

# 2020 Virtual Mayor's Environment Expo



## Event Information and Program

**Live event June 3, 2020**

with

**Pre-recorded video sessions available June 3- 30, 2020**

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## Introduction

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in response to the recent provincial public health order to prohibit gatherings with more than 15 people, all City of Calgary-led events set to take place through August 31 have been cancelled. We realize this is disappointing for Calgarians, however, public safety and therefore physical distancing must be our top priority during this pandemic.

While we are unable to offer our originally scheduled Mayor's Environment Expo at the Municipal Complex, we are excited to provide an alternative, virtual event in collaboration with some local environmental organizations. The virtual event is designed to accommodate the new reality of home-based learning by offering both scheduled workshops as well as those accessible 24 hours a day at the student's convenience.

We invite you and your class to join us online on June 3, 2020, to test this creative approach to delivering environmental education in a time of physical distancing or watch many of the videos posted to [calgary.ca/mee](http://calgary.ca/mee) starting June 3, 2020, and available for the rest of the month.

Please email [lindsay.luhnau@calgary.ca](mailto:lindsay.luhnau@calgary.ca) if you have any questions.

# Message from the Mayor



Naheed K. Nenshi, Mayor

June 2020



## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NENSHI

On behalf of The City of Calgary, I am pleased to invite you and your students to our annual Mayor's Environment Expo on June 3, 2020.

While we normally host the expo over three days at the Municipal Complex, this year we've come up with something a bit different – a virtual, online expo consolidated into one day. I realize the cancellation of in-school classes and public events due to the COVID-19 pandemic is challenging and disappointing for Calgarians. Public safety and therefore physical distancing must be our top priority during this unprecedented time. Our team has worked hard with partner organizations to come up with a creative alternative for students to ensure we continue to invest in the environmental stewards of tomorrow and promotes environmental sustainability in Calgary.

I encourage you to register your class for one of the live sessions on June 3 and check out the videos we'll be posting that day at [calgary.ca/mee](http://calgary.ca/mee).

We have a shared responsibility to conserve and protect our environment. Together, we can take steps to reduce our impact on the environment for a healthier and more sustainable future. We look forward to hosting you and your students at this year's virtual Mayor's Environment Expo. And remember, we will get through this together with clean hands, clear heads, open hearts.

Sincerely,



Naheed K. Nenshi  
MAYOR

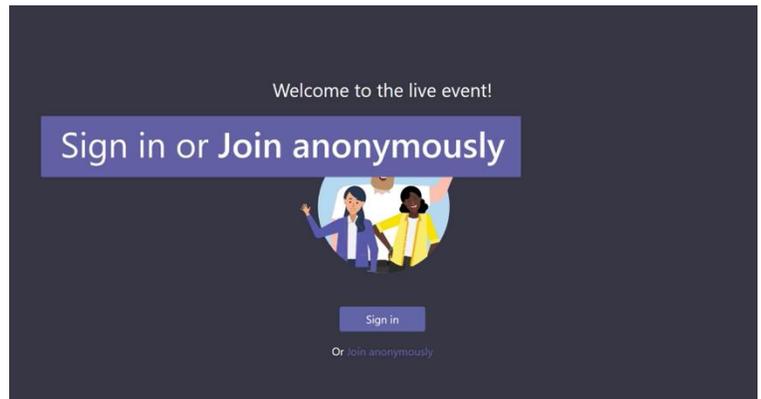
## About Virtual Workshops

Virtual workshop sessions for the 2020 Mayor's Environment Expo will use the [Microsoft Teams Live Events](#) platform. This platform was chosen to ensure the protection of privacy of students participating in the virtual event.

**Attendees will not be required to provide any personal information nor, will they have the ability to share their video.**

Attendees will have the option to use the Q&A during the session if the function is turned on by the host.

For more information on attending a [Microsoft Teams Live Event](#), [visit the support page](#).



## Registration Information

If your preference is to view one of the videos, you will be able to [access the videos](#) at [Calgary.ca/mee](http://Calgary.ca/mee) any time between 8:00 a.m. June 3, 2020, and midnight June 30, 2020. No registration is required.

**Registration is ONLY required for the live sessions hosted on June 3, 2020.**

Registration for [live sessions](#) begins May 11, 2020, and closes May 29, 2020. Priority for registration in live events will be given to Calgary schools.

To register for a live session, please **email ALL of the following information** to the Mayor's Environment Expo Project Manager at [lindsay.luhnau@calgary.ca](mailto:lindsay.luhnau@calgary.ca).

