The 2012 Energy in Alberta’s Foothills Education Tour gathered engaged teachers from across the province in a one-of-a-kind professional development opportunity. The Foothills around Rocky Mountain House provided an ideal setting to explore energy and land use in the region. During the three day tour, teachers developed their understanding of the science behind oil and gas extraction - from seismic surveying to gas plant processing. Participants also gained exposure to issues around energy production and the various perspectives held by stakeholders in the area. The goal of this program was to provide experiences that will enable teachers to bring current and balanced information to their students and support meaningful energy education.
THE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MAY 10
Welcome and Introductions
Kathryn Wagner & Pamela Learmond, Inside Education

Seismic Survey
Mike Doyle, Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors

Petroleum Extraction
Darell Seib, Devon Energy
Extraction in Action - Ferrier Site Tour
Doug Ray, Devon Energy

FRIDAY, MAY 11
Connecting to First Nations
Leslie Yellowface, O’Chiese First Nation

Connecting to the Regulators
Jennifer Lutz & Tom McGee, Energy Resource Conservation Board

SATURDAY, MAY 12
Bringing it all Together
Kathryn Wagner & Pamela Learmond, Inside Education

* Appendix A: detailed program itinerary

PROGRAM GOALS

The tour aimed to:

- tell the story of petroleum in the Foothills region
- explain the science behind oil and gas extraction
- explore energy development from various perspectives
- foster an appreciation for the complex relationships between energy, the environment and the economy
- recognize the importance of critical thought and open dialogue
OUR PARTNERS

Inside Education sincerely appreciates the time and support of our partners who came together to make this program a great success. These relationships have allowed us to offer a truly valuable professional development opportunity for teachers.

Thank you to all of the organizations that provided expert speakers, site tours and classroom resources for the 2012 Energy in Alberta’s Foothills Education Tour. A special thank you to the partners who provided the financial support that made this program possible:

Our group of excited teachers after seeing the Foothills landscape from a whole new vantage point.
THE PARTICIPANTS

Lucia Besko  
Edmonton Public Schools, Edmonton

Melanie Bond  
James Fowler High School, Calgary

Corey Conroy  
Athabasca Delta Community School, Fort Chipewyan

Debbie Deyell  
Centennial Elementary, Edmonton

Connie Dzus  
Central Elementary School, Lac La Biche

Ashley Geldart  
Hillcrest School, Edmonton

Nova Gould  
Kameyosek Elementary, Edmonton

Derek Hyland  
Bishop Lloyd Middle School, Lloydminster

Carly Johnson  
H.E. Bourgoin School, Bonnyville

Karen Knull  
Sunchild, O’Chiese & TaOtha First Nation Schools, Nordegg

Morgan Laird  
Bentley School, Bentley

Leon Lau  
Central Memorial High, Calgary

Stephanie Lundberg  
Ecole Senator Riley Middle School, High River

Jennifer MacCormac  
St. Alphonsus School, Edmonton

Amanda Merriman  
Ecole Queen Elizabeth Junior High School, Wetaskiwin

Patty Milz  
Dr. Morris Gibson School, Okotoks

Anna Moore  
Edgemont School, Calgary

Chris Moore  
Camilla School, Riviere Qui Barre

Ryan Morgan  
Tom Baines School, Calgary

Susan Mueller  
Grandview Elementary, Red Deer

Craig Murphy  
Thorsby Elementary, Thorsby

Rebecca Redding  
Redwater School, Redwater

Zack Schaller  
Chestermere High School, Chestermere

Emily Schroderus  
Simon Fraser Middle School, Calgary

Matt Stelmaschuk  
Greystone Centennial Middle School, Spruce Grove

Aaron Wong  
Elemer S. Gish School, St. Albert

26 teachers from 18 communities for 3 days
THE FEEDBACK

A few words from the teachers:

As a teacher and a Albertan, I feel so much more informed about the different perspectives related to energy.
Jen MacCormac, Edmonton

I always emphasize to my students to take off their blinders and see the whole issue - not to stay in a tunnel. I feel like this week I was really able to practice what I preach.
Stephanie Lundberg, High River

I appreciated the chance to take a first hand look at how various land resource users work together for best practice.
Leon Lau, Calgary

My new found knowledge has allowed me to make more vivid connections between issues faced by the oil and gas companies, landowners, environmentalists and the general public.
Rebecca Redding, Redwater

I am going back to my classroom with a new and exciting perspective of oil and gas and the ideas being implemented by this industry.
Nova Gould, Edmonton

The work you do is limitless in the impacts it has in the classroom.
Corey Conroy, Fort Chipewyan

This has been a great chance to meet people, network and make new friends.
Derek Hyland, Lloydminster

Seeing things from a birds eye view was absolutely riveting. What an amazing memory.
Nova Gould, Edmonton

I loved how we brought it back to the reason we were there, to enhance the classroom experience for our students.
Ashley Geldart, Edmonton
THE EVALUATION

The 2012 Energy in Alberta’s Foothills Education Tour was an overall SUCCESS!

