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Groundbreaking Ceremony

Friday, June 13, 2008 will remain a very special day for members and supporters of Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities. After many doubts and various roadblocks, we broke ground at the new Safety City location. With a building to call our own, our budget in line, and the plans for the streetscape adapted to our new location, we are now in the process of securing a contractor and finalizing agreements with local business' to put kiosks into Safety City. We were also proud to announce the name of our new building as **The Peace Country Safety Resource Centre**, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Peace Country Health. The Peace Country Safety Resource Centre is home to the offices of Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities, as well as The Grande Prairie & District Burn Society. Our Centre features a common area that can be divided into 2 smaller classrooms or left open for larger events. The Board Room will also be a Resource Library where the community can access various materials on a

wide array of safety topics. The Peace Country Safety Resource Centre has already held one Car Seat Clinic, where we were able to inspect over 35 car seats, and we were also host to one Annual General Meeting. We look forward to hosting many more safety related events in the future.



Left to right: Ald. Lorne Radbourne, MLA Wayne Drysdale, County Reeve Everett McDonald, Safety City Chairperson Stewart Wilson and Weyerhaeuser representative Noreen Schultz break the ground at the new location for Safety City!

NAOSH Contest Winner

This April, Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities sponsored a contest in 6 area junior/senior high schools to raise awareness of North American Occupational Safety and Health Week. We visited the schools during their lunch hour with a display board containing the answers needed for 3 questions relating to workplace health and safety and ATV safety. Students learned that nearly 52,000 new workers were injured on the job in Alberta. They also were made aware of the fact that 1/3 of all ATV injuries happen to their age group, ages 5-19. Their final question informed them that there are many workplace hazards, and safety training is a vital part of starting a new job. **Congratulations to the students of Hythe Regional who won our \$1000 grand prize for having the highest percentage of student participation!**



Dwayne Speager, Principal of Hythe Regional Junior High School accepts a cheