

Emerald Youth Grants

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#### MUNICIPAL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION CENTRE

**29th Annual Emerald Award Recipient** Community Group or Nonprofit Association: Large Organization



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The Alberta Emerald Foundation (AEF) has been the goodnews environmental storytellers since 1991. We are a nonprofit organization that showcases and inspires our province's environmental achievements through the annual Emerald Awards. Through our Sharing Stories Communications Strategy, the incredible work of Emerald recipients is highlighted and celebrated year-round. What began as the Emerald Awards has evolved into an ongoing conversation.

The AEF empowers the next generation by providing grants to youth-led and youth-targeted environmental initiatives in our province. The Emerald Educational Engagement Grants Program funds up to 30 groups a year for their dream environmental project inspired by the Emerald Documentary Series, What On EARTH Can We Do? Podcast, and Emerald Speakers Series. After finding inspiration from this content featuring Emerald recipients, submit your pitch to us online. If it's accepted, you will receive \$750, thanks to our sponsor Syncrude Canada Ltd., to make your project a reality.

We encourage you to use this study guide as a resource to help you along in your project's journey. For more information, please visit emeraldfoundation.ca.

# THE AEF

#### Who We Are.



#### What they're all about.

Mission: to help municipalities **mitigate** and build resilience to climate change.

The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) is a collaboration project delivered by the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

Since 2009, the MCCAC has been helping Alberta **municipalities**, schools, and nonprofit/community organizations reduce **greenhouse gas emissions**. MCCAC creates programs to help overcome organizational challenges, building capacity, and implement projects. Some programs they have run in the past include, but are not limited to, lighting **retrofits**, **climate** 



adaptation workshops, installation of **solar photovoltaic systems**, and online learning centers. These programs support long term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions which generate savings that can be



reinvested in future energy-saving initiatives.

MCCAC has supported over 145 municipalities with program delivery and other services. Over 319 organizations have participated in their programs. With their support, the Town of Raymond became the first Canadian municipality to be **electrically net-zero**. As well, they helped install Canada's largest rooftop solar photovoltaic system in the City of Airdrie. From their successes, the MCCAC has been chosen as Alberta's regional climate advisor.



As of January 31, 2020, the MCCAC has completed 522 energy efficiency and **renewable energy** projects. This has resulted in \$2.5 million savings and 16,977 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions avoided every year. The MCCAC continues to advocate for **sustainable**, flexible, and diverse solutions.



ERMS		
Know your lingo.		
severe or intense.	Electrically Net-zero:	when the energy u equal to the amour
local government.	Renewable energy:	energy that is prod replaced within a h examples include v
hat absorbs heat into the amounts of greenhouse gases to global warming because it mosphere and traps it there.	Sustainable:	practices that allow economic needs to generations in the
stem to something that did not nally built.		
veather conditions in an area.		
one or more solar panels echanical hardware. Together, erate electricity.		

Mitigate:	to make something less severe or intense.	
Municipality:	a city or town that has a local government.	
Greenhouse gas emissions:	use the release of any gas that absorbs heat into the atmosphere. Excessive amounts of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere leads to global warming because it absorbs heat into the atmosphere and traps it there.	
Retrofits:	installing a device or system to something that did not have it when it was originally built.	
Climate:	the average long term weather conditions in an area.	
Solar Photovoltaics Systems:	<ul> <li>a system composed of one or more solar panels</li> <li>combined with other mechanical hardware. Together,</li> <li>they use sunlight to generate electricity.</li> </ul>	
Reinvested:	to put money back into the same initial investment.	



/ used up by something is relatively ount of renewable energy it produced.

oduced from sources that can be a human's lifetime. Some common e wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal.

low environmental, social, and to be met now and for future ne long term.



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#### Let's talk about it.





#### Inspiration for your EEEG project.

Think of a problem at your school or home that is affecting the environmental impact of the building. Come up with a solution and implement it.

Start a fundraiser for your school to make an infrastructure change, such as installing solar panels or water bottle fountains.

Check the types of light bulbs you have at home. Replace the regular light bulbs with more efficient fluorescent light bulbs.

Create a "Walk to School Wednesday" program to reduce carbon emissions.



### CONTINUING WORK



## RESOURCES



	Click to discover.	
	Municipal Climate Change Action Centre	
	Rural Municipalities of Alberta	
	Alberta Urban Municipalities Association	
	Alberta orban Municipalities Association	
	Renewable vs Non-Renewable Energy Sources	
	5 Ways to Make Your School More Sustainable	
	9 School Fundraising Ideas	
	How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint	
	How Buildings Impact the Environment	
	16 Ways to Make Your Home More Energy Efficient	
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### Emerald Youth Grants

The AEF would like to thank **Syncrude Canada Ltd.** for their sponsorship of the Emerald Youth Grants Program. As well, we'd like to thank **Hoopla Media** and **Studio Hazel** for making our content look so good.

This study guide was written and designed by AEF summer student Leslie Guo.

Click to apply for an Emerald Youth Grant!

Let's get social!