Butte, Rocky Mountain House, Vermillion, Taber and over two dozen others. Many through volunteers from the more urban centres who travelled to deliver the presentations, but also through a growing group of rural based volunteers who want to give back to their community.

"She had a passion for building and shared that with the students and they loved her presentation." *Don Campbell teacher, Lacombe.*

"You get some of the best, most motivated, talented, creative and giving professionals in the Province, giving of their time, of their passion and of their expertise to students. Our goal is to excite and inspire. It works." *Calgary volunteer.*

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

The next best thing to engaging students with hands-on science is to bring their teachers together at our Professional Development workshops and have our experts teach the educators. Most elementary grade teachers have little to no post secondary science experience and yet they are required to teach on a variety of what can be complex themes such as electricity, chemistry, structures and forces, mechanics and aerodynamics.

Do you understand how electricity works? How elements bond? Why concrete works well in compression but not tension? How a jetliner ever gets off of the ground? If you are a teacher, come to one of our workshops and our scientist volunteers will show you in easy to understand ways so that 1) you understand it and 2) you can explain it to your students.

Workshops are offered in Edmonton and Calgary throughout the school year from mid-October to April. They are now available in other communities through partnerships that we have formed with Alberta Education Regional Professional Development Consortia. We provide the volunteer scientists and the Regional Consortia provide all administrative and facility support.

"It's a tricky topic to teach but I'm very thankful for all of your activities and cannot wait to try them." *Teacher attendee at a grade 6 Air & Aerodynamics workshop.*

"Thank you. Great to move around and show us the experiments to demonstrate learning objectives." *Teacher at a grade 3 Hearing & Sound workshop.*

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

Affiliate Network

Praxis (Medicine Hat)
www.praxismh.ca

Regional programs

WALK THROUGH THE FOREST AND ARBOUR DAY

These two programs are offered in Grande Prairie and surrounding communities through the generous support of the Forestry Resource Improvement Association of Alberta and the Grande Prairie Environmental Science Education Society.

Walk Through the Forest participants in grade 6 enjoy a half day environmental stewardship field trip in a local forestry area that supports the "Trees & Forests" science unit. This year we extended the event to 3 ½ days to meet overwhelming demand from teachers and reached students from 28 schools in the region.

In Grande Prairie at 7 am on Arbour Day over 100 volunteers descend on the Sustainable Development office to sort, and then deliver tree saplings to grade 1 classrooms. The volunteers tell students about planting and caring for the tree before giving each student their own tree to take home.

CHEMISTRY ALL AROUND YOU

Delivered primarily by one Edmonton-based volunteer, Chemistry All Around You is a high impact presentation that reaches up to 250 students at a time. Vivid displays of light, magical chemical reactions and of course room-popping explosions punctuate this thrilling and awe inspiring event.

CAAY demonstrates many chemistry principles from the grade 1 to 9 science curriculum and shows students the Chemistry that is "all around them" all the time!

"Our students were thoroughly engaged in this presentation! Teachers also raved at how amazing the presentation was! Chemistry All Around You was an excellent combination of learning science and pure fun!" *Earl Buxton teacher, Edmonton.*

SCIENCE RESOURCE KITS

We know that many schools cannot afford basic science equipment or supplies. To meet this need our Edmonton branch and our affiliate Praxis in Medicine Hat offer kit distribution programs. Teachers reserve a kit for a specific unit online, and can then use it for three weeks in their classrooms. The high start up cost of creating the kits prevents ASN from running the program in other regions at this time.

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 affiliates serve.

"He delivered his content with such confidence and thought-provoking manner that the students feel they could also do "something like he did." My students' interests in science are heightened!"

Teacher quote following a Grade 4 Light & Shadows classroom presentation, Annunciation School, Edmonton.



"The Alberta Science Network has provided an invaluable service to our students and teachers. The joy of chemistry was passed on!"

Teacher quote following a Grade 5 Classroom Chemistry, Holy Spirit School, Cochrane.



"Loved that she told them what she does and that she is a female engineer who LOVES building!"

Teacher quote following a Grade 3 Building With a Variety of Materials. St. Patrick's School, Red Deer.



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.



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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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