

### Invitation

# Tracking Change... Youth Knowledge Fair

## Guidelines and Logistics

### Why a Knowledge Fair? Who is hosting this event?

The **Youth Knowledge Fair** is being hosted by the University of Alberta as part of a research project called **Tracking Change...** This project aims to build and share knowledge about the Mackenzie River Basin and how this river system is changing. Dr. Brenda Parlee is leading this project from the University of Alberta in collaboration with other partners including the Mackenzie River Basin Board, the Government of the Northwest Territories, many Aboriginal organizations and governments as well as Canadian and global university partners. ***The Youth Knowledge Fair is one way we hope to support youth in the Mackenzie River Basin to learn from each other and researchers about how the Mackenzie River Basin is changing and build capacity to sustain it for future generations.***

### Where does your school fit in the Mackenzie River system?

The Mackenzie River system is one of the largest freshwater ecosystems in the world. It includes almost 1/5 of Canada's area and is home to many Indigenous peoples. Have a look at the map to check out where your school is located in the Mackenzie system! Check out some learning resources about the Mackenzie River on our website [trackingchange.ca](http://trackingchange.ca) or do some research of your own in your community!

### Themes and Priorities for Youth Knowledge Fair Projects

- ✓ historical and contemporary observations and perceptions of conditions and change in the health of the **aquatic environment** (e.g., water quality, quantity, flow, groundwater, permafrost conditions);
- ✓ historical and contemporary observations and perceptions of conditions and change in **fish species** (population, movements, diversity, invasive species) and other **aquatic species** (e.g., geese, beaver);
- ✓ sustainability of **fishing livelihoods** (e.g., harvesting levels and practices, diet, health, access issues, perceptions of change in the health of valued fish species);
- ✓ implications of change for **governance** (e.g., how maintain healthy relationships to the aquatic ecosystem, maintaining respectful and spiritual relationships, respecting treaty rights).

## Who can Attend?

This year, the Knowledge Fair is open to a small number of junior high and highschool students (Gr. 7-10) from schools in the Mackenzie River Basin. We hope to grow the activity in future year to include more schools. There is funding available to support 2 delegates to attend (with one chaperone) from seven schools from each of northern Saskatchewan, northern Alberta, northern British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and Yukon. Students will be selected by the principal of each school. Selected students will be required to develop and bring a poster project related to one of the **research priorities** (pg. 1) to share with other students and the public as part of the poster sharing session. (Guidelines on how to develop the poster project are included below).

## Guidelines for Project Posters

The **Tracking Change** project aims to learn more about issues of changes in the **sustainability of fish and fishing livelihoods** in the Mackenzie River Basin. The perspectives of youth are particularly important as are opportunities for youth to learn from one another. Students are encouraged to develop poster projects on related themes - perhaps highlight an issue related to fish/fishing livelihoods in their region or answer a question of concern to them. The poster project is intended to be a learning opportunity for the student and the rest of the class/school.

The poster project should be based around a small research activity (e.g., collection of photos, summarizing of existing information from reports). It can either be based on "science" or "traditional knowledge". Some ideas on project themes:

- Can I drink the water?
  - what does water quality mean to me?
- Can I eat the fish?
  - What species of fish are important?
  - How is fishing an important part of my cultural traditions and the health of my community?
- What places on the river have changed and why?

**Copyright and Use:** The poster projects are the property of each student and their school. If consent is provided by the student and the school, we would like to include a photo of the poster in a book and on our website, to help others learn more about the perspectives of youth.

***Ethical guidelines and protocols of the local School Board in regards to the use of photos, interviews etc. should be followed.***

### Format:

- Posters should be a minimum of 36 x 48 inches in size;
- The poster projects can be multi-media and 3 dimensional (e.g., include materials, video and/or props);
- To make transportation easier, the poster can be created in digital form and printed at the University of Alberta if received by email as a pdf by May 20<sup>th</sup>;
- Students are encouraged to use multi-media including photos, text, materials etc. The poster should include a title, a summary of the project (in no less than 16 pt. font) and details about how the knowledge was collected;
- Although we can only fund 2 students to participate from each school, we can accommodate the sharing of other student posters at the event if notified prior to May 20<sup>th</sup>;
- Expenses for materials for posters can be reimbursed upon provision of original receipts.



## TENATIVE Agenda

YOUTH KNOWLEDGE FAIR SCHEDULE					
Maple Leaf Room, Lister Centre, University of Alberta					
		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
TIME		24-May-16	25-May-16	26-May-16	27-May-16
MORNING	7:30-8:00	TRAVEL	Morning Gathering	Morning Gathering	TRAVEL
	8:00-8:30		KEYNOTE	KEYNOTE	
	8:30-9:00		University Tour	Fisheries Lab Tour	
	9:00-9:30		BREAK	BREAK	
	9:30-10:00		Poster Session Introduction	Poster Session	
	10:00-10:30		LUNCH	LUNCH	
	10:30-11:00		Poster Session	Poster Session	
	11:00-11:30		ART & HEALTH BREAK	ART & HEALTH BREAK	
	11:30-12:00		OPEN HOUSE	WRAP UP	
LUNCH HOUR	12:00-12:30	MEET & GREET	Pizza Dinner	BBQ Dinner	
	12:30-1:00				
AFTERNOON	1:00-1:30	MEET & GREET			TRAVEL
	1:30-2:00				
	2:00-2:30				
	2:30-3:00				
	3:00-3:30				
	3:30-4:00				
DINNER HOUR	4:00-4:30	MEET & GREET			TRAVEL
	4:30-5:00				
EVENING	5:00-5:30	OPENING			TRAVEL
	5:30-6:00				
	6:00-6:30				
	6:30-7:00				
	7:00-7:30				
	7:30-8:00				
	8:00-8:30	INTRODUCTION <i>Telus World of Science</i>	Learning about the Mackenzie River Basin	FUN AND FREE TIME <i>West Edmonton Mall</i>	
	8:30-9:00		MOVIE NIGHT		

### Logistics and Travel

Booking of flights and related travel information can be provided by Elaine Maloney from the University of Alberta. Accommodation from May 24-27 will be provided at the University of Alberta residence (Lister Hall). <https://www.residence.ualberta.ca/prospective-residents/lister-centre/> Students and chaperones can have the costs of meals and ground transportation during travel days reimbursed following the conference. Meals will be provided at Lister Hall during May 25-26. **Check out the agenda – more details to come!**

**For more information about resources on the Mackenzie River Basin and  
about the Youth Knowledge Fair, contact:**

*Elaine Maloney*

*Tracking Change... Knowledge Mobilization Coordinator*

*GSB 566, University of Alberta*

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Tracking Change website: [www.trackingchange.ca](http://www.trackingchange.ca)

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC): <http://www.sshrc.ca>