



NEWS RELEASE

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Hands-on classroom science literacy program launched to benefit students and teachers

Edmonton – The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA) and the Alberta Science Literacy Association (ASLA) have merged their free, science classroom presentation programs. The new program is called Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom and will be launched in September 2010 in Calgary and Edmonton.

APEGGA and ASLA recognize that science literacy skills help students to evaluate information, make informed decisions and succeed in today's workplace and society. Our unique science, engineering, technology and math-related presentations complement the Alberta Education Science Curriculum. They also make the connection to the real world and help to get kids excited about science.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for APEGGA to increase access to our in-classroom presentations made by volunteer professional engineers and geoscientists. It will also improve efficiencies in the program's administration. We look forward to working with the Alberta Science Literacy Association to get the message out to students about the exciting opportunities that exist in engineering and geoscience," says APEGGA President Kim Farwell, P.Eng., MBA.

By increasing the pool of volunteers, especially in the engineering and geoscience professions, teachers and students will have greater access to enthusiastic volunteers and hands-on science activities in the classroom. Creation of a one-stop booking process for teachers will make it easier to access the new program.

"ASLA is very pleased to join with APEGGA to deliver the Scientists & Engineers-in-the-Classroom program to Alberta Schools. Partnering with a well-respected professional organization raises our profile and improves our ability to fill requests for presentations. Ultimately teachers and students will be the big winners," says ASLA President Anita Rossall, P.Eng.

APEGGA is recognized as a leading supporter of education initiatives in Alberta. Information on the exciting and fulfilling career opportunities in science, math and technology is presented to young people at the junior and senior high school levels. APEGGA volunteers provide curriculum-related presentations for Grades 1 through 12, which are now part of the Scientists & Engineers in the Classroom program. APEGGA has more than 57,000 members and regulates the professions of engineering and geoscience in Alberta. Click on <http://www.apegga.org/K12/outreach/toc.html> for more information.

ASLA, with 20 years of experience, supports and represents autonomous regional science and technology outreach networks serving Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat and Red Deer and surrounding communities. These networks promote and enhance science literacy by providing classroom, community and teacher development programs, last year reaching over 52,000 children and 4,400 adults. www.asla.ca.

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