2009 Final Report

Educating Youth in Engineering & Science
EYES AT A GLANCE

- We reached nearly 9000 youth in southern Saskatchewan.
- Toured over 400 classrooms in 25 different communities
- Registered over 580 campers in our five separate locations
- Approved over $5000 in bursary applications
- Delivered two weeks of All-Girl programming
- Offered two free weeks of camp in North Central Regina
Note from the Coordinator

Wow, what a summer. I am thrilled to be a part of the EYES team this year. It was an amazing summer and I cannot wait to start planning for next year’s activities. It is my first year with EYES and I consider myself fortunate to be a part of this organization. I would like to thank you for your contribution to EYES. Our partnership has benefited the youth of southern Saskatchewan. We look forward to new discoveries next year. – Ben Freitag

What did the parents have to say?

During the summer we received this email to the EYES account:

“My 9 yr. old son has been a part of your camp this week. Typically he is a quiet and introverted child. Each day when I pick him up he is so excited about what he has done that day that he talks all the way home. Each night he packs his own lunch without being asked and in the morning he jumps out of bed ready and excited about the upcoming day. He has thoroughly enjoyed each day!! Thank you for doing such a wonderful job!”
What did the kids have to say?

At the end of each week, the campers fill out an online survey. Here are some of the results:

Here is what some of the campers had to say about EYES camp this summer:

- “science is very, very fun”
- “EYES will give you many opportunities to improve education (sic)”
- “science is a lot more fun then i thought it would be (sic)”
- “there’s lots of cool stuff in science (sic)”
- “I learnt more about science in 1 week then I have at 5 years of school (sic)”
- “it was a good place to learn about science and engineering”
EYES has an operating budget of $140,000. This year we ran a surplus of $4,000 largely because one of our staff members volunteered with us for the summer. He is on a full scholarship at the University of Texas at Dallas, and needed volunteer hours.
EYES reached nearly 9000 youth through the workshop and camp program. There were five weeks of workshops, which quickly filled up and all but one of our camps were at capacity. We had a total of 11 staff members, 8 full time instructors, 1 part time instructor, 1 assistant coordinator and 1 coordinator. With the high demand for the program, we are planning on expanding our outreach next year.

This year there were 8 camps held in Regina, 1 in Moose Jaw, a new camp in Foam Lake, 1 in Weyburn, 2 All-Girls camps in Regina, and 2 camps in North Central Regina. The All-Girls camps were put into place to provide a safe environment for girls to develop their engineering and scientific skills. The University of Regina currently has 61% female enrollment, however, the ratio drops to 42% for declared science majors and only 20% in engineering. Obviously there is still work to be done. We engage girl campers, with female instructors and bring in female mentors within the fields of science & engineering to meet with our campers. We are also hoping to expand our impact in the North Central community. We have a new grant proposal for NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) which if accepted would allow us to expand our North Central programming to 6 weeks.

EYES is a proud member of Actua. Actua is a registered charity with over 20 years of success in bringing science, engineering and technology to life for more than 2.7 million youth across the country. Each year, through our growing network of member organizations (hosted by universities and colleges), and our Dream Team, we deliver summer camps, school workshops, clubs and community outreach activities to over 225,000 youth in over 450 communities nationwide.
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