

OIL SANDS CAREERS EDUCATION PROGRAM

MAY 8-9, 2014



Photo: An exclusive tour of the steam lab at Keyano College.



THE TOUR

Experiential careers education in Alberta's oil sands region

The 2014 Oil Sands Careers Education Program took 25 passionate career practitioners on a learning adventure!

This two-day tour was loaded with unique and exclusive opportunities to learn more about careers related to oil sands activities in Alberta. Teachers and

counselors were whisked to Fort McMurray for a rare day-in-the-life experiential program, with multiple facility tours and expert speakers.

The tour's objective was to provide participants with a greater understanding of the variety of careers available in the oil sands region, as

well as training requirements, employment trends, and the lifestyles that accompany these different career paths. Career practitioners left the program better equipped to infuse current, accurate, and meaningful career and training information to their students across the province.

THE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Welcome & Introductions

Steve McIsaac & Milena McWatt, Inside Education

Oil Sands Careers: An Outlook

Rick Davidson, Cenovus Energy

Charter Flight to Fort McMurray

Life in Fort McMurray & Welcome

Kiran Malik-Khan & Peter Lawlor, Keyano College

High Tech Training:

Environment Lab Tour

Louis Dingley, Keyano College

Oil Sands Power & Process Engineering Lab Tour

John Cook, Keyano College

Haul Truck Lab/FINNtech Shop Tour

Konnie Williams & Mike Simard, Keyano College

You're hired! Life in a Modern Work Camp

Kimberly Gray, Great Divide Oil Sands Project, Connacher Oil & Gas

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Tour: Oil Sands In-Situ

Scott Davidson & Kimberly Gray, Great Divide Oil Sands Project, Connacher Oil & Gas

Tour: Oil Sands Mining

Leithan Slade, Syncrude Canada

Pulling it all together: Education Workshop

Milena McWatt, Inside Education

Travel back to Edmonton

**Appendix: detailed program itinerary*

PROGRAM GOALS

The tour aimed to allow career practitioners to:

- learn about the diverse career opportunities related to oil sands development in Alberta
- experience first-hand some of the training, lifestyle, and work conditions of several oil sands-related careers
- gain resources, tools, and personal accounts to enhance careers education for students



Teachers and counselors starting their learning journey about oil sands careers at Keyano College.



OUR PARTNERS

Inside Education would like to express great appreciation of the time and support of our partner organizations that came together to ensure the success of this program. Partner contributions allowed Inside Education to provide this unique and highly valuable careers-focused professional development opportunity.

Thank you to all of the organizations that provided expert speakers, site tours, and career resources for the *2014 Oil Sands Careers Education Program*. A special thank you to the partners who provided the financial support that made this program possible:



Participants touring behind-the-scenes of a SAGD facility, a mining site, and an environmental lab.



**Government
of Alberta** ■



THE PARTICIPANTS

25 career practitioners
from
17 communities
for
2 days

Amy Roy Gratton
CAPS: Your U of A
Career Centre,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton

