

Science Venture

Annual Review 2013/2014



director's message

Oh the places we will go! From the top of Observatory Hill to Northern BC, this year the Science Venture team has shared STEM programs with more than 13,000 youth from across our province. No matter where we traveled, the core of what we do remains the same: to inspire youth to explore their potential. In the words of Dr. Seuss "You're off to great places. Today is your day. Your mountain is waiting, so...get on your way!" The younger we get kids involved in experimenting, making and creating, the more curious they will be about the world around them. That curiosity will push them to become the inventors of a better future.

Sincerely,



Melisa Yestrau
Director



University
of Victoria

2014 at a glance

In 2014, Science Venture reached 13,006 youth across BC.

Program	# of youth
Workshops	9,750
Camps	1,839
Clubs	251
Community Outreach	1,166
TOTAL	13,006

Science Venture is a member organization of Actua. Actua provides training, resources and support to its national network of members located at universities and colleges across Canada in the delivery of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education outreach programming. Each year, these members engage over 225,000 youth in 500 communities nationwide. Please visit Actua at www.actua.ca.

A member
organization of
www.actua.ca



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Découvrir pour demain.

about science venture



Established in 1991, the University of Victoria's Science Venture program is operated in partnership with the Faculties of Science and Engineering. Programs include hands-on workshops, summer camps, school workshops, and community events for youth from 5 to 18 years of age.

Mission

To inspire all BC youth to explore their potential and discover their vital role in the world through life changing science, technology, engineering, and math experiences.

Objectives

- Ensure that socio-economic backgrounds do not limit youth who may participate in our programs
- Provide positive role models and dispel stereotypes associated with the fields of science, technology and engineering
- Introduce youth to the university environment in a non-threatening and fun manner
- Inform youth about science, engineering and technology as career choices

the team



Thirty-eight “Big Kids” from the Faculties of Science, Engineering, and Education were hired to develop and deliver programs. Each brought a unique passion in their area of expertise from biochemistry to mechanical engineering..

Junior Counselor Volunteer Program

Every summer Science Venture provides high school students with volunteer experience helping with our summer camp. This summer 64 “JC’s” dedicated a total of 5,366 volunteer hours. With support from the UVic Alumni Association, we were able to offer a new enhanced volunteer program with expanded leadership opportunities including lesson delivery. A big thanks to our awesome volunteers!

Director

Melisa Yestrau

Office Team

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Erin Eidsvik

Hannah Gray

India Wiebe

James Tyrwhitt-Drake

Jerffeson Barbosa

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Jessica Steele

Jill Lambeth

Jithin James

Johnny Luo

Jordan Thisdelle

Josh Ewart

Kate Bourne

Katherine Silversides

Krystyn Dubicki

Laura Smith

Laura Chambers

Manny Sandhu

Mason Ford

Matthew Anderson

Max Moor-Smith

Megan Brant

Melody Frederick

Midori Campos

Sevrenne Sheppard

Simon Diemert

Spencer McEwan

Thomas Webb

aboriginal outreach



"We are extremely appreciative for having the STEM team come out to T'Sou-ke Nation to provide after school activities for our young people. It's a great opportunity for them to have the hands-on experience and see how fascinating science, technology, engineering, and math can be. By incorporating local culture and environmental content, the youth can also see the relevance to their lives and their futures"

-T'Sou-ke Nation Youth Leader

Science Venture delivers the Aboriginal STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) program to Aboriginal communities across Vancouver Island. Program partners include the Faculties of Science and Engineering, and Office of Indigenous Affairs.



Science Venture was awarded the 2014 Actua Experience: National Aboriginal Outreach Program Award. This award, supported by the Suncor Energy Foundation, celebrates the achievement by an Actua network member in inspiring Aboriginal youth through science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

Programs included:

- After School Clubs - T'Sou-ke, Tseycum Nation, and Tsawout Nation
- Workshops - LAUWELNEW Tribal School, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School, Wagalus School, K'ak'ot'latsi School, Métis Community Services BC, and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre
- Conferences - BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, Gathering Our Voices Youth Conference 2014; Sliammon Nation Health Career Forum

workshops



“Great mix of class discussion and interactive experimentation! The students had to use problem solving skills, work in teams, and use a variety of materials. Presenters were well prepared and had great classroom management skills. All my students were engaged”

-Grade 5 Teacher, Victoria BC

During the months of May and June, Science Venture staff travelled across Vancouver Island to deliver in-school workshops to students in kindergarten to grade 6. Workshops were linked to the BC Science Prescribed Learning Outcomes.

