



## Community Engagement Programs





## The Killam Community Action Initiative

The Killam Community Action Initiative began in 2011, and was designed to provide small grants for Killam alumni interested in producing a project that responds to an environmental or community need in either Canada or the United States. The program offers up to \$5000US to applicants that partner with at least two other regional Killam alumni.

### Passport to Permaculture

**Ms. Anne Larkin, Killam Fellow**

Anne Larkin realized a project that aimed to educate youth (aged 6-12) on the three principles of permaculture: peoplecare, earthcare, and fairshare. The principal of peoplecare is to create ethical, healthy, supportive societies, earthcare is to respect the earth as the basis of all life, and the principal of fairshare is to use resources wisely and equitably. Each participant received a passport that was filled with stamps as they completed permaculture-based activities. The project increased knowledge about the benefits of a sustainable food system and instilled the value of purchasing and eating local food in order to reduce the impact on the environment.

*“The camp was very successful; the campers left with a love for the garden and a new understanding of food and the environment. At the beginning of the week most of the children were hesitant to eat raw vegetables and other plants from the garden, but by the end of the week they were snapping off raw kale leaves for a snack while they worked.”*

*-Anne Larkin*



### French Immersion Summer Camp

**Ms. Mallory Lavoie, Killam Fellow**



Mallory Lavoie introduced two French immersion summer camps for youth in the St. John Valley in Madawaska, Maine. The goal was to raise awareness and maintain ties to the French language and to their Franco-Acadian culture. She argues that the percentage of students who speak French in this area has decreased 18%, and that French Immersion Programs were increasingly unavailable.

*“Students were submerged in a French environment. We took a field trip to the Acadian Village to learn about French/Acadian history, culture and lifestyle. Students were eager to learn and enjoyed a lot of the activities!”*

*-Mallory Lavoie*



## LOCAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Killam Fellowships Local Ambassadors Program was established in 2011 in an effort to more formally connect Killam alumni with current Killam Fellows in their host cities. Local ambassadors are expected to provide advice ranging from practical and logistical questions about their home city or institution to more focused discussions on course selection and living arrangements. The Foundation works with the local ambassadors and the new cohort of students to ensure that all participants are effectively matched, and that they have access to the tools required to make each partnership an enriching experience for both parties.