We are confident that the goals of this program were achieved. Participants gained a balanced perspective of energy in the Foothills region. The tour offered a variety of engaging speakers, site tours, meaningful discussions and hands-on activities. The valuable learning experiences connected teachers with the science, technology and issues related to energy development. It is clear that the knowledge gained from this program will extend far beyond the tour as teachers bring these experiences into their classrooms.

Participant feedback was collected through written letters and an online survey. Testimonials and survey results provide a summary of the exceptional feedback we received from teachers.

Survey results also indicated ...

- Each participant will share what they learned with an average of 80 students, extending the reach of the tour to over 2000 students
- 100% of respondents described the tour as educational, enjoyable and balanced
- 100% of respondents would recommend Inside Education professional development to a colleague

1:
This education tour increased my understanding of science behind oil and gas development.

2:
This education program introduced multiple stakeholder perspectives relating to energy in the Foothills region.

3:
This education program increased my awareness of the complex relationships between energy, environment and economy.
THURSDAY, MAY 10

Welcome & Introductions
Presenters: Kathryn Wagner & Pamela Learmond, Inside Education
Get to know Inside Education, the program and one another. We will also introduce you to PETROLEUM, the star of our show. Whether we are using petroleum to heat our homes, generate electricity or make plastic products, oil and gas play an important role in our everyday lives.

Seismic Survey
Presenter: Mike Doyle, Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors
It’s no secret that petroleum exists under much of Alberta, but how do we find the best places to tap into this resource? Mike Doyle will unearth the geology of petroleum rich regions and introduce methods for oil and gas discovery. Further, we will look at the history of seismic survey in the Foothills and discover new technologies being used by the industry.

The Ins and Outs of Upstream Oil & Gas
Presenter: Devon Energy
From preparation to reclamation, follow the life cycle of a petroleum well site. During this two-part session, you will discover the intricate steps involved in petroleum production. Plus, you will have the opportunity to look behind the scenes during a tour of the Ferrier gas plant.

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<tr>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Presenter: Darell Seib, Production Manager</td>
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FRIDAY, MAY 11

Connecting to First Nations
Presenter: Leslie Yellowface, O’Chiese First Nation
First Nations have great significance in the Foothills region. Leslie Yellowface, an elder and council representative with the O’Chiese First Nation will share his experience and knowledge of local energy development in the past, present and future. Hear his perspective on how petroleum has influenced both the people and land in the area.

Connecting to the Regulators
Presenter: Jennifer Lutz & Tom McGee, Energy Resources Conservation Board
The ERCB ensures the safe and responsible development of Alberta’s energy resources. Throughout the lifecycle of a petroleum project, the ERCB is there to conduct environmental monitoring and regulate stakeholder relations. If you have questions around hot topics such as hydraulic fracturing and coal bed methane, this session will provide an opportunity for discussion.
Connecting to Land Users
Presenter: **Tom Daniels**, Sundre Forest Products
We know the petroleum industry isn’t the only stakeholder with ties to the Foothills region. During this session, Tom Daniels will connect petroleum to other land users including forestry, agriculture, recreation and wildlife. Find out how all of these stakeholders can benefit from using an Integrated Land Management approach.

Connecting to the Foothills – Site Tour
Host: **Tom Daniels**, Sundre Forest Products
The Foothills provide a unique landscape that is best explored in person. During this interactive bus tour, you will witness ILM at work in the busy Foothills region. Our journey will allow us to explore multiple land uses and best practices such as stream crossings and shared roads.

A View from Above – Helicopter Tour
The moment you have all been waiting for! Experience the beautiful Foothills region from an exclusive vantage point. As you fly overhead, see how many land users you can spot from the air. Don’t forget to enjoy the show!

A View from the Ground - Des Crosley Demonstration Forest
While you wait for your helicopter ride, enjoy your time at the Des Crosley demonstration forest. Historically, this forest was used for research; now it’s an education site for our school programs. Relax and soak in the fresh air or explore some of our field activities.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Bringing it all together
Presenters: **Kathryn Wagner & Pamela Learmond**, Inside Education
Now what? If you are wondering how you will ever take all this information back to your classroom, Inside Education is here to help. Kathryn and Pamela will provide some ‘Monday morning ready’ resources and you will have the opportunity to build ideas to help energize your lessons.

Many thanks to our partners who made this program possible: