

# TAKE ME OUTSIDE

## 2025 IMPACT REPORT



“

*We have Take Me Outside Day, every day!*

Educator and 2025 TMO Day participant

*Our students went from fearing nature, insects, outside, 'bad' weather, even dirt to happily digging up sod for our new pollinator garden. The squeals were ones of delight now, instead of fear, when they unearthed a larva or worm! They carefully created a safe space for them to re-burrow so they would be protected from our work. Our weekly forest walks allowed them to see the space change over the seasons. They have learned the names of the creatures and plants that call our space home. They proudly announce that they are now 'friends of nature'!*

Educator and 2024-2025 Learning Challenge participant



## Mission & Vision

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

Take Me Outside would like to acknowledge and celebrate the diverse environments and peoples of our country whose Lands inspire our mission. It is important we begin by acknowledging that outdoor learning would not be possible without access to the natural world that has been stewarded since time immemorial by the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and Indigenous peoples who have walked and continue to walk and steward these places on Turtle Island. We begin with gratitude and the utmost respect for the many Inuit, First Nations, Métis, and other Indigenous peoples whose Lands support such wonderful outdoor learning experiences for the youth of today. We thank the guardians of these spaces as well as the educators fluent in the languages of connection to these places. We also acknowledge that we as an organization have much to learn and grow as we continue our work in support of reconciliation and in supporting educators in rising to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action numbers 6, 12, & 62 – 66.

# Message from our Executive Director



In 2025, we saw continued growth in engagement, support, and momentum for outdoor learning across the country. With a small team and strong partnerships, we engaged more than 73,000 educators through initiatives and activities over the past year - supporting opportunities for over one million students and learners to spend more time learning outdoors.

We continued to deliver high-quality professional learning through our courses, workshops, initiatives, and conferences. In 2025, we piloted the Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference, welcoming 325 school system leaders to Banff, Alberta for three days of systems-change learning. We also launched Educator Wellness Retreats in Ontario and BC to address teacher burnout and compassion fatigue, immersing participants in three days of reconnection and rejuvenation through time outside and on the land. Our national Mentorship Program continued to connect educators across the country, providing support for educators new to outdoor learning. We expanded our K-12 Outdoor Learning Certification Program to include both French-language offerings and an Early Years course, increasing accessibility and reach. To address a common barrier, we launched the Outdoor Learning Gear Fund, providing 24 classrooms with \$500 grants to purchase essential outdoor learning gear such as mitts, toques, and raincoats.

Internally, we strengthened our organizational foundation by convening a new Research Advisory Committee, bringing together academics and researchers from across Canada to guide and review research projects. We also expanded our Board of Directors and developed a comprehensive business plan to support the long-term sustainability of our work. This report offers a snapshot of the past year, and we hope you find it as inspiring and energizing as we do.

## Year in Review

**73,000+**

Educators participating in a Take Me Outside event or campaign

**1 Million+**

Learners that participated in TMO initiatives

**29,400+**

Educators participating in seasonal Outdoor Learning workshops

**17 Million+**

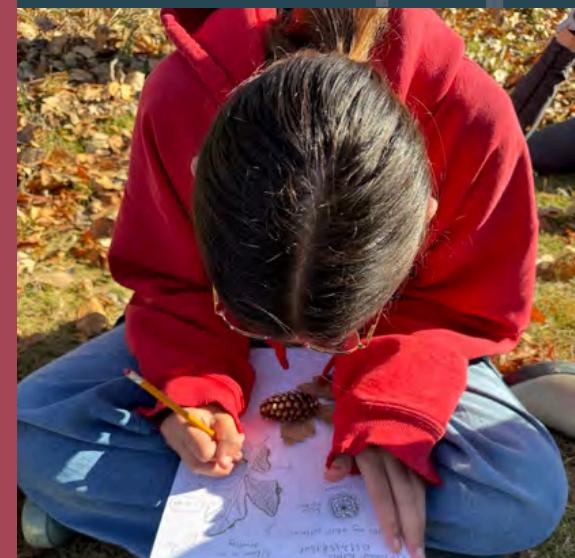
Learner hours spent outside

**400+**

Resources for educators

**100+**

Outdoor Learning Partners



**TAKE ME OUTSIDE WEEK OCT 20-24**  
**ARE YOU IN TO GET OUT?**  
 Join close to 1 million learners and educators helping raise awareness about the importance of getting outside and learning!