7 Workshop topics **426** Workshops delivered

9,750 Number of youth reached

2014 Workshop Topics

- Junior Scientist (Kindergarten)
- Total Magnetism (Grade 1)
- P.A.W.S Detective (Grade 2)
- Simply Structures (Grade 3)
- Light vs. Sound (Grade 4)
- Renewable Resources (Grade 5)
- Extreme Oceans (Grade 6)

summer camps



“I LOVE this camp SO much and I hope when I’m older I can volunteer. :D”

-Female Camper, age 10

Science Venture reached 1,376 youth on campus and another 144 at our satellite location at the Centre of the Universe on Observatory Hill. Camps offered in 2014 included:

- Junior Scientist, Undergrads, Grads, Masters (gr.1-6)
- CSI: Victoria (gr.3-6)
- Chem-U (gr. 3/-6)
- Mini, Mega, Master and Mighty Makers (gr.1-9)
- Forensics Camp (gr.7-9)
- astroLAB & spaceTECH (gr.3-9)

Accessibility

A goal for Science Venture is to ensure that our programs are accessible to all youth. With the generous support of our funders, we were able to provide bursaries valued at \$7,090 for youth to take part in camps at UVic and satellite locations. Additionally, funding from Actua ensured that programs reaching underserved youth were offered at a reduced rate or at no cost.

Mentorship

A total of 38 mentors delivered 116 exciting mentor events. Mentorship plays a vital role in complementing program delivery, as these individuals inspire youth about careers and research. A special thank you to Dr. Rossi Marx (Biology), Dr. Jodie Gawryluk (Psychology), and Dr. Ranald Donaldson (Forensic Osteology).

satellite camps



"I have been waiting to go to university ever since I was 6 years old, and now I am 8 and I am finally here!"

-Camper, Prince Rupert

Northwest Community College Camps

A new 3 year partnership with NWCC has been developed to increase STEM outreach in Northern BC. Year 1 involved the delivery of summer camp in 4 communities reaching 122 youth in Prince Rupert, Kitimat Village, Smithers, and Iskut. The next two years will involve the addition of workshops and clubs leading up to summer camp. By the end of 2016, our goal is to establish a new STEM outreach program led by NWCC.

Uu-a-thluk Science Camps

For over 9 years, SV has partnered with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Fisheries Department, Uu-a-thluk, to deliver camps that increase familiarity with scientific concepts related to ocean resources and management. This summer 131 youth from Ahousaht, Ditidaht, Ehattesaht/ Chinehkint, Hupacasath, Huu-ay-aht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, Tseshaht, and Uchucklesaht First Nations attended camps.

Sliammon Nation Camps

For two weeks in August, our team delivered camps with Sliammon Nation outside of Powell River. With the help of five Sliammon youth leaders and local Coordinator Gerry Brach, campers launched rockets, dissected bananas, and debunked science myths.

additional programs



"Thank you so much for hosting such imaginative, educational and fun program for children - we appreciate it very much. We regularly attend GVPL children's programs, and feel so fortunate to have such a wonderful resource available to us."

-Mother of participant

Saturday Venture Clubs

Our Saturday Club's program was offered in the Fall and Winter. A total of 133 youth explored science and engineering through experiments and design challenges.

SPARCS (Solving Problems with Algorithms, Robots, and Computer Science)

Led by Computer Science students, our SPARCS program reached 51 youth. This after school club included animation, coding, Lego Mindstorms, and Arduinos.

