



Elizabeth Beesley
The Element
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Dear Elizabeth

On November 27th I had the privilege of presenting the findings of your students' work to the meeting of the Boreal Leadership Council (BLC) in Toronto. As you are aware, this Council is comprised of leaders from Aboriginal communities, industry, the finance sector and conservation groups from across Canada¹. We had representatives from Labrador, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, BC, the Yukon and NWT who came together to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework and to spend two days planning how and what to focus on to accomplish our mission over the next ten years.

In this light, one of our areas of interest is emerging leaders and the opportunities for youth to contribute to a truly sustainable future across Canada's vast boreal forest region. The timing could not have been better to be able to present the work of your class as an example that the next generation are not only aware, but that they show a keen interest in, knowledge of and care for the animals, land, water and people of the north.

The BLC asked me to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation for the work that the students and the staff at your school have undertaken to understand and advance important issues of conservation in the boreal forest. This kind of study and thought in the classroom is a vital part of the foundation for future solutions, so it is very heartening to see the initiative and creative energy put into the case studies you have compiled.

Keep up the great work – the future of the boreal demands and deserves bright minds and big hearts and it was a pleasure to have encountered so many of them in your class!

Sincerely

Alan Young

¹ See www.borealcouncil.ca