**FRI 24**  
**DAY OF REFLECTION**

**MON 20**  
**INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**  
 Strong Nations

**TUES 21**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION**

**WED 22**  
**TAKE ME OUTSIDE DAY**

**THURS 23**  
**HEALTH & WELLBEING**

**MOVE**  
 by GoodLife Kids

**PHE Canada**



*“Thank you for the incredible organization and updates. I LOVED all the extension activities and that you provided learning for K-8 and French Immersion. I also loved the flexibility to watch the livestreams later.*

*Educator and 2025 TMO Day participant*

## Take Me Outside Day Impact At A Glance

**26,200+**  
 Participating Educators

**655,000+**

Learners who went outside for Take Me Outside Day

**6.5 Million+**

Learner hours spent outside

**60.5%**

First time participants

**6+**

Partnering organizations

**3**

Partnering School Boards:  
 District School Board of Niagara,  
 Toronto Catholic District School Board, and Halton School Board

*“A student said, ‘It’s like we learn and play at the same time!’ ...and that really summed up what the week is all about.*

*Educator and 2025 TMO Day participant*

# TAKE ME OUTSIDE for learning

## SCHOOL YEAR CHALLENGE 2025/2026

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

Because not all  
classrooms have  
four walls



**14,500+**

Educators registered for  
the year-long Challenge

**363,400+**

Learners engaged in  
regular outdoor learning

**10 Million +**

Hours spent learning  
outside

**59%**

First time participants

**70%**

Of surveyed participants  
used resources from the  
monthly mailouts

**65%**

Of surveyed participants  
from the 2024-25  
challenge went outside  
every week for one hour  
or more!



*My students, based on the planting newsletter, decided to create an action project to help local pollinators and to help beautify our community. We decided to make native seed bombs and seed packs from 100% recycled paper from our school. They made paper pulp for the seed bombs and even used recycled paper to design envelopes. We prevented over 30lbs of paper being thrown out and made over 400 seed bombs and 500 seed packs.*

*Educator and 2024-2025 Learning Challenge participant*

FEB 24 - MAR 7, 2025  
OUTDOOR LEARNING

# WINTER CHALLENGE

Outdoor learning can happen every day, in  
every season!

Participate in the

#TMOWinterChallenge



**“**  
*Our most memorable moment was how excited the students got to fill in our Winter Challenge sheet as we completed a new day. They were so excited when we completed the challenge and just wanted to do more!*

*2025 Winter Challenge participant*



**1000+**

Educators participating over 10 days

**28,800+**

Learners outside throughout the challenge

**“**

*The Winter Challenge was most memorable with my students being in Muskoka and playing in the outdoors where the snow was higher than the Kinder Fence and the smiles on their faces said it all. They loved being in their snow suits playing, building, designing, creating and just being outside! Thanks for encouraging everyone to be outside!*

*Educator and 2025 Winter Challenge participant*



## Congratulations to our 2025 Student Video Contest Winners!

Our Grand Prize Winner was Iseya Tallio from Bella Coola, BC. Iseya's film was shot as part of an assignment from an Outdoor Ed year-end trip that included 5 days on the land canoeing and camping last June.

All the winners in other categories worked hard to make some great short films about their backyard in Canada and the importance of spending time outside. Each winner received gift cards from MEC to help get them out there even more.

Additionally, the Grand Prize Winner received an all expenses paid trip to Banff and had their film highlighted as part of the internationally acclaimed 2025 Banff Mountain Book and Film Festival.

The winners from all the categories included:

**Grades 7-12 Second Place Winner:** Mary Waddington - Calgary, AB

**K-12 Class First Place Winner:** Dylan Huntly, Grade 6/7 Class - Winnipeg, MB

**K-12 Class Second Place Winner:** Danielle Nelson, St. Patrick's School - Victoria, BC

**Grade K-6 Category Winner:** Ava Lawrence - Creston, BC

A huge thanks to MEC, the Banff Centre, the Banff Airporter, and the Banff Mountain Film Festival for their support in this project. This community has truly supported this contest and is committed to engaging youth in exploring Canada's amazing backyard.