1. Teacher's name(s):
2. Teacher's email(s):
3. School:
4. Grade(s):
5. Number of students:
6. Session requested:
7. Time slot requested:

Once registered for a virtual workshop, the teacher will receive a link and instructions to share with students. Virtual workshops will start promptly at the scheduled time; therefore, students and teachers must be logged on 5-10 minutes in advance of their session. Some sessions will be recorded and posted for later viewing.

# Virtual Workshop Descriptions and Details

## Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation

### Climate and Creatures (All Grades) – All sessions now fully registered

Did you know that wildlife species are also impacted by climate change? Join the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation as we explore the many effects that climate change can have on wildlife populations, and learn how you can help your local animal species.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 60 (Full)

#### Times

Grades 4-6

- 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Grades 7-9

- 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Grades K-3

- 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

## City of Calgary Environmental and Safety Management

### Climate Change and Calgary (Grade 7-12) – All sessions now fully registered

Climate change impacts all of us. It's a complex challenge that can seem overwhelming, but the solutions don't have to be.

This presentation, delivered by members of The City of Calgary's Climate Program team, will explore what climate change means for our city and Calgarians. This session will explain how The City is preparing for climate change risks and impacts, and will empower you with the information you need to take action on climate change.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 120 (Full)

#### Times

Grades 7-12

- 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
- 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.



## City of Calgary Transportation Planning

### **Is your street for everyone? (Grades K-6) – All sessions now fully registered**

A welcoming and inclusive city provides safe, accessible and affordable transportation and recreation options for everyone. How do you think your street stacks up?

In this workshop, we invite you to think about how you and others get around your neighbourhood. While exploring your own community, you will go on a data-seeking adventure to discover how and why people move around spaces and places in Calgary. Through your own observations, you will also discover who might be left out because of how the street is designed. Provided the weather is nice, we will work both inside and outside.

This citizen science data you collect will help inform our new Neighbourhood Streets Policy. This policy is currently being prototyped and will influence decisions about future projects and programs in the city. The data you collect is important, and will help make spaces more comfortable for people walking and wheeling.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 120 (Full)

\*Video to be posted following session

#### Times

Grades K-3

- 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Grades 4-6\*

- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## City of Calgary Waste and Recycling Services

### **Break it Down! Composting in Calgary (Grades 3-9) – All sessions now fully registered**

The City of Calgary is serious about composting! Join us for a close-up look at Calgary's composting facility and an interview in the field with The City's compost expert. We'll answer all your composting questions and show you how we're leading the community towards zero waste. Reducing our waste is more important than ever – find out how you can help!

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 500 (Full)

\*Video to be posted following session

#### Times

Grades 3-9

- 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.\*

## CPAWS

### Wild Wellness, It's in Your Nature (Grades K-6)

Ever wonder why the world just feels better on a sunny day – or even a rainy day for that matter – if you're outside? Or why the brightest "lightbulb moments" happen when you're simply watching the clouds go by? Every day scientists are discovering more and more ways "time in nature," or Vitamin N, makes us breathe, think and feel better; but don't take their word for it. Join Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society for a dose of nature play and discovery, and let Mother Nature convince you herself!

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 60

#### Times

Grades K-6

- 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
- 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

### Why Grasslands? (Grades 4-9)

Every day the grasslands of our province provide gifts of vast biodiversity, rich cultural heritage and essential ecosystem services. And yet, only 1.29 per cent of Alberta's native grasslands exist protected. What gives??? And how and why should any of us care? Get ready to meet your prairie home again for the first time, as CPAWS unearths the relationships that lie at the heart of 'why grasslands' matter...now and forever.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 60

#### Times

Grades 4-9

- 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- 1:00 p.m. -2:00 p.m.

## Empower Me

### Youth Power and Energy Savings (Grades 7-9)

Join this session as we tap into the energy and enthusiasm of Calgary's youth, empower them with energy saving tips and share ideas they can put into practice to make a real difference for Calgary and the future.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 100

#### Times

Grades 7-9

- 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
- 11:00 a.m. -11:45 a.m.  
(Full)

## Inside Education

### Plants: Seeds, Needs and Good Deeds (Grade 4)

Between forest, prairie and wetland ecosystems, plants are all around us! Learn about the plant lifecycle, the needs of plants, and how we can all practice plant stewardship.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 25,000

#### Times

Grade 4

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

### Wonderful Wetlands (Grade 5)

From peat moss to beavers, discover the species of plants and animals that make their homes in Alberta's wetlands. Learn about the five types of wetlands, why wetlands are important, and how we can all be wetland stewards.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 25,000

#### Times

Grade 5

- 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.



