



Excellence in Experiential Education Program

The Wallace McCain Institute’s philosophy is to enhance entrepreneurship in the province of New Brunswick and the surrounding region. To ensure our entrepreneurs are successful, they need a strong workforce. Youth need practical skills as well as content knowledge to contribute in this 21st century workforce, and project-based learning, or experiential education, gives students the skills our business owners are looking for in their employees: collaboration, problem solving, critical literacy, and presentation skills among others. E3 engages educators who facilitate the experiential education that fosters the skills our entrepreneurs are demanding from our younger generation as they enter the workplace. Our goal with this program is to foster strong and long-term communication among this group of educators so they can work together to face and solve common problems, as well as share ideas to grow this method of teaching within a traditional model.

PROFILE

Participants in the E3 program are High School teachers within New Brunswick dedicated to the growth of experiential, project-based learning within the New Brunswick school system. They face hurdles at their schools , districts and provincially, as well as personal challenges with planning, management and assessment, while implementing this new style of teaching and learning.



- ### Common challenges for discussion
- Evaluation techniques
 - Meeting curriculum demands
 - Team dynamics of students range of skills
 - Keep the distance while supporting learning
 - Engaging community, DEC, parents, peers
 - Change management
 - Removing roadblocks; dealing with red tape
 - Year to year project continuity
 - Branding the program as a “real” science

- ### Benefits to the peer group
- Share best practices with other peers
 - Get ideas from others (speakers)
 - Be validated and empowered just knowing the business community wants the product of this teaching style
 - Develop a common (and louder) voice to lobby and push for key changes



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Suggested Schedule

Aug	27-29th - Evening plus 2 days to kickstart the peer group
Nov	2-3rd - Friday evening and all day Saturday
Jan	18-19th - Friday evening and all day Saturday
Mar	15-16th - Friday evening and all day Saturday
May	10-11th - Friday evening and all day Saturday
July	5-6th - Final Session - Lessons learned, plans for change

TYPICAL SESSION SCHEDULE

Friday 6 - 9 Dinner and Forum

Saturday

- 8 - 9 Breakfast
- 9 - 12 Deep Dives from Forum
- 12 - 1 Lunch
- 1 - 3 Speaker on Theme
- 3 - 5 Deep Dives, goal setting, session end

The program includes six sessions. Sessions are designed to include 30% external content from speakers and 70% internal content from participants.

The Wallace McCain Institute is sponsoring the full cost of running the program. Participants are responsible for their time and travel.

LOCATION

The sessions will all be held at a retreat where the group will have exclusive use of the facility. All meals & meetings will occur on site. Location will be determined once participants are confirmed so a location central to all will be chosen.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

The basic criteria for registrants:

- Project based learning focused
- Prior communication with The Gaia Project
- Committed to growing project based learning

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Name
- School
- # times teaching Environmental Science