



**Ever  
Active  
Schools**  
www.everactive.org



TD Friends of the  
Environment  
Foundation

**bienenstock**  
natural playgrounds



**Wolf Creek Public Schools**  
*Creating Success For All Learners*



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY**

May 1, 2019

@EverActiveAB

For immediate release:

## Outdoor Nature Play Workshop: Monday, May 6, 2019

Lacombe, Alta. — Using an active mentorship model, Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds and Ever Active Schools will be taking teachers and students at École James S. McCormick School in Lacombe, Alta. outside to engage in outdoor play-based learning. Students from grades Pre-K to 3 will have the opportunity to create and plant a school garden.

What you'll see during the event:

- 9:00am-10:20am Grade 3
- 10:55-11:55am Pre-K, K
- 12:40-2:00pm Grade 2
- 2:20-3:20pm Grade 1

The second of three seasonal training opportunities for École James S. McCormick School, funded by TD Friends of the Environment, is focused around planting. Students and teachers will circulate through a number of stations around this theme, including: amending the soil and creating garden beds to promote gross motor skills, core strength and team work; building stick fences to promote ownership of the plants in the garden beds; making bird seed balls for a sensory-rich activity; and planting in newspaper pots for an interesting way to plant seeds and provide continual learning opportunities. Dr. Clark Svrcek from the University of Calgary will be monitoring the session and measuring the impact of the trainings on the teachers' and students' health and well-being through the remainder of the school year.

**TD Friends of the Environment:** Founded by TD Bank Group in 1990, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) is a Canadian national charity. Since 1990, TD FEF has provided over \$90,000,000 to 26,000+ environment projects and planted more than one million trees across Canada.

**Ever Active Schools:** A provincial initiative designed to create and support healthy school communities. Ever Active Schools engages and supports schools through a Comprehensive School Health approach, which addresses health and education goals to improve the social outcomes of children and youth in Alberta.

**Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds:** A world leader in the design and construction of natural playgrounds. Known globally for disruptive design, transformative training and relentless advocacy for authentic connection to nature.

**Dr. Clark Svrcek, University of Calgary:** Family Physician, Department of Family Medicine

University of Calgary. MD, CCFP, P.Eng., M.Eng. Family Physician, South Health Campus  
Academic Teaching Clinic and Clinical Lecturer, Dept. of Family Medicine, University of Calgary

**Wolf Creek Public Schools:** A public school authority in Alberta based out of Ponoka, Alta.

**Media Contacts:**

Kerri Murray, Director of Projects, Ever Active Schools

Phone: (403) 399-6953

Email: [kerri@everactive.org](mailto:kerri@everactive.org)

Gerald Moore, Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds, Director of Marketing

Phone: (905) 975-9076

Email: [Gerald.moore@naturalplaygrounds.ca](mailto:Gerald.moore@naturalplaygrounds.ca)

Adam Bienenstock, Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds, Founder

Email: [adam@naturalplaygrounds.ca](mailto:adam@naturalplaygrounds.ca)

Mandip Kharod, Regional Manager, TD Friends of the Environment

Email: [Mandip.Kharod@td.com](mailto:Mandip.Kharod@td.com)

Dr. Clark Svrcek, University of Calgary

Email: [clark.svrcek@ucalgary.ca](mailto:clark.svrcek@ucalgary.ca)

Tracy Duckett, Principal, École James S. McCormick School, Wolf Creek Public Schools

Email: [tracy.duckett@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:tracy.duckett@wolfcreek.ab.ca)