The graphic features the Calgary logo in the top left corner. Below it, the text 'Lay it on the line' is written in a large, bold, red font, with '#fortheclimateyyc' underneath in a smaller black font. Below that, the phrase 'Hang clothes to dry' is written in a black font. To the right of the text, there is an illustration of a clothesline with several items hanging from it: a blue short-sleeved shirt, a pair of blue and white striped socks, a pair of blue overalls, and a brown teddy bear. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds and a green hill at the bottom. In the bottom right corner, the text 'Learn more at calgary.ca/ClimateAction' is written in a black font, with 'calgary.ca/' in red and 'ClimateAction' in black.

## Open Streets

### Rockin' the Free Power (All Grades)

Learn how music and electricity are connected and rock out! This session fits with mechanical, energy and environmental curriculum concepts, as well as fitness and climate change themes. Electromagnetic induction is the science behind electricity generation, electric guitar pickups and speaker amplification.

Students will be part of a mashup of people-powered electricity, open heart guitar surgery and cranking out some live music! It's a first-hand experience of how the power of the magnetic induction fueled the electric guitar and the rock and roll revolution. See three different midway style games demonstrating how electricity is made and what Albertans can do for a more sustainable future.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 25,000

\*Video to be posted following session

#### Times

Grades K-3

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Grades 4-6

- 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Grades 5-9\*

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## Prospect Human Services

### Geocaching (Grades 4-6) – **Session is fully registered**

Geocaching, a real-world, outdoor treasure hunt using GPS-enabled devices, is quickly becoming a favourite activity for many people in Calgary and around the world. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the exciting world of geocaching, how they can become involved and about online resources, such as [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com). Become familiar with safety and environmental regulations, discovering how to geocache safely and respectfully as we continue to navigate toward a new normal. This session will be led by Prospect's expert outdoor staff in collaboration with adults with developmental disabilities, which will increase the community's capacity for inclusion while challenging students' perceptions and stereotypes.

Virtual Workshop Capacity: 50 (**Full**)

#### Times

Grades 4-6

- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## Pre-recorded Video Descriptions

**No registration is required.** Each video will have a takeaway for students, such as an activity sheet or a way to report back.

Access videos at [Calgary.ca/mee](http://Calgary.ca/mee) any time between 8:00 a.m. June 3, 2020, and midnight June 30, 2020.

### Blitz! City Nature Challenge Calgary

#### Urban BioBlitz (Grades 7-12)

Nature is everywhere, including in the city! Have you ever wondered what the name of that bird is at your feeder? How about the wildflowers you have seen at your local park? This video session is an introduction on how to be a citizen scientist! Students will learn to explore and document the nature that lives alongside us in our yards and in the city through the use of the iNaturalist app on their phones. They will learn how iNaturalist can help to identify and map out biodiversity, how to conduct their own bioblitz, and how their observations can contribute to local and global scientific research.

It is advised that iNaturalist be downloaded prior to beginning the video. iNaturalist is available for both iPhones and Android devices.

### City of Calgary Corporate Analytics & Innovation

#### Corporate Engineering and Energy - Exploring Environmental Careers Today and into Tomorrow (Grades 7-12)

Meet five City of Calgary staff with different careers around protecting the environment and growing sustainability practices. Learn about their roles, how they got there and their thoughts on jobs in their field in the future. Join us for a rebroadcast of a panel discussion had with schools around the city.

## City of Calgary Recreation

### **Mobile Adventure Playground (Grades K-9)**

*"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."*

- George Bernard Shaw

Check out The City of Calgary Recreation's Mobile Adventure Playground and all its wonders. You may call it loose parts play, but we call it Adventure Play. This workshop is designed around how you can make your own playground involving a variety of reused household materials and loose parts such as wood, tires, duct tape, rope, cardboard and some other surprises. Take this unique opportunity to let your students really get creative and just PLAY!

## City of Calgary Parks

### **Calgary Bee Friendly (Grades K-6)**

Learn about native pollinators, why they are crucial members of our communities, and how Calgary Parks is contributing to the health of our ecosystems.

## Calgary Regional Airshed Zone (CRAZ)

### **Making the Invisible Visible (Grades 4-6)**

In this lesson on air quality, students will understand how air quality can be impacted and how air quality impacts their health. They will also learn what an airshed is, how we monitor air, and identify actions they can take to reduce air pollution.

## Inside Education

### **Electricity and Energy (Grade 5)**

From wind turbines to coal-fired power plants, our electricity landscape is shaped by natural resources. Examine electricity from a Canadian perspective and learn how electricity is made, moved and connected to how we live, work and play.

