

Darcy's 4.3 Reaching Out: Investigation and Proposal Rough Draft

Complete the following organizer to explain the nature and background of your chosen issue. Provide detailed responses in point-form. Attach pages if necessary.

Research Inquiry Questions

What is your chosen issue? Be specific. Include details about what caused it, where it occurs (or occurred), and who or what is involved.

- *Dangerous and disrespectful highway drivers*
- *Highway 63 in Alberta, and lots of other highways in Alberta are getting more dangerous cuz of oilfield traffic speeding and aggressive drivers*
- *Some roads are not built to be high traffic roads (they are only two-lane roads).*
- *Roads that are "twinne'd" with two lanes for oncoming traffic and two lanes for opposing traffic, are still pretty crazy*
- *Saw someone going 200 km/h on a twinned highway once*

Research Source Information:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/alberta/suicide-63-the-deadly-route-into-fort-mcmurray-finally-set-to-befixed/article28627352/>

What are the long-term or short term effects of the issue?

- *Short term effects are that a lot of people die on Alberta roads*
- *Drunk driving statistics are still high in Alberta, especially between 17-30 year olds*
- *Long term effects—roads get worn out sooner (ruts), and become more unsafe (more people die)*

Research Source Information:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/alberta/suicide-63-the-deadly-route-into-fort-mcmurray-finally-set-to-befixed/article28627352/>

What varying perspectives are held by yourself or others (even those in opposition) about this issue?

- *People still not taking it seriously?*
- *People have no choice but to drive aggressively in order to be "safe" on the road, because no one else on the road cares about anyones safety*

Research Source Information:

http://www.vice.com/en_ca/read/trying-to-tame-canadas-highway-of-death

What actions or steps could be taken to approach this issue meaningfully? What has already been done to approach the issue? What remains to be done?

Article in the paper said that police have stepped up surveillance on highway 63 for speeders, aggressive driving and drunk driving, but it doesn't seem to be making a noticeable change

- They say that the police may start giving out more fines or taking away vehicles
- photo radar not allowed on highways in Alberta (???)
- New laws in Alberta about drunk driving (charges can be laid if blood alcohol is 0.05, just like BC)
- **What needs to be done, is peoples attitude and behaviour on the road needs changing so people are more safe and respectful so people (majority and minority) stop dying on the road.**
- **Could do signs, flyers, or maybe a community rally or meeting to draw attention and publicity to the issue**

Research Source Information: <http://fatalities.safer63and881.com/>

What risks are potentially involved in pursuing these actions? (Physical? Social? Political?)

- If doing something that involves signs or an action in or around the highway itself, safety is a concern because it is a busy road*
- *Frequented by heavy equipment and big trucks-- need to be cautious and aware of traffic*
 - *Oil companies might complain if any major obstructions are created to the routes they ship equipment along*
 - *Aggressive drivers could be socially or physically harmful if confronted personally*

Research Source Information:

How will your actions improve the situation? What problems could arise? Explain.

- Drawing more attention to the issue would help people realize that it is much more serious than they maybe thought it was. Once more people know that these fatalities are increasing in number on a more widespread basis (and for the same reasons), they might be inclined to slow down and be more respectful.*
- Problems that could occur might be that people might just grow to ignore the signs and become apathetic to new ventures for attention to slow down*
- *Signs might be distracting (as might road-side rallies) and unsafe*
 - *Slowing down the oil industry with any kind of rally would take money out of worker's pockets*
 - *Government might be slow to act*

Research Source Information:

How does this issue affect the people around you?

