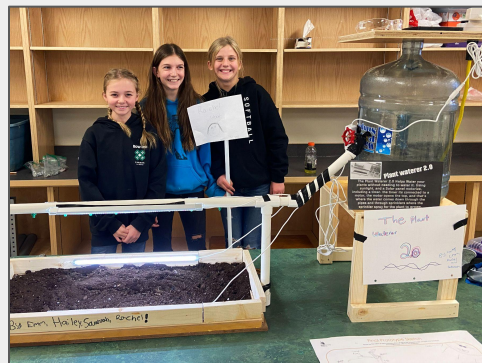


Chinook's Edge middle school students make exciting Career Connections during Skills Exploration Day

Students at Innisfail Middle School and École Deer Meadow School rolled up their sleeves for the annual [Skills Canada Alberta](#) event last Tuesday. They worked in groups to research and prepare a project plan based on this year's topic, which was growing sustainable crops in a changing climate, and then spent the entire day immersed in constructing the prototypes together at their schools. With direct links to Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) curriculum, the day is meant to promote trade and technology careers as a valuable and rewarding option. Moving forward, many Chinook's Edge high school students go on to compete at Skills Canada Alberta.

This is the third year Innisfail Middle has taken part in the event, and Grade 6 students were guided by teacher Cody Pivert. Skills Canada Alberta provides tools to support the projects each year, which the school is able to keep to benefit even more students.



Grade 8 students from Deer Meadow took part in Skills Exploration Day, with teacher Sandi Hoppins. This was also the third time the Olds school shared the opportunity with students.



Relationships Matter! Support Staff Matter and Students Matter committees (including Indigenous Students Matter) met in person at division office last Thursday. Everyone was pleased to be together and the agendas were full!

Coordinator Patrick Mitsuing brought an Indigenous perspective to Students Matter sessions throughout the day, and other speakers focused on ideas to support positive mental health. Students were kind, compassionate and candid as they learned together, and they indicated that schools are a key hub for positive relationships. They appreciate all the work to support students, academically and with social emotional needs.