

MEDIA ADVISORY - For Immediate Release - August 2016

# Let's Learn Outside! Outdoor Education Institute: Connecting to Land and Nature-based Learning

EDMONTON – Alberta teachers, health professionals and leaders in recreation and active living will spend two days in an experiential professional learning opportunity, working on specific priorities of wellness. The Ever Active Schools Summer Institute will educate, engage and embed land and nature based lessons into lesson plans and learning outcomes for school and recreation settings. Participants will have the opportunity to build their knowledge, increase their understanding and leave with tools and practical strategies to support a safe, welcoming, healthy, respectful (and outdoor) learning environment.

# What you'll see:

- Outdoor, active, experiential sessions fostering community, positive mindsets and health through connecting to nature
- Presentations from experts in the field that support the development of the whole child within school and community settings
- Key topics will include, sharing aboriginal culture through storytelling, gardening, risky play, orienteering, social-emotional wellbeing and it's relationship with nature, planning outdoor field trips, and more

### Keynote presentations:

- Antonella Bell is currently a doctoral student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta. The focus of her research is exploring ways to help teachers encourage a caring and respectful relationship between their students and the natural world.
- <u>NaturePlay the Film</u>: Thursday afternoon the institute will offer an exclusive screening of the documentary NaturePlay, a stunning cinematic portrait of Childhood defining education and play.

Ever Active Schools (EAS) is a provincial initiative designed to assist school communities in addressing and creating healthy school communities. EAS contributes to the healthy development of children and youth by fostering social and physical environments that support improving the health and learning outcomes of students in Alberta. <a href="https://www.everactive.org">www.everactive.org</a>.

#### **Media Availability Details:**

DATE: August 24-25th, 2016

TIME: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm on August  $24^{th}$ , 8:30 am - 3:00 pm on August  $25^{th}$ 

LOCATION: Snow Valley Ski Club, 13204, Rainbow Valley Rd. NW Edmonton, AB

# For media inquiries or to book an interview, contact:

KATELYNN THEAL Provincial Projects Coordinator (Cell) 587-983-3640 katelynn@everactive.org HAYLEY DEGAUST Provincial Projects Coordinator Cell 780-405-3734 hayley@everactive.org