- *Locals that have to use the highways are constantly fearing for their safety*
- *We never know when the traffic is going to be heavy or aggressive*
- *Creates anxiety to even travel short distances or leave to travel outside a community that has the highway on either side of it*
- *Innocent lives have been claimed due to aggressive driving and negligent driving*

Research Source Information: <http://fatalities.safer63and881.com/>

My Two Supportive Media texts (attach or include URLs here)

O'Donnell, Sarah. "Hwy 63 drivers could face vehicle seizures, \$10,000 fines." *The Edmonton Journal*. July 1, 2012.
URL: <http://www.readability.com/articles/gupkcpmr>

CBC News. "No Photo-Radar, toll for Alberta's Highway 63", *CBC News Site*, July 1st, 2012.
URL: <http://www.readability.com/articles/wavc1nso>

Proposal Plan

Use the following pages to plan your proposal, including a timeline. Identify necessary actions, resources, and deadlines for a positive outcome to the issue.

Project Title: *Be Aware*

Introduction

Introduce your issue here. Briefly outline the issue and the goal of your project.

• *To have people think about how they act on the highway (not just highway 63) I propose a group of students make and put up billboard signs with funny, fact, or catchy slogans or pictures about driver safety. These could be put on the side of the road in problem areas of highway across Alberta. Drivers would then that their bad driving habits affects more than themselves will hopefully be one way to improve safety on the road.*

Commented [KC1]: Darcy, you're missing a word here

Background

Use your research to write a brief background about your issue. Highlight the most important information about your issue and its significance.

• *Highway 63 and other highways in Alberta are getting known for dangerous because of speeding, irresponsible behaviour and high traffic on roads that can't take high traffic. It affects everyone from people in oil industry, to people living in small towns that only have one highway to share with industry vehicles. Issue came to my attention because me and my mom went to Calgary on a Thursday*

Commented [KC2]: Speeding

(shift change in Ft. MacMurray) and the road was crazy dangerous and kind of scary! Highway 63 has been in the newspaper a lot because of the number of fatalities on this road every year. The issue is much larger than having signs, but the dangerous is because of the attitude and behaviour of some people using the highway. Making signs might make people act better on the road. Not addressing the issue makes the people who drive unsafely think that what they're doing isn't wrong, even though it's really dangerous.

Commented [KC3]: Attention and remember to write, 'my mom and I' in your polished copy

Commented [KC4]: This is awkwardly worded. How could you change this to be clearer?

Proposal Plan

Number the steps of your proposed project plan here.

1. Find people who want to be involved (at school, in 4-H, in my family, or on my Volleyball team)
2. Have a meeting at my house to talk about what is going on, and talk about possible images or slogans to go on signs (and talk about who wants to do what, and what kind of stuff we need).
3. We will probably need permission of somekind to put billboards in any highwayditch so I will need to find out about that. I think if I phone the city office they might tell me about that. We will need to see if there are rules or regulations about sign sizes or maybe about how far they need to be from the road.
4. Decide what goes on signs: I thought that profound sayings about the value of life, or about thinking about other people might be good, but then I realized they have to be easy to read (or else they might be part of the problem) and stand out. Business billboards are very colourful and bold, so something like that is good. It would be nice to make something easy to read that is funny and memorable in terms of needing to respect each other and be safe on the road.
5. Decide where problematic areas needing signs are and plan a good starting point. I think, for instance, it might be good to start with three signs, and go from there to see how much work it takes, and how the public receives them.
6. Plan out what is necessary for materials to make the signs (paint, wood, plywood, etc.)

Commented [KC5]: Edit carefully for typos

Commented [KC6]: Good idea! This is a thoughtful consideration, Darcy.

Commented [KC7]: Good point!

7. Buy materials and hold a construction night with group of interested people to put these together. Might take two nights per sign?

8. Divide signs into locations and drive around to install

9. Hope for the best!

Rationale

Explain your project goals and how these actions are clearly justified in pursuing a solution to your chosen issue. Why is this project necessary?

I hope maybe people who see bad behaviour a lot (drivers, law enforcement) would see less bad attitudes and bad driving on the highway if these signs work. If anything, getting people to slow down and not speed would be a good difference. Maybe reading the sign could be incentive to slow down and stop speeding, lol. A long term goal might be to see the wreck rates and the accidents on the highway go down, as well as improve the attitudes of bad drivers (aggressive drivers).

