



2010 Manitoba Climate Champions – Kelvin High School Organizing Committee

By Susan Lindsay

Imagine if everyone who was passionate about acting on climate change talked to one other person. *Now imagine if they talked to 200 people!* That is exactly what the students at Kelvin High School did. They, with the help of the University of Manitoba, FortWhyte Alive, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Climate Change Connection, ArcticNet, NSERC PromoScience, the Canadian Forces and their teachers educated 200 youth about the science of climate change, the impacts, and the solutions.



left-right: Anne Lindsey - Manitoba Eco Network, Samara Froese - Co-Chair, Ameena Bajer-Koulack - Co-Chair, Dr Danny Blair - University of Winnipeg, Laurie Macdonell - Communications, Rebecca Heller - Logistics, Maxine Schon – Registration

Photo credit: Myles Burdeniuk

On February 5th, 2010 the **Kelvin High School Organizing Committee** (approx. 20 students plus teachers) hosted the **2010 Arctic Climate Change Youth Forum** at FortWhyte Alive. Two hundred students from 27 different schools attended.

Because of the large number of participants, the committee had to organize all the logistics around how to host 200 students at a venue that did not have a space for this many – the idea was to bring a large army tent to hold the main portion of the forum. This was just the beginning of the logistics the committee sunk their teeth into. Imagine being a high school student and organizing all the logistics for a full-day youth forum. This committee did just that. Once a week, the committee would meet at lunch and discuss speakers, the agenda, advertising, registration, the logo, the website, food, volunteers, banners, tables - you get the point.

This exceptional effort and passion for climate change education is why Climate Change Connection has selected the Kelvin High School Organizing Committee as the **2010 Manitoba Climate Champions**.

The Kelvin High School Organizing Committee did an outstanding job planning and implementing an event of the quality and caliber of the 2010 Arctic Climate Change Youth Forum. The Forum was unlike any other. It incorporated the Arts with climate change, it brought researchers and students together, and it provided an opportunity for youth to talk to youth. Participants left educated and inspired to take action.

To learn more about the Arctic Climate Change Youth Forum visit

http://www.wsd1.org/kelvin/accyf/KHS_ACCYF/KHS_ACCYF.html