



GREEN Schools Canada

Winter 2015 Newsletter

Congratulations to Haldane Elementary School in Chase BC On Achieving Earth 10 Status for completing 10,000 Environmental Actions!



Dear GREEN Schools Program participants,

Happy New Year! Welcome to the second half of the 2014-15 school year.

This year, the GREEN Schools Program offered by SEEDS Connections is undergoing an improved and broadened approach to make the program even more valuable to your students and school. We aim to launch the updated version in September 2015.

We will be placing emphasis on the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) priorities identified by Unesco's Global Action Programme (GAP). Learn more about GAP on ESD here -

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002305/230514e.pdf>.

Our objective with the revamp of the GREEN Schools Program will be to ensure that we are supporting you in alignment with the following GAP on ESD priorities:

- Transforming learning and training environments:
 - Integrate sustainability principles into education and training settings
- Building capacities of educators and trainers: Increase the capacities of educators and trainers to more

GREEN Schools Canada welcomes the following schools:

- Ecole elementaire et secondaire publique l'Equinoxe, Pembroke, ON
- Tatia Lake Elementary-Jr Secondary School, Tatia Lake, BC
- Christ the King Academy, Brooks, AB
- Gateway Public School, Toronto, ON
- Giscome Elementary School, Willow River, BC
- Mount Pleasant Elementary, Hudson, QC
- Simonds High School, St. John, NB
- St. Laurent School, St. Laurent, MB
- Archbishop O'Leary High School, Edmonton, AB
- Crestomere School, Wolfcreek, Lacombe, AB

effectively deliver ESD

- Empowering and mobilizing youth: Multiply ESD actions among youth
- Accelerating sustainable solutions at local level: At community level, scale up ESD programmes and multi-stakeholder ESD networks

Meanwhile, keep moving forward with your projects; they will continue to count towards the upcoming point system. All of us look forward to your updates and hearing about the environmental activities taking place in your school.

If you are interested in giving us input towards the revamp of the GREEN Schools Program, please contact Linda at greenschools@seedsconnections.org. In our spring 2015 newsletter, we plan to give more details about the exciting upcoming revisions.

Thanks for being part of the GREEN Schools Program!

Sincerely,
Corinne Craig
Executive Director, SEEDS Connections

Have you started your gardens?

Now is the time to grow your seedlings to plant outside when the snow is gone and the weather is warmer. Here's an idea from the SIS BC Offshore School in Gangwondo, South Korea, one of our GREEN Schools.



The students are so excited to start their gardening! They brought in large water/juice bottles, yogurt plastic jars, and plastic coffee cups to pot their soil. We learned about the different soil types needed for our gardening needs and began mixing nutrients, fertilizers, and soils for their distinct plants. They secretly loved getting messy on this project!

Here's a site that offers guidance on getting started. [Click here for Planning Sustainable School Garden](#)

Ideas for Winter Activities

- Students from **Ecole Beau Soleil** have chosen to do it again this year. They are recycling their little juice boxes in order to have money for their outdoor activities. Another way to have less garbage and a better environment.

- Check out **Crestomere School's Bee Buddies Honey Project** at greenschools.ca. This would be a great time to start planning your hives for spring.



Don't forget our bird friends. There's different ideas for feeders at greenschools.ca

Links to interesting sites



Here are a few sites that might be helpful in planning your GREEN Schools Canada activities. Even though you may be working with a different group, you may still count your activities for them for Green Schools. Don't forget to update your [GREEN Schools Data](#).

- [GREEN Schools Canada Online Store](#)

Upcoming Events

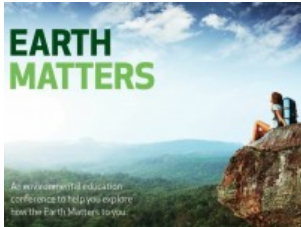
Mark your calendar with these upcoming events.



is celebrated on March 22nd, 2015. How will you mark the importance of this essential resource.



Earth Day[®] CANADA is celebrated on April 22nd each year. Find out more information at www.earthday.ca



The Earth Matters Conference, organized by the Alberta Council for Environmental Education is being held this year from October 15 through 17 in Canmore, Alberta. Get more information at <http://abcee.org/conference/>

- [Green Schools Nova Scotia](#)
- [B.C. Green Games](#)
- [Eco Kids](#)
- [Alberta GREEN Schools](#)
- [Ontario Eco Schools](#)
- [Toronto District School Board Eco Schools](#)
- [Educatorlabs - request a resource](#)

Are you in Alberta or the Northwest Territories? If so . . .



ENERGIZE YOUR CLASSROOM WITH UP TO \$10,000

BP's A+ for Energy program awards grants to Kindergarten to grade 12 teachers who create new ways to teach about energy and energy conservation in the classroom.

What could your class do with \$10,000? Classes in every subject are eligible, both arts and sciences, at any school in Alberta or the Northwest Territories.

Deadline for entries is April 10, 2015

For more information go to [A+ for Energy Program](#)

Follow us on:



Thanks to TD Friends of the Environment Foundation for their long-standing support of GREEN Schools Canada.

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