

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PC Alberta Leadership candidates support environmental education

Today the Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE) released the results of its survey of all candidates in the PC Alberta leadership race. ACEE asked the candidates six questions about their support for environmental education and how it prepares students for the future, and their views on efforts to transform the Alberta K-12 education system.

“Without exception, all respondents recognized that environmental education is a critically important element of our education system,” says Gareth Thomson, Executive Director of ACEE. “It is great to see that the next Premier of Alberta understands that environmental education creates engaged citizens with the necessary skills, knowledge and values to achieve sustainable development in Alberta.”

These findings are consistent with an Ipsos Reid poll commissioned by ACEE, which found that 75 per cent of Albertans believe that schools in Alberta should give TOP priority to providing students with opportunities to do environmental action projects.

The survey of candidates found that they differed in their perceptions of the quality of Alberta’s K-12 education system, and in their support for efforts to transform that system through the government’s ‘Inspiring Action on Education’ process. Candidates also responded to a question about children playing or learning in the outdoors and its connection to building a healthy and prosperous Alberta. Research shows that children who spend more time in nature are healthier, happier, and do better in school.

The PC Alberta Leadership candidates’ complete responses are available at <http://www.abcee.org/pcleadership/>