



## **Special Guest Speaker: Rachel Irwin**

Rachel Irwin is an Environmental Scientist, Naturalist, and Science Communicator. She recently created and implemented a new outdoor and environmental initiative with the Halton District School Board called <a href="Nature's NEAR">NEAR</a> (Neighbourhood Eco Action Rangers).

In addition to promoting this initiative, she also shared a presentation about Coyotes that was very educational and full of helpful info. Let us know if you would like access to the meeting recording by sending us an email. A few facts:

- Coyotes are NOT pack animals
- Coyotes often have lifetime mates and both parents are involved in raising the pups
- Coyotes are known to be very good parents
- You are 100x more likely to be struck by lightning than bitten or scratched by a Coyote
- Almost 100% of human-coyote interactions are due to humans feeding them which is NEVER recommended.
- If you see a Coyote you should NEVER run. Walk away slowly, keeping the Coyote in your sight
- Coyotes have their own territory and do not want to interact with humans, leaving their space is often the most helpful thing
- If you do ever happen to be close to a coyote, make your self BIG and be very loud