

Full Interview with Sara Bauman

We sat down with Sara Bauman this week to hear about her recent meeting with the Ministry of Education, where she advocated for changes to the new BC curriculum to include proper climate education across all grades and subjects. Sara is a climate activist, a student at King David, a member of [CERBC](#) (climate education reform BC) and [Sustainabiliteens](#). Sara is planning on attending McGill next to study Environmental Sciences and hopes to continue to make an impact on climate and environment policy.

Tell us about what led to your meeting with the Ministry of Education this week?

I'm involved in a group called Climate Education Reform BC (CERBC), which is a student-led movement of about 15 students from different schools who are working on getting climate education integrated into BC's K- 12 curriculum. The campaign started about a year ago and we were finally able to get the Ministry of Education to meet with us this week. The meeting went really well! We talked about the six needs of our Reform to Transform Campaign ([you can read them here](#)). The Ministry is already working on education reform and we are continuing to consult with them so that we have student voices developing a curriculum because the curriculum is for students.

Tell us about the six needs you outlined?

The most basic need that I like to emphasize is a revision to our current BC curriculum. This includes the assessment and provision of learning, resources and support for staff and teachers. We're also calling for the transition to equitable infrastructure development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 95% by 2030. We're hoping all schools that are being built are going to be eco-friendly. There's also the development of the consultation committees to oversee the process of the Reform Campaign, a youth advisory committee, and a public declaration of the climate emergency from the ministry.

Are your curriculum recommendations just in certain subjects or integrated in learning across the entire curriculum?

We want it to be cross-curricular and interwoven with every subject because it is important that it's part of the conversation all the time. For example, learning about climate change just in science is really not addressing the whole problem. Students also need to understand how things like social justice issues are interwoven into the climate crisis. The new curriculum should strive to address different aspects of the issue from all sides. And this can't be done just by learning in science class. We hope learning will be student driven, so students can immerse themselves in what they're interested in instead of just checking off a list of curriculum expectations.

How did you get involved in this movement?

Environmentalism has always been one of my passions. I first got involved through Sustainabiliteens, a youth led climate activism movement in Vancouver that fights for climate activism. I found out about CERBC through Sustainabiliteens.

If other students were interested in getting involved in this kind of work, what would you recommend?

I would recommend joining the Green Club for starters at King David - that's going to be something that's up and running again this year. If students are extra driven to learn more and make an impact, I can send them the intake form for the CERBC or put them in touch with Sustainabiliteens. The reform to transform campaign still needs support! You can show your support by signing on to CERBC's open letter located on [our website](#).