**BANFF AIRPORTER**  
Leading the way

# 2025 OUTDOOR LEARNING CONFERENCE MAY 8-10 BANFF, AB

## PLACE & PEDAGOGY: Where Learning Happens

Join us in beautiful Banff National Park, Alberta for the chance to connect with experts in the field, colleagues, and community partners through workshops, panels, and keynote speakers.

The conference will focus on three main topics:

- Climate change and environmental education
- Indigenous knowledge & perspectives
- Health and well-being

Register online:  
[takemeoutside.ca/conference](http://takemeoutside.ca/conference)

450+

Educators present

185

Presenters featured

109

Workshops delivered



“

*The Outdoor Learning Conference was the most significant event I have attended in all of my career. I am an educator with 40+ years and a conference such as this would have helped me greatly in my early years as a teacher.*

2025 Educator Conference participant

“

*This has been one of the most life-changing opportunities of my life! From the very start, the organizers were very inclusive and accommodating, allowing me the opportunity to attend such an amazing learning conference. I am inherently grateful and will be advocating for such opportunities to my peers and my students. Thank you to everyone who had anything to do with organizing, hosting, teaching and taking part in this amazing conference!*

2025 Educator Conference participant





# Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference

School system leaders across Canada came together in Banff, AB in October 2025 for Take Me Outside's inaugural Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference, exploring Place and Pedagogy: Where Learning Happens. 325 school system leaders attended the conference from across multiple provinces and territories, and participants included principals, vice principals, district consultants, instructional leaders, directors, senior administration, researchers and policy leaders. Together they explored the collective call to bring learners outside more often.

“

*The Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference was the most impactful professional development I have attended. It has ignited a continued passion of mine and it gave me specific ideas and actions that I can bring to my local school division. The presenters were outstanding with not only a wealth of research and knowledge, but with a passion and an ability to engage participants. All around a transformative experience.*

*Thank you!*

*2025 Leadership Conference participant*

“

*I feel grateful and infinitely lucky to have been able to attend and present at your inaugural Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference. It was an energizing, galvanizing experience and I feel like we are at a tipping point for positive action on land-based programming in this country. We need more opportunities for Indigenous knowledge keepers, leaders, researchers, educators, and administrators to connect, form networks, and authentic relationships to make change happen! Thank you for being catalysts for change!*

*2025 Leadership Conference participant*

**325+**

School Systems Leaders present

**4**

Keynotes

**4**

Ted-Style Talks

**43**

Workshops delivered

**74**

Presenters featured





# EDUCATOR WELLNESS *retreats*



**75**

Participants at  
2 Educator Wellness  
Retreats in Ontario  
and British  
Columbia

**250**

Participants  
at 1 Administrator  
Wellness Retreat

**95%**

of participants  
reported an increase  
in feeling well and  
restored after the  
Educator Retreat

**92%**

of participants reported  
feeling a deeper  
connection to nature  
and inspired to spend  
more time outside after  
the Educator Retreat

**94%**

of participants want to  
increase how much they  
incorporate outdoor  
learning into their  
teaching as a result of  
the Educator Retreat

**“**

*The Educator Wellness Retreat was truly a life changing experience. As educators, we are always looking out for others but rarely take time to look after ourselves. This weekend was an amazing chance to connect with like-minded people and do incredible programming centred around a shared love of nature. It served as an important reminder that nature is not just a place to visit, it's truly where we belong.*

*Ontario Educator Wellness Retreat participant*

**”**

*The best Professional Development! It was a magical blend of Indigenous learning, time spent in nature, connecting with other educators, and recharging my batteries with personal care (yoga and journaling). Sign me up for the next educator wellness retreat!!*