## Green Calgary

### **Worms Love Leftovers! (Grades 1-3)**

Worms Love Leftovers gives children a peek into the amazing world of worms and how they help recycle organic waste, turning it into healthy living soil. Students will learn about the needs of worms, what they can eat and how to care for them. Hands-on activities will be available for students to enjoy at home.

### **Worms Love Leftovers! (Grades 4-6)**

Worms Love Leftovers gives children a peek into the amazing world of worms and how they help recycle organic waste, turning it into healthy living soil. Students will learn about the needs of worms, what they can eat, how to care for them and the role they play as decomposers in an ecosystem. Hands-on activities will be available for students to enjoy at home.

### **Stormwater in the City (Grades 4-6)**

Stormwater in the City encourages students to consider water quantity and quality issues in Calgary by exploring how our land use can impact our water systems. The program inspires creativity by challenging students to design their own rainwater harvesting systems.

### **Stormwater in the City (Grades 7-9)**

Stormwater in the City encourages students to consider water quantity and quality issues arising in urban landscapes by exploring how stormwater drainage, surface permeability and overland runoff can impact an aquatic system. The program inspires creativity by challenging students to solve social, economic and technical issues related to the design and use of rainwater harvesting systems. This program will involve an activity to complete at home.

### **Powering our World (Grades 4-6)**

This program will focus on renewable energy and why using renewable energy sources is important given our changing climate. Students will explore different energy sources, learn how different renewable energy sources work and then investigate energy usage at home through a hands-on game.

### **Citizen Science – Plant-Focused Projects (Grades 4-6)**

This presentation introduces students to the idea of citizen science, biodiversity, as well as the impacts of human activities and climate change on biodiversity. Participants will be introduced to steps for plant identification in nature through interactive activities, as well as activities to take home afterwards. Curriculum links are weaved throughout, including plant growth and changes, wetland ecosystems, and trees and forests. By the end of the presentation, participants will be equipped with the tools to become a Citizen Scientist to explore the nature around them!

### **Citizen Science – Plant-Focused Projects (Grades 7-9)**

This presentation introduces students to the idea of citizen science, biodiversity, as well as the impacts of human activities and climate change on biodiversity. Participants will be introduced to steps for plant identification in nature through interactive activities, as well as activities to take home afterwards. Curriculum links are weaved throughout, including interactions and ecosystems, freshwater and saltwater systems, and biodiversity. By the end of the presentation, participants will be equipped with the tools to become a Citizen Scientist to explore the nature around them!

## **Ghost Watershed Alliance Society**

### **Source Water Stories from the Ghost Watershed (Grades 7-9)**

Students will see where the Ghost River Watershed is located and how it connects to the Bow River Basin upstream of Calgary. They will view a watershed model used to demonstrate land use impacts on water quality. In the final segment, students will be taken on a virtual field trip to see places in this local freshwater system. Locations include the City of Calgary's water quality monitoring site at Benchlands and the confluence of the Waiparous Creek and the Ghost River.

## **Prospect Human Services**

### **Geocaching (Grades 4-6)**

Geocaching, a real-world, outdoor treasure hunt using GPS-enabled devices, is quickly becoming a favourite activity for many people in Calgary and around the world. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the exciting world of geocaching, how they can become involved, and learn about online resources, such as [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com).

Become familiar with safety and environmental regulations, discovering how to geocache safely and respectfully as we continue to navigate toward a new normal. Participate in a scavenger hunt made just for you, in the city of Calgary. Find different earth caches around the city, share your findings on our social media to see others who found the same spots, and receive a shout out from the Prospect staff.

## Currently Available Videos for Students

### City of Calgary Waste and Recycling Services

[Too Good to Waste](#) Watch a quick video that explains the science of how a landfill works and why turning food and yard waste into nutrient-rich compost for gardens, parks and farms is a better solution than burying it in a landfill.

[How Compost is Made: Calgary's Green Cart Program](#) Find out how yard waste, food scraps and pet waste is turned into nutrient-rich compost in just 60 days and has led to an almost 50 per cent reduction in the amount of residential material ending up in the landfill.

[Calgary Recycling: How Recyclables are Sorted](#) Take a behind the scenes look at how Calgary's recycling facility, owned and operated by Cascades Recovery Inc., sorts all the items from your blue carts and community recycling depots to be turned into new products.

### City of Calgary Water Resources

[I am the River](#) Told from the point of view of Calgary's river, this story shows the symbiotic relationship between the city of Calgary and its river.