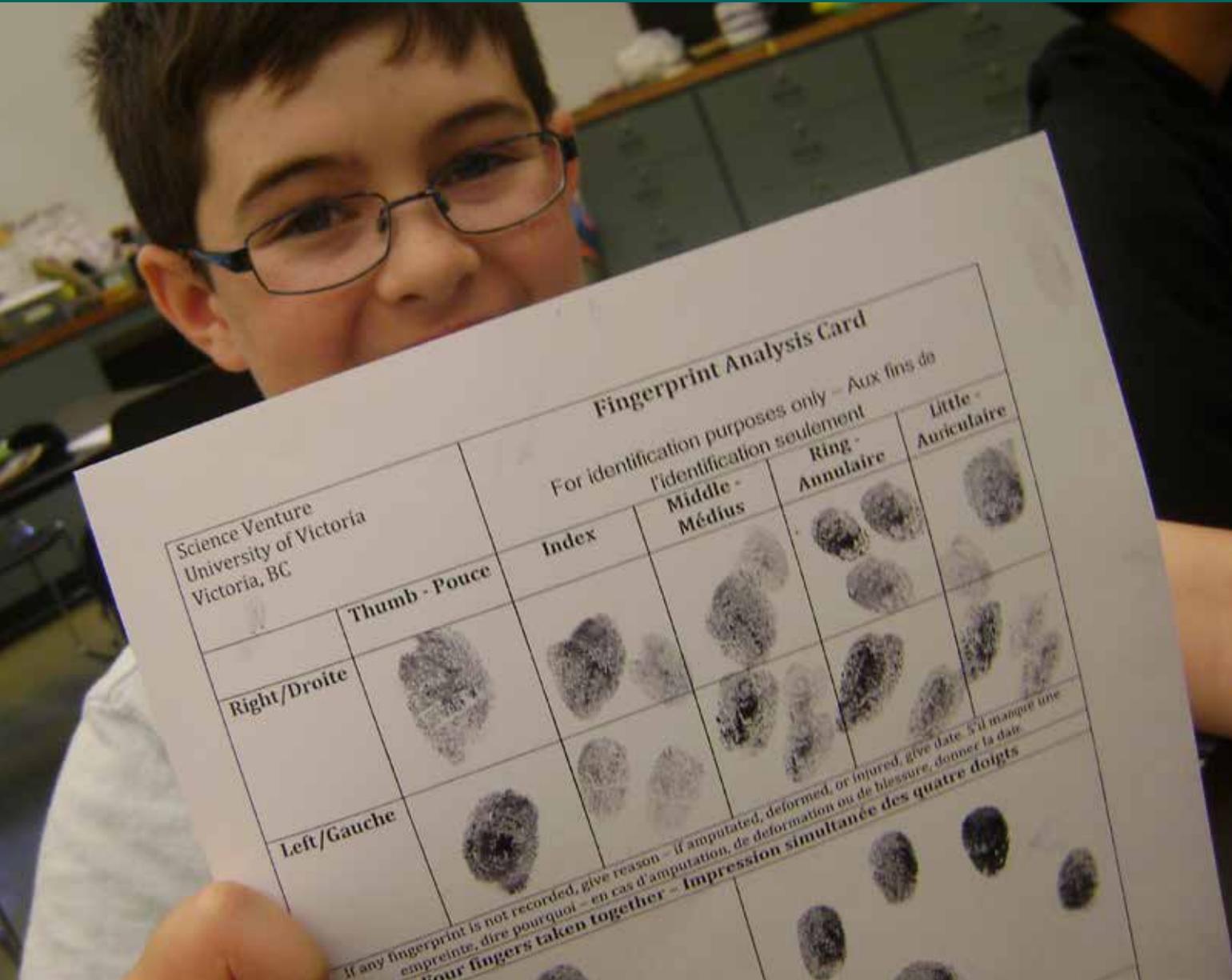
Library Workshops

SV instructors delivered 7 workshops at Greater Victoria Public Library Branches reaching 172 youth. These free workshops engage youth who may not otherwise attend our programs.

Hooked on STEM Girls Career Day

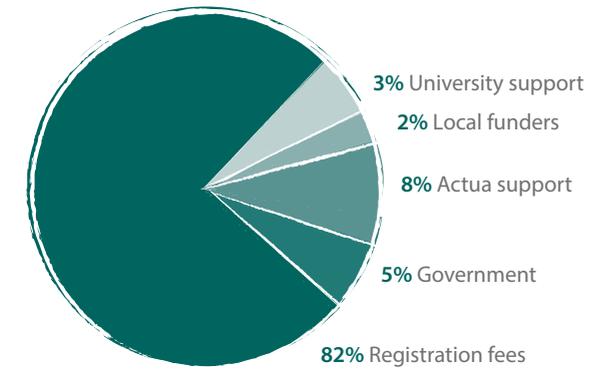
On November 23, a total of 88 girls in grade 3-6 came to UVic to explore STEM careers. Keynote Ann Makosinski, Google Science Fair winner, spoke about her battery free flashlight. The day also included a mentor scavenger hunt, hands-on workshops, and career photo booth.

financial summary

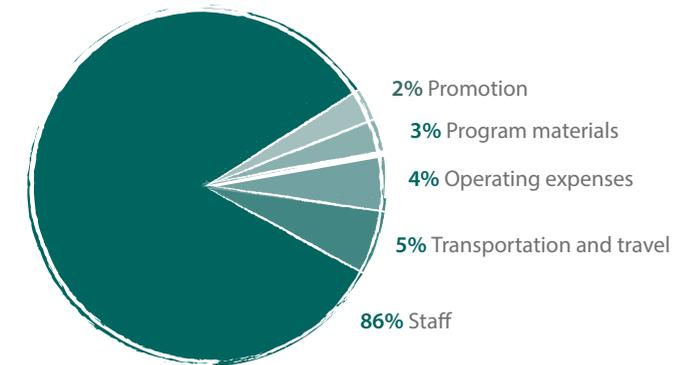


September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014 | Budget: \$431,367

revenue



expenses





2014 Science Venture Partners

APEGBC
Canada Summer Jobs
Centre For Biomedical Research
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Engineering
Faculty of Science
Pfizer
Merck Canada
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