*BC Educator Wellness Retreat participant*



EEPSA  
Environmental Educators  
Professional Association



OUTDOOR LEARNING  
**MENTORSHIP**  
SUPPORT connect GROW



“

*Thank you very much for the first session of a fantastic virtual campfire. I enjoyed listening to all the facilitators/mentors and learning about the various resources, ideas, and connections made with others. It was organized well and full of information, and I was so happy that I signed up for the program!*

*2024-2025 Mentorship Program Participant*

**65**

Outdoor Learning  
Mentors

**110+**

Mentee  
participants

**8**

Virtual Campfires

**4+**

Different ways to  
connect with  
Mentors

# OUTDOOR LEARNING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



COûT  
\$199  
10 modules

## FEATURING

- 1 30 hours of course content
- 2 Live workshops with course instructors
- 3 Support and feedback on your participation
- 4 Monday ready activities to implement with your class
- 5 Community building and peer to peer reflection throughout
- 6 10 modules in a timeframe that works with your schedule

This online certification is designed for K-12 educators. The 10 modules that will help integrate outdoor learning into your teaching practice include:

- 1 Introduction to Outdoor Learning
- 2 Outdoor Learning 'Outside of the classroom'
- 3 Setting Up for Success & Risk Assessment
- 4 Lesson Planning for Outdoor Learning
- 5 Concept 1: Relationship
- 6 Concept 2: Respect
- 7 Concept 3: Reciprocity
- 8 Concept 4: Responsibility
- 9 Assessment in the Outdoors
- 10 Embedding the Learning



DÉVELOPPEMENT PROFESSIONNEL POUR LES ÉDUCATEURS.ICES DE LA MATERNELLE À LA FIN DU SECONDAIRE EN APPRENTISSAGE EN PLEIN AIR



COÛT  
\$199  
10 modules

## PROGRAMME DE CERTIFICATION DE L'APPRENTISSAGE EN PLEIN AIR



- Ce cours comprend :
- 1 30 heures de cours
  - 2 Live workshops direct avec les formateurs et les participants
  - 3 Support et retour sur votre participation
  - 4 Des activités pratiques à être mises en œuvre dans votre classe
  - 5 Création d'une communauté de réflexion entre pairs tout au long du cours
  - 6 10 modules dans un délai adapté à votre emploi du temps
  - 7 Gérez l'évaluation en ligne et en continu pour les éducateurs.ices de la maternelle à la fin du secondaire

Les 10 modules qui vous aideront à intégrer l'apprentissage en plein air dans votre pratique d'enseignement sont les suivants :

- 1 Introduction à la certification de l'apprentissage en plein air
- 2 L'apprentissage en plein air
- 3 Se préparer pour le succès
- 4 Concept 1 : Réciprocité
- 5 Concept 2 : Relation
- 6 Concept 3 : Respect
- 7 Concept 4 : Responsabilité
- 8 Planification des leçons pour l'apprentissage en plein air
- 9 L'évaluation en plein air
- 10 Intégrer l'apprentissage

INSCRIVEZ-VOUS DÉS AUJOURD'HUI

[takemeoutside.ca/certification](http://takemeoutside.ca/certification)

# Certification Courses

Take Me Outside, in partnership with The Outdoor Learning School and Store, expanded our professional learning offerings in 2025 by launching a new French version of our Outdoor Learning Certification Program for K-12 educators: Programme De Certification De L'Apprentissage En Plein Air, translated by Karine Céré.

765+

Participants enrolled  
in courses

9

Virtual sessions  
offered

99%

of educators shared  
they found the course  
useful or very useful to  
their understanding of  
outdoor learning

97%

of educators reported  
they are likely or very  
likely to implement  
outdoor learning into  
their teaching practice  
after taking the course



# Early Years Certification Course

In 2025, TMO launched a new Outdoor Play and Learning Certification Course in partnership with The Outdoor Learning School and Store. The course comprises approximately 30 hours of self-paced learning. It was created and developed by leaders in Outdoor Play and Learning, including Christina Pickles, Katie Hodder, Alyson McMullen, Alysse Kennedy, Louise de Lannoy and Elizabeth Boileau. It was designed to be an introduction to outdoor play and learning in the early years, providing a strong foundation with many practical ideas educators can implement in an early years context.



OUTDOOR PLAY & LEARNING  
FOR EARLY YEARS EDUCATORS

COST: \$95  
10 modules

Outdoor Play and Learning Certification Course

- 30 hours of course content (10 modules)
- Work through the course at your own pace
- Hands-on activities to use with your learners ages 0-6

ENROLL TODAY [takemeoutside.ca/certification-early-years](https://takemeoutside.ca/certification-early-years)

**TAKE ME OUTSIDE** **OUTDOOR LEARNING**

*This course beautifully demonstrates why outdoor learning matters and how educators can make it happen in their own settings. It's meaningful, practical, and deeply inspiring. As someone already working in this field, I truly value seeing more opportunities like this that strengthen and grow our outdoor learning community.*

*Rochellie Lywin, Alberta, Educator and Owner of Three Pines Outdoor and Nature Play*

## School Board Subscription Package

Take Me Outside had 6 school board subscribers for 2025. This subscription service is offered in partnership with The Outdoor Learning Store and includes a comprehensive package providing school boards and districts with the newest resources, ongoing support, professional development opportunities for administrators and staff, swag, and more. Both Enhanced and Standard Subscription options were offered to those wanting to take the next step to place-based learning outside. Thank you to our 2025 school board subscribers!



Conseil scolaire  
francophone de la  
Colombie-Britannique



**TUESDAYS**  
60 mins  
Jan - Feb

**FREE!**

**Outdoor Learning**  
Winter Virtual Workshops

**REGISTER NOW >** [OUTDOORLEARNING.COM](http://OUTDOORLEARNING.COM)

**14 January**  
Outdoor Learning in the Early Years

**18 February**  
Indigenous Resources for the Early & Elementary Years

**4 February**  
Climate & Sustainability Outdoor Learning Games and Resources

**25 February**  
Teaching Ideas & Activities for using Sit Spots

**11 February**  
Disability Justice in Outdoor Learning

**A CHARITABLE NON PROFIT**  
**OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHOOL & STORE**

**TAKE ME OUTSIDE**

**FREE**

**TUESDAYS**  
60 mins  
April to June

**2025 Spring**  
Outdoor Learning Virtual Workshops

**REGISTER AT: [OUTDOORLEARNING.COM/EVENT](http://OUTDOORLEARNING.COM/EVENT)**

**15 April**  
Learning in the Garden  
Activities, Lessons & Resources

**20 May**  
Claws, Paws & Jaws:  
Resources for Teaching about Wildlife

**22 April**  
Outdoor Learning  
Across the Curriculum

**27 May**  
Being Held & Known by the Land:  
Indigenous Resources for Outdoor Learning

**29 April**  
STEAM Learning Outdoors

**3 June**  
New Indigenous Learning  
Resources for the Elementary Years

**OUTDOOR LEARNING**  
RESOURCES, TOOLS & ACTIVITIES  
**OUTDOORLEARNING.COM**  
**SCHOOL & STORE**

**TAKE ME OUTSIDE**

**Free 1 Hour Virtual Workshops!**  
**Fall 2025**

**Learning from the Land: Indigenous Teachings & Resources**

**Learning through Lifecycles: A Spotlight on Salmon**

**Taking Science Outdoors! Resources, Tools & Activities**

**Indigenous Learning across the Seasons**

**Outdoor Learning in Parks & Protected Places**

**Outdoor Learning in the Early Years**

**oct 21**  
**oct 7**  
**oct 28**  
**oct 14**

**oct 21**  
**oct 7**  
**oct 28**  
**oct 14**

**A CHARITABLE NON PROFIT**  
**OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHOOL & STORE**

**TAKE ME OUTSIDE**

**REGISTER [OUTDOORLEARNING.COM/EVENT](http://OUTDOORLEARNING.COM/EVENT)**

# Seasonal Educator Workshops

Our 2025 seasonal educator workshops, offered in partnership with The Outdoor Learning School and Store, featured amazing leaders in outdoor learning who led 16 virtual workshops to a community of over **29,400+ educators!** Themes ranged from Indigenous Resources for Outdoor Learning to Climate Education and Sustainability, along with sessions highlighting core Outdoor Learning routines like sit spots and nature journaling.



# Building Capacity

2025 was a year of significant growth for Take Me Outside! Highlights included:

- Welcoming our fourth full-time staff member Michaela Binda as our Administrative & Communications Coordinator, along with part-time Director of Finance Degju Suwal and Product Fulfillment & Shipping Lead Nanako Emori
- Welcoming incredible new Board members: Willow McGrath, Dr. Lindy Henderson, Dr. Janet Dyment, Michael Nadler, and Audrey Pring
- Creating the new TMO Research Advisory Council
- Growing our monthly newsletter community to 58,000+ and hitting record participant numbers for our programs and initiatives
- Launching the first Outdoor Learning Leadership Conference for school system leaders
- Our Outdoor Learning Educator Conference selling out in record time- under 15 minutes!
- Piloting Educator and Administrator Wellness Retreats in Ontario and BC
- Launching two new online Outdoor Learning Certification Courses: Programme De Certification De L'Apprentissage En Plein Air and the Outdoor Play and Learning Certification Course for Early Years Educators
- Creating a new Outdoor Learning Gear Fund to help remove barriers and increase access to outdoor learning
- Launching a more modern and streamlined version of our website, an updated Resource Directory and creating a TMO Substack
- Fostering new relationships and connections in the outdoor learning community, deepening our relationships with those we are already partnering with, and creating more opportunities for collaboration

## Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA)

We continue to embed EDIA into every aspect of our work. This includes (but is not limited to) working to honour Indigenous Knowledge and Ways of Knowing, weaving it throughout our programs and events and centering and amplifying First Nations, Inuit and Métis voices. It also includes offering subsidized registrations for our events to increase access for historically marginalized and underrepresented communities. We're also building relationships with outdoor learning leaders with diverse lived experiences, centering and amplifying their voices and work, along with getting direct feedback from educators so we can remove barriers and best support them and their learners. We continue to value and highlight a wide variety of approaches to outdoor learning and prioritize the accessibility of outdoor learning for ALL educators and learners across Canada.



# Teacher Advisory Committee (TAC)

Recognizing the importance of considering the unique needs of educators across Canada, we are so thankful to be working with the TMO Teacher Advisory Committee (TAC) to increase feedback from educators who are currently enmeshed in outdoor learning. The TAC is essential in supporting TMO in making decisions that best support the diverse needs of as many educators as possible. Formed in fall 2021, the Committee meets online every month during the school year to help shape the direction and work of Take Me Outside. The TAC has 27 teacher representatives from a diversity of geographical, teaching grade levels, and cultural groups in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, and PEI. The advisory members help TMO connect to a wider audience and harness effective ways to inspire and empower educators in taking their learners outside on a regular basis. In 2025, the TAC provided valuable feedback on topics such as how educators currently access professional development opportunities and educational resources across Canada, along with how we can improve our certification courses and programs to increase engagement and best support educators.

## **Thank you to our Teacher Advisory Committee Members!**

Abi Henneberry	Eileen Gerrow	Karin Westland	Anne-Michèle Simard
Bela Ferreira	Ellen Jamieson	Lauren Willms	Susan McGarvey
Brooke Williamson	Isabelle Falardeau	Leanne Cornelsen	Stephanie Alcock
Carolyn Fornataro	Isabella Liu	Maggie Robertson	Sylvie Tissandier
Carolyn D Johnston	Jennifer Loukras	Michelle Pomeroy	Vanessa Scoon
Christina Long	Julie Gagnon	Myla Bouckley	Xena Biffert
Court Rustemeyer	Kelly Fahey	Nina Sampson	And our committee chair, Nick Townley!

# Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

The Research Advisory Committee is comprised of academics and scholars across Canada. This advisory committee helps guide research initiatives that will generate actionable insights and provide recommendations to guide the broader work TMO is pursuing in relation to outdoor learning.

