

# TRACKING CHANGE PROJECT

## YOUTH KNOWLEDGE FAIR 2016 (24-26 May 2016)

### SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

#### My experience at the Youth Knowledge Fair was...

1. Exquisitely wonderful. I am rather interested in sciences, so this experience (especially the chemistry) was lovely
2. Fantastic ☺ Well organized, engaging. Nice opportunity for students to visit UofA and share their knowledge and valued voices.
3. Very well.
4. Good. I learned a lot about the River Basin.
5. Very exciting... and interesting.
6. Excellent. Very well organized.
7. Exciting and fun.
8. Awesome! I finally [get] out of bed early and learned so much!
9. Fun, Fun. Loved all the activities and [the] exploring we did.
10. All of the people involved were very friendly and helpful. The students had a great experience.
11. Great! I enjoyed looking at other people's posters.
12. Really good. I think it was very valuable to stay in residence and have a tour of the University. All the activities were good, well-timed, and added value to the program.
13. Awesome! I had fun participating in activities and reading the posters. Victoria was also a great host. She's very nice. I enjoyed the UofA tour and staying at Lister Hall was interesting.
14. Good. Learned many new things.
15. It was great. Had fun meeting new people and learning about peoples' perspective of their community and the changes.
16. Impacting! So amazing and mind altering.
17. Fun, and it encourages me to finish school and then go to college and to be successful and makes me want to change and to help my country, but mostly the River.
18. Very good first time event. I liked the variety of activities; however, something more for the Grade 10s would have been good (i.e., something more complex at the science centre; prof presentation).
19. I liked it.. It was alright. I liked the interaction.
20. Memorable. I had a fun time and learned a lot about the Mackenzie water basin.
21. Ok. Good food. Fun activities. (Jail cell) dorms. Helpful.
22. Interesting.

### **Some things I learned and will remember...**

1. How to fillet a fish; the importance the Basin has upon many (including young) lives, and that I have the ability to make a change.
2. Logistics of developing posters with student., thus building enquiries/research interests and honouring their work through knowledge sharing.
3. I will remember [the] show at the Telus Observatory. It was amazing.
4. I learned just how large the River Basin is and how many rivers and lakes flow into it.
5. I learned more about the Mackenzie Basin, but will continue to keep exploring and learning.
6. Really enjoyed the Tour of the UofA and the fish lab. The mural was also a great activity.
7. To never pick at a fish eye ever again. And that the Mackenzie River is more important than I thought.
8. I learned at the Telus Centre that the answer is 'air.' And (I) learned many more things from other participant's posters.
9. I learned that if we (want to) make a difference, we need to start now and there is people there to support us; we just have to reach out.
10. Interesting facts about the Mackenzie water basin. How important it is to allow students to become independent with knowledge so they can move into the future with an understanding that they need to play a part in conservation and environmental stewardship.
11. I learned about other peoples' ideas and what they thought about the Mackenzie River Basin.
12. Tilapia have otoliths. Meeting teachers and students from other schools.
13. Learning from peoples' perspectives about issues in the Mackenzie River Basin.
14. The information that was on the various posters.
15. If we work together, we could save our land.
16. Everything I've learned about the Mackenzie. Speakers, posters, youth, Cold Amazon. Events were great also, seeing Faculty of Native Studies, Telus World of Science, fish lab.
17. I learned that all of us as a team need to help save our rivers and lakes. We can't let anything happen to it. We all need our water in order to live.
18. The Mackenzie River impacts so many people. It was great to see such interest with so many students. A lot of diverse information / research, Very positive step forward.
19. That when it comes to eating, its better to eat the smaller (fish) because there is less mercury building up.
20. Many acronyms: LRT, UofA, etc. The UofA has about 38,000 people in it (about 12x the population of Inuvik), and takes up about 50 blocks. English 30-1.
21. Trust your first instinct; talk more.
22. My roommate was a female, strange. Fish have a bone that tell you their age!

### Suggestions for next year....

1. More chemistry! More conversation between youth about their projects.
2. Second session to share posters with public or another group of [questioners?]
3. Invite me again.
4. Include more towns, cities; more people.
5. Maybe more communities and cities could be involved.
6. It would be nice to see the kids present to their peers.
7. More food variety. More stuff to do in the Poster Room because we were there some long hours.
8. Stay in hotel (maybe). Not as many sandwiches. Trip to zoo.
9. Don't start so early.
10. Make sure you remind people to take flip flops (for shower), maybe towels, etc. Get the word out earlier and have this NOT during our grad week.
11. Get some vegetarian pizzas for pizza night. The way the posters were set up weren't (sic) that good because our poster didn't get any attention.
12. Warn people there is cheese in the Chaperone bag Speakers before and after the poster session seemed messy, I think. A lot of people missed the second set because they left. Perhaps look at the wording for the regulations – my school understood it to be posters in pairs, not 2 kids, 2 projects as it seemed. A lot of people missed the second set because they left.
13. Possibly more group discussion about Mackenzie River Basin issues and achieving sustainability.
14. No cells when someone is talking.
15. Meat for supper; more sightseeing; own bathrooms in the rooms; cellphones shouldn't be used during sessions.
16. None; as a chaperone, it was excellent.
17. Older kids, or someone to tell the kids to be more calm during sleep hours. Bigger tea cups. Help kids open up.
18. Perhaps include Gr. 11/12 as option just for more experiential opportunities. Uof A tour would be good for them too.
19. None.
20. Don't limit it to 10<sup>th</sup> grade, include 11 and 12. Cake.
21. More free time, healthier food, and more exercise.
22. 😊

**My favourite part was....**

1. Explaining my philosophy. I am rather scientifically philosophical, and I enjoy explaining certain perspectives.
2. Witnessing students share their research with the public. Gaining confidence and valued learning experience.
3. I really enjoyed the Observatory, the train, and the comic book store.
4. Seeing how enthusiastic all the students were about their topic. There are a lot of eye-opening issues that I was not aware of.
5. EVERYTHING!!
6. Bingo was a great way to get the students looking at the posters.
7. Playing the bingo.
8. Getting sucked up while in the plastic bag [during Telus demonstration].
9. The Telus World of Science and the Mall.
10. Campus Tour; Telus World of Science.
11. The Planetarium at the Telus World of Science and touring the University.
12. Telus World of Science and the food.
13. Visiting the Telus World of Science and reading the posters.
14. Going to the Science Centre.
15. Going to the Science Centre.
16. The entire experience! I can't narrow it down ☺.
17. The University Tour, learning about the astrology at the Telus World of Science.
18. It took place in Edmonton at the University. Gave students a chance to experience it and network with other students. Good event! Looking forward to being invited back again next year.
19. When we were asked about our poster.
20. Painting, University Tour, and Art Gallery (I have not gone yet, but I know I will enjoy it). Potato salad.
21. The fish lab, West Edmonton Mall, Food!
22. I have no idea.