



Science charity helps students become tomorrow's innovators



BY LETTER TO THE EDITOR ON MAY 8, 2014.

I was delighted to read Chris Smeaton's "Staying the same not an option" article in Wednesday's Herald (April 30). We are fortunate to have educational leaders like Mr. Smeaton who recognize that our education system must adapt to global forces if we are going to do a good job of preparing our children for the future.

It has been noted that many of the jobs that our kindergarten children will eventually occupy have not even been invented yet. STEM skills (science, technology, engineering and math) form the basis for more and more jobs with each passing year and our schools must adapt to both equip our children to thrive and to ensure that our business community has access to the skilled workforce they need to build our economy.

Scientists in School, a leading Canadian science charity for kids, is helping teachers meet this challenge. Our award-winning STEM workshops allow children from kindergarten to Grade 8 to become scientists and engineers right in their own classroom. By engaging our children early in fun, inquiry-based learning, they are afforded the opportunity to turn their natural curiosity into real understanding and to develop the critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary to succeed.

We are proud to partner with Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 4 and the other boards serving our communities. We believe that community-education-business partnerships are one of the keys to the change that Mr. Smeaton so eloquently invokes – a way for schools to enrich their teaching and for students to enhance their learning. We are reminded that today, they're scientists in school. But tomorrow, they're our leaders and innovators.

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