## **Thank you to our Research Advisory Committee Members:**

Dr. Fiona Watkins	Dr. Sarah Brown	Dr. Lindy Henderson	Dr. Blair Niblett
Dr. Astrid Kendrick	Alyson McMullen	Dr. Patrick Maher	Dr. Lisa Taylor
Dr. Jenn Gruno	Dr. Alysse Kennedy	Dr. Chúk Odenigbo	Dr. Kevin Kiers
	Dr. Louise de Lannoy	Dr. Jacqueline L. Scott	

OUTDOOR LEARNING  
**GEAR FUND**



## Outdoor Learning Gear Fund

Outdoor learning offers numerous benefits for students, including well-being, learning, and belonging. But we consistently hear from educators who are working in lower income areas that one of the biggest barriers they experience in getting outside with their learners is a lack of warm and weather-appropriate clothing to keep their learners prepared and comfortable.

Teachers have identified a need for support to help make outdoor gear available to students, noting that children often come to school unsuitably dressed for the weather which makes it challenging to take learners outside for learning.

This is why we started a new Outdoor Learning Gear Fund - to help support Canadian educators directly with funds they can use to purchase outdoor gear for their learners. Removing barriers and increasing accessibility to outdoor learning is paramount, and this is one tangible way we can do just that!

The 2025-26 Outdoor Learning Gear Fund will provide \$500 grants to 24 classes, supporting students who face socioeconomic barriers. Funding goes directly toward essential clothing items - mitts, boots, toques, jackets, rain gear, and more - so that weather is never a reason to stay indoors. The application process was open in the fall of 2025 and funding will be allocated in January 2026.

# Bringing Learning Outdoors, Every Day

We believe in a future where spending time outside learning, playing and exploring is a regular and significant part of every learner's day.

[Donate](#)[Get Involved](#)

## Website Update

In 2025, we shared our brand new website! Web Developer Shawn Wernig re-designed it to make it easier than ever to navigate, access resources, and find information.



## Educational Resource Directory

We also updated our online **Educational Resource Directory**, improving the search criteria and filtering functionality, and adding more resources so that it includes over 400 curated resources, activities and curriculum-linked lessons that educators can find easily by using search criteria such as subject, theme or ages of learners. We especially love featuring resources from our 100+ Outdoor Learning partners, sharing their valuable contributions to this field!





We also launched some exciting new merchandise in 2025, including hoodies, tote bags, five panel hats and stickers!



## TMO Collection in MEC Stores

For the second year in a row, Take Me Outside merchandise was featured in Mountain Equipment Company (MEC) stores across Canada! Having our TMO t-shirts and hats featured and sold in MEC stores was a wonderful way to celebrate being an MEC Outdoor Impact partner since 2011.



4

Dr. Jacqueline Scott  
**Breaking Barriers:**  
Race and Outdoor Learning

## TMO Podcast and Substack

In 2025, we created a Substack to help share thought leadership in outdoor learning. The TMO podcast welcomed incredible guests and episodes included: Dr. Jacqueline Scott on Breaking Barriers: Race and Outdoor Learning; Digital Balance: Why Nature Matters More Than Ever with Kerry Crofton; Educator Wellbeing: Connecting Teacher Wellness with Outdoor Learning with Dr. Astrid Kendrick and a Land-based Learning: What It Is And Isn't panel discussion with Dr. Lindy Henderson, Nicki Ferland, Daryl Kootenay and Dr. Sarah Brown.

Take Me Outside

# STRATEGIC PLAN

2025-2027



## Strategic Plan

Looking ahead for Take Me Outside, our Strategic Plan outlines three long term and impact focussed outcomes for TMO in the next 2 years:

### **Educator and Learner Health and Wellbeing:**

Decreased symptoms of anxiety or depression and improved physical and mental wellbeing, as a result of learning happening outside. This includes addressing an educator population that is experiencing higher rates of burnout.

1

**Environmental Literacy:** Increased connection to the environment leading to a deeper understanding of environmental issues like climate change, as a result of learning happening outside.

2

**Commitment to Reconciliation:** By uplifting and amplifying Indigenous Knowledge, perspectives and Ways of Knowing, learners can connect more deeply to the land to help facilitate action on Truth and Reconciliation.

With amazing partners and dedicated educators, we think we can contribute to this positive change around where learning happens.



# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS!

A huge thank you to all of our amazing outdoor learning partners!



**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. We were thrilled to welcome even more partners on board in 2025, to join together through our shared vision of learning beyond the four walls of a classroom.**

Accelerating Climate Change Education in Teacher Education  
Accessibility & Inclusion Consultant  
Accessibility & Inclusion Consultant - Karen Lai  
Alaska Natural Resource & Outdoor Education Association  
Alberta Council for Environmental Education  
Arizona Association for Environmental Education  
Arkansas Environmental Education Association  
BC Classrooms to Communities Network Society  
BC Environmental Educators Provincial Specialist Association  
BC Parks Foundation  
Be the Change Earth Alliance  
Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley  
Break the Divide Foundation  
California Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education  
Camp Kawartha  
Canadian Council on Invasive Species - Youth EcoStewards  
Canadian Network for Environmental Education & Communication  
Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society  
Center for Green Schools at USGBC  
Child & Nature Alliance of Canada  
Clean Foundation  
CLEARING  
CLEARING MAGAZINE  
Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network  
Columbia Outdoor School  
Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association  
Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario  
Discover the Universe / À la découverte de l'univers  
Diversity Education In Nature  
Door Number One  
Earth Rangers  
EcoSchools Canada  
EcoWisdom Forest Preserve

Elements Society  
Empathy in Nature  
Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia  
Environmental Education Association of Alabama  
Environmental Education Association of Illinois  
Environmental Education Association of Indiana  
Environmental Education of New Mexico  
Environmental Educators of North Carolina  
Environmental Educators Provincial Specialist Association of BC  
Ever Active  
Evergreen  
Exploring by the Seat of Your Pants  
Get Outside & Play  
Global, Environmental & Outdoor Education Council  
Green Schools National Network  
Green Ummah  
GreenLearning  
GreenLearning Canada Foundation  
Idaho Environmental Education Association  
ImaginED  
Inside Education  
Interpretation Canada  
Interpretive Guides Association  
Invasive Species Council of BC  
Jane Goodall Institute - Canada  
KidsGardening  
Learning for a Sustainable Future  
Maine Environmental Education Association  
Manitoba Nature Summit  
Massachusetts Environmental Education Society  
Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education  
Minnesota Association for Environmental Education  
Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance  
National Outdoor Learning Alliance  
National Wildlife Federation | EcoSchools U.S.  
Natural Curiosity  
Nature NB  
Nature-Action Québec  
NatureForAll  
NatureKidsBC

Nebraska Alliance for Conservation and Environment Education  
New Brunswick Environmental Network  
New Hampshire Environmental Educators  
Ocean Networks Canada  
Ocean Wise  
Ontario Society For Environmental Education  
Outdoor Council of Canada  
Outdoor Learning School & Store  
Outdoor Play Canada  
Outward Bound Canada  
Pacific Foundation for the Understanding of Nature Society  
Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators  
Project WET  
rare Charitable Research Reserve  
Rise Up Indigenous Wellness Society  
River Institute  
Room to Play Consulting  
SaskOutdoors  
Science World  
Stoked on Science  
Strong Nations  
Take Me Outside  
Teach Outdoors  
Tennessee Environmental Education Association  
The Morpho Institute  
The Seasonal Body  
The Wildlands Conservancy  
Total NM  
UrbaNature Education  
Virginia Association for Environmental Education  
VITA XXI SLP  
Washington Environmental Education  
Washington Nature Preschool Association  
Water Rangers  
Wild Learning  
Wildsight  
Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education  
Wyoming Alliance for Environmental Education

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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*The Educator Wellness Retreat was transformative. As educators, we rarely recognize that we need time to pause, recharge, and reconnect with nature. The retreat was thoughtfully planned and executed. I left with my heart filled with gratitude, and a renewed sense of purpose. So much healing took place in a short time – I appreciated every moment. Do not hesitate to sign up for the next one! I will definitely be there.*

*Ontario Educator Wellness Retreat participant*

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*We were outside one morning and as I was walking around one of the students remarked, ‘Thank you so much for taking us outside, it makes me feel good to be out here!’*

*Educator and 2024-2025 Learning Challenge Participant*