Commented [KC8]: This is awesome! I hope so too!

Cost & Budget

Describe the money you need for your project and the areas it will be applied.

*Six 2" x 4" lumber pieces 6 @ \$1.50 each
Three 1.5 inch thick 6 x 12 foot sheets of plywood 3 @ \$8.00 each
5 Gallons of White Paint 1 can @ \$11.50 each
3 gallons of red, blue and yellow paint 3 one gallon cans @ \$3.00 each
½ lb of 2 inch nails \$4.00
Gas money \$20.00*

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$77.50

We need the wood materials for the actual signs, and the paint to help decorate the signs. I figured that by getting blue, yellow and red, if we needed more colors, we could mix these (red + yellow = orange, blue + red = purple, etc.). We need the nails to aid in constructing the signs, and gas money to be able to afford to drive the distances required to install the signs.

Commented [KC9]: Very smart thinking! This will definitely save you some money.

Required Resources

Describe the people (staff, volunteers, man-power, etc.) and objects (tools, equipment, etc.) needed for this project

• I don't think we need a lot of people to volunteer to do this. I think having around two people (or even just one person) per sign should be okay as far as getting the work done.







Timeline/Schedule

How long should your project take to get underway? Does it have an end? Describe a rough timeline as to how long your project will take to implement.

This project could probably be done in two weeks, depending on if there are weird things you have to do in order to put a sign in a ditch with the town regulations.

Darcy, your plan is detailed and very realistic! A person could take this plan and implement it tomorrow, which means you have significant information and planning here. The issue you chose is highly relevant to Alberta's people and industry. Very nice work and what a fantastic idea! Please see my suggestions for revisions and use these for your polished proposal in Workbook 7.

Darcy's 4.3 Reaching Out Assessment

Value	Research and Personal Issue	Proposal Plan
 Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a <i>skillfully</i> paraphrased explanation (your own words) of information in resources. <input type="checkbox"/> You provide <i>thorough</i> analysis of your chosen issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Resources are <i>fully documented</i> in the appropriate form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal is <i>thorough</i> , supported with precise detail. <input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal demonstrates <i>perceptive</i> understanding of the issue with significant solutions.
 Proficient	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide a <i>fluently</i> paraphrased explanation (your own words) of information in resources. <input type="checkbox"/> You provide a <i>detailed</i> analysis of your chosen issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Resources are <i>well documented</i> in the appropriate form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal is <i>complete</i> , supported with <i>appropriate</i> detail. <input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal demonstrates a <i>thoughtful</i> understanding of the issue with an <i>appropriate</i> solution.
 Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide an <i>adequately</i> paraphrased explanation (your own words) of information in resources. <input type="checkbox"/> You provide a <i>basic</i> analysis of your chosen issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Resources are documented <i>simply</i> in the appropriate form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal is <i>straightforward</i> , supported with <i>sufficient</i> detail. <input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal demonstrates an <i>adequate</i> understanding of the issue with a <i>realistic</i> solution.
 Limited	<input type="checkbox"/> You provide an <i>awkwardly</i> paraphrased explanation (your own words) of information in resources. <input type="checkbox"/> You provide a <i>limited</i> analysis of your chosen issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Resources are documented <i>inconsistently</i> , with <i>confusion</i> , or they are <i>not documented</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal is <i>incomplete</i> , supported with <i>confusing</i> or <i>inappropriate</i> detail. <input type="checkbox"/> Your proposal <i>may not explain fully</i> the issue and/or solution.
 Resubmission Needed	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement and resubmission of your work.	
TOTAL: 23.5/30 = 78%	15.5/20	8/10
	Areas of strength: Darcy, your idea for the proposal was thoughtful and quite realistic. You understand that, while your solution does not tackle the large issue of the highway itself, it does approach a large part of what makes the highway so dangerous. If this plan was undertaken, it would probably be quite effective!	