

# ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

With its mission to work in collaboration with others to advance environmental education in Alberta, the Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE) is making a difference.

Diane Kashuba, donor engagement manager, says "At its roots, ACEE connects youth to nature, unleashing their potential and encouraging action to steward the environment" says Diane Kashuba, Donor Engagement Manager, ACEE. "By increasing their environmental, energy and climate literacy, youth have the skills they need for life-long learnings of living and working sustainably."

"As a leader in environmental education," she adds, "we work at a systems level to reform Kindergarten to Grade 12 education curriculum and bring environmental education into the mainstream at the grassroots level by guiding children and youth to become environmental leaders in Alberta."

The purpose of this work has been to move 'environment' from the margins into the mainstream of education, providing quality environmental learning tools for thousands of teachers, which then gets passed on to the students.

"We help get teachers and students outdoors, reduce nature deficit disorder, improve knowledge about complex environmental issues, introduce career thinking, and empower students to flex their citizenship muscles as they take positive action," says Kashuba.

For its efforts, ACEE is recognized as an Emerald Awards Finalist in the Public Education and Outreach category for advancing environmental education in Alberta, and, Kashuba says, they're honoured to be included.

"This nomination is important to us as it validates the work we are doing to advance environmental education in Alberta. The Alberta Emerald Awards are well respected, and a nod from them is truly recognition of environmental excellence."