Ben Huo
William E. Hay
School, Red Deer

Bob Poast
Stettler Middle
School, Stettler

Carlos Schroeder
Mountain View
Academy, Calgary

Charlene Foster
Palliser Regional
Schools, Calgary

Dexter Vowles
Magrath School,
Magrath

Erica Larson
Lethbridge Collegiate
Institute, Lethbridge

Jeff Siddle
West View School,
Canmore

Kathy Fiebich
McNally High School,
Edmonton

Kevin Bauman
Peace River High
School, Peace River

Michelle Perron
Holy Spirit School
Division, Lethbridge

Lena Spicer
Rocky View Schools
Mechanics Training
Centre, Airdrie

Melissa Steeves
Lilian Schick School,
Bon Accord

Nadine Spencer
Medicine Hat High
School, Medicine Hat

Peter Yetman
Ernest Manning High
School, Calgary

Randy Spenrath
St. Mary's High
School, Taber

Rebecca Redding
Redwater School,
Redwater

Rhonda Hunter
Medicine Hat High
School, Medicine Hat

Samantha McMillan
Ernest Manning High
School, Calgary

Sherryl Loman
Picture Butte High
School, Picture Butte

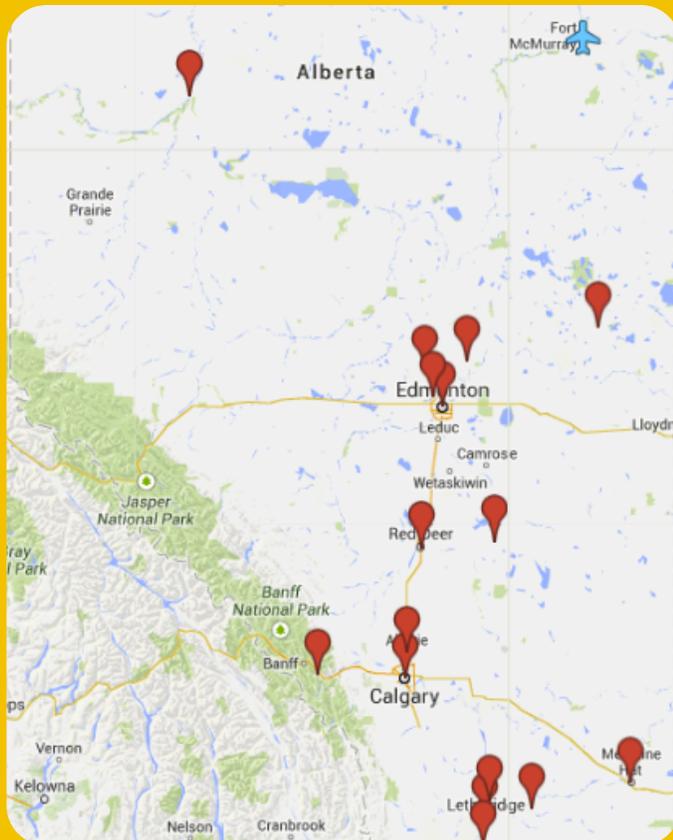
Sue Reilly
Glendon School,
Glendon

Susan Schmidt
Kate Andrews High
School, Lethbridge

Susan Clegg
Sturgeon Composite
High School,
Sturgeon County

Teresa Rieger
St. Albert Catholic
High School, St.
Albert

Tyler Dixon
West View School,
Canmore



THE FEEDBACK

A few words from some of the participants...

This was a first class experience and covered an enormous amount of ground. This PD filled a gap in my experience/knowledge, and has better equipped me to prepare curriculum which will inform and challenge my students to come to their own conclusions and perspectives.

--Peter Yetman, Ernest Manning, Calgary



You brought my advising to life in the way you took me on an adventure as an oil sands employee.

-- Amy Roy Gratton, CAPS, University of Alberta, Edmonton



It was wonderful. I will be able to present a more balanced/informed view to my students/colleagues/friends.

--Lena Spicer, Rocky View Schools Mechanics Training Centre, Airdrie



The first hand exposure to the oil sands will be an incredibly valuable experience incorporated into my teaching. I learned more in this 2 days about oil sands recovery than I have in the past year doing research on the internet and attending classroom courses.

-- Samantha McMillan, Ernest Manning, Calgary



I now have a personal experience with the oil sands and can provide a well-balanced perspective on this subject. Certainly the best PD I've done in all my years as an educator.

--Carlos Schroeder, Mountain View Academy, Calgary

THE EVALUATION

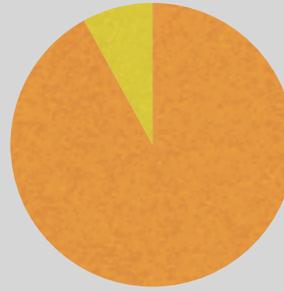
The 2014 Oil Sands Careers Education Program was a **SUCCESS!**

Inside Education's oil sands-focused teacher professional development programs are always immensely popular, and we once again heard a resounding "yes!" from participants that program objectives were met and that it was valuable to their work. Career practitioners in attendance expanded their understanding of the variety of careers related to the oil sands, as well as their availability, compensation, training requirements, and lifestyle. Participants had the unique opportunity to go behind-the-scenes and experience first-hand what their students' day-to-day might be like if they end up working in an oil sands-related career.

Participants were able to engage with numerous experts and see first-hand what training, working and living conditions, and actual day-to-day jobs are like. These experiences, coupled with additional resources and network connections provided during the program, gave career practitioners in attendance a wealth of information to bring back to their students.

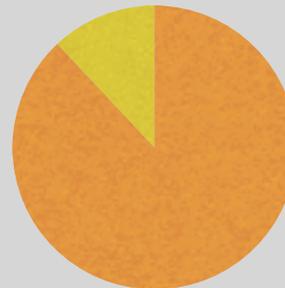
Feedback from teachers and counselors was collected through a formalized written questionnaire, in addition to emails, letters, and blog entries received in the weeks following the program. Testimonials - such as the examples on the preceding page - and survey responses provide a summary of the overwhelmingly positive feedback we received from participants and indicated the immense value they place on this type of professional development opportunity.

● Strongly Agree ● Agree



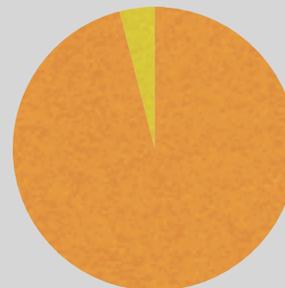
This education program **exposed me to a breadth of careers related to oil sands development.**

● Strongly Agree ● Agree



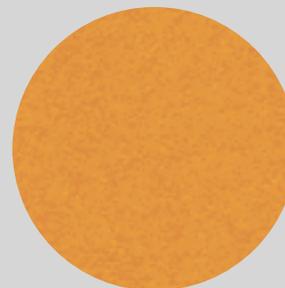
I have **gained the knowledge needed to advise my students** of the oil sands career opportunities in Alberta.

● Strongly Agree ● Agree



This experience introduced me to **resources that will help me to further explore career opportunities relating to oil sands development** with my students.

● Strongly Agree ● Agree



I would **recommend an Inside Education Professional Development Program** to my colleagues.

APPENDIX: DETAILED PROGRAM



Oil Sands Careers Education Program May 8 - 9, 2014

Thursday, May 8th

Welcome Breakfast and Registration

Hercules Meeting Room, Ramada Edmonton International Airport, Leduc (8:00am)
(Participant vehicles can remain parked at the Ramada during the program)

Introductions

Who are we and what we are going to do? An opportunity to get to know your hosts, but more importantly each other!

Facilitator: **Inside Education**

Oil Sands Careers: An Outlook

This session will provide a look ahead to the labour demand projections related to oil sands activities in Alberta, including what kinds of opportunities are and will be available for your students.

Presenter: Rick Davidson, Cenovus Energy

Charter flight to Fort McMurray*

Buckle up, rockstars!

Shuttle from hotel leaves at 9:45am

*Please limit luggage to a carry-on size bag

Life in Fort McMurray: Lunch with the Councillor Sheldon Germain

What is it like to live in FM? Longtime resident, vice-principal, and former Keyano College student and instructor Sheldon Germain will give participants a window into life in Fort McMurray.

Elements Meeting Room, Keyano College

High Tech Training

Simulators, labs and more! Get a first-hand look at what kind of training students undergo at Keyano College.

Host: Peter Lawlor & Kiran Malik-Khan, Keyano College

You're hired!

Visit and stay at a modern work camp and meet a variety of the people behind the operations. A rare opportunity to experience the lifestyle of workers stationed at camps and lodges.

Host: Kim Gray, Great Divide Oil Sands Project, Connacher

Friday, May 9th

Breakfast from 7:00 - 8:00am

Tour: Oil Sands In Situ

Go behind the scenes to learn about in-situ oil sands operations: how bitumen is extracted from formations too deep for mining, and what kind of career opportunities in-situ projects offer.

Host: Kim Gray, Connacher

Bagged lunches on bus as we travel back to Fort McMurray

Tour: Oil Sands Discovery Centre

Participants will have a chance to *discover* the oil sands at this interactive and educational facility!

Tour: Oil Sands Mining

Get up close and personal with an active mining operation as we tour a Syncrude site. This tour includes the mine, upgrader, reclamation and bison areas, as well as plentiful information on the many different careers linked to oil sands mining near Fort McMurray.

Host: Leithan Slade, Syncrude

Pulling it all together

Education workshop and supper at Chateau Nova, FM airport. This session will help participants reflect on what we've learned and how to bring the career information and experiences of the program back to students in a meaningful way.

Host: **Inside Education**

Travel back to Edmonton

Program finished ~8:30pm