



OUTDOOR COUNCIL OF CANADA  
CONSEIL CANADIEN DE PLEIN AIR

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To whom it may concern,

If you are receiving this letter, it is because one of your staff is planning to attend the **national outdoor learning conference** hosted by *Take Me Outside, The Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication*, and the *Outdoor Learning Store* in **Banff from May 9 to 11th, 2024**.

We ask you to provide as much support as possible towards participation in this conference. This event is the national gathering enabling the development and implementation of quality pedagogical approaches outside.

Since this event is in its second edition, we understand that many organizations in the country may have doubts as to the impact of the endeavor. However, we can assure you that this event is hosted and organized by organizations that comprise Canada's best network of educators and administrators delivering outdoor learning. The event also engages many other essential stakeholders supporting the development of outdoor learning.

Considering the proven track record of outdoor learning in fostering cross-curricular understanding, providing lessons that last a lifetime, supporting mental health resilience, developing cardio vascular health, nurturing stronger inter-personal bonds, promoting equity and diversity, enabling personal growth and acting as an essential vehicle for meaningful people-nature connection, we believe that the students who attend your school will benefit from the increase in capacity that will result from your staff participation at the conference.

We understand that for many, outdoor learning may be considered an alternative approach to education. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that time outside is more and more essential to the well-being of all.

By desiring to participate in this conference, your staff is demonstrating their interest in being innovative and helping define the development of Canadian education in the 21st century. Not only will your staff benefit from participating in the conference, but your organization will also increase its capacity to deliver quality education.

Please note that we are not a conference organizer and do not receive a financial return related to participation numbers at the conference. We will be present at the conference and look forward to sharing our expertise with your staff.

Sincerely,

Franz Plangger  
Executive Director of the Outdoor Council of Canada