

# TAKE ME OUTSIDE

2019 IMPACT REPORT



“ Take Me Outside does a great job of bringing Canadian classroom teachers, parents and administrators together around the important goal of taking learning outside. Their work in this field across the country raises the bar for all children, and helps to normalize outdoor learning.

– Teacher, Surrey, BC

”





Take Me Outside is a non-profit organization committed to raising awareness and facilitating action on nature connection and outdoor learning in schools across Canada. We believe in a future where spending time outside learning, playing and exploring is a regular and significant part of every student's day.



**ALL AGES. ALL ABILITIES.  
SCHOOLS IN EVERY CORNER  
OF THE COUNTRY.**

Take Me Outside Day is for everyone. Simple, fun and effective.  
An accessible entry point for a life-long love of learning in the great outdoors!



# CELEBRATING 9 YEARS OF TAKE ME OUTSIDE DAY

Take Me Outside (TMO) Day supports outdoor, environmental and place-based education, as we invited teachers to take their classes outside for at least 1 hour on October 23rd. Evidence-based and peer reviewed research is showing the value of learning outside; Take Me Outside Day is an opportunity to collectively raise awareness across Canada about the importance of extending the learning environment beyond four walls and a desk.

“Une belle journée à l'extérieure pour les élèves de 6e année de l'école Notre-Dame. Des mathématiques, du français, de la chimie, de l'activité physique et bien du plaisir!”

- Teacher, Edmundston, NB

“It is wonderful to see the schoolyard come alive with students engaged in discovery-based learning. We all go home with a new appreciation of the possibility of learning outdoors.”

- Teacher, King City, ON



“I teach at a high school and will be taking three different classes outside for TMO Day. Thanks for providing a great reminder that not all learning takes place in a classroom.”

-Teacher, MB

## 2,000+

schools from Gander to Ucluelet to Yellowknife

## 200,000+

students & educators learning and playing outside on October 23

## 8,333

days of outdoor time across Canada

## 87,000

twitter impressions & trending nationally on October 23

## “

We loved being outside. We did some science and got to move and run around. My students stopped and listened to instructions better than they did inside, they were more invested in the lesson.

## ”

- Winnipeg MB





## WINTER CHALLENGE

We hosted our first annual Winter Take Me Outside Challenge to allow teachers to show that extending the learning environment beyond four walls and a desk can still be done in the heart of a Canadian winter!

**500+**

schools participated

**76,000**

estimated students



## TAKE ME OUTSIDE STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST

In our 7th year, we asked students to show us how amazing Canada's backyard is and what they like doing outside, wherever they live! The competition is open to grades K-12 across Canada and the winning film this year was extremely well-received at the internationally renowned Banff Mountain Film Festival.

“

This whole experience has been amazing! I can't believe we won this thing!

”

- Michael Speciale, grand prize winner from Vaughn, ON

**30**

entries from across Canada

**3**

day all-expense paid trip to Banff National Park

**\$1,500**

worth of prizes from MEC







## TAKE ME OUTSIDE FOR LEARNING CHALLENGE 2019/2020

Inspired by the Kootenay East region in BC, the Take Me Outside for Learning Challenge expands on TMO Day by challenging teachers to commit to outdoor learning once a week for the entire school year. This challenge is a direct response to educators telling us they were ready to make a more significant commitment on outdoor teaching. Our goal is to foster a community of peer support where educators can share ideas, lessons and stories, with the intention of inspiring others to follow.

# 1,600+

teachers across Canada

# 10 1

provinces territory

# 1.5 million

hours of collective outdoor learning



"The Outdoor Learning Challenge has been great so far. It keeps me accountable to take them outside at least once a week. Sometimes you forget the benefit of being outside and you also forget about all of the practical hands on learning that is right at your finger tips."

- Teacher, Newmarket, ON

"Through starting every day outside, exploring our learning space and greeting the day, students have become connected to their local environment. It's allowed us to uncover curriculum in engaging and authentic ways."

- Teacher, Edmonton, AB

## TAKE ME OUTSIDE

*for learning*

### SCHOOL YEAR CHALLENGE 2019/2020

Join the challenge at [takemeoutside.ca/learningchallenge](https://takemeoutside.ca/learningchallenge)

**Because not all classrooms have four walls**

**GET INVOLVED**

1. Commit to taking your students outside once a week for the 2019/20 school year.
2. Join the challenge at [takemeoutside.ca/learningchallenge](https://takemeoutside.ca/learningchallenge)
3. Help build a community of educators across Canada committed to outdoor learning!

For more info, please visit [takemeoutside.ca](https://takemeoutside.ca)



# TAKE ME OUTSIDE APPAREL

Our partnership with MEC saw Take Me Outside apparel go into 13 stores across the country. Not only does this provide important revenue for our organization, but the messaging of our t-shirts really resonate with the general public.



“Take Me Outside’s T-shirts were a big hit this year. The relevant design and tie to a great social cause really resonated with members and MEC Staffers.”

- Sonia Bianchi, Community Investment Specialist, MEC



“Our staff love your product and organization as a whole. Thank you for doing what you do and for having such a positive impact on retail and outdoor learning in Canada!”

- Brian, Inventory Team Leader, MEC.



Take Me Outside works collaboratively with other organizations, school boards and individuals to encourage children and youth to spend more time outside through various projects and initiatives.

## LIST OF SUPPORTERS:

Active For Life  
 Alberta Council for Environmental Education  
 Banff Airporter  
 Banff Centre  
 Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival  
 BC Parks  
 Canadian Parks and Wilderness  
 Canadian Wildlife Federation  
 Caribou Properties  
 Child and Nature Alliance of Canada  
 Columbia Basin for Environmental Education  
 Network  
 Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario

Earth Day Canada  
 Eco Schools Canada  
 EEPSA  
 Ever Active Schools  
 Global Education and Outdoor Education Council  
 Green Teacher  
 Nature Canada  
 Nature for All  
 Outdoor Council of Canada  
 P.I.N.E. Project  
 SaskOutdoors  
 Wild About Vancouver  
 WildBC

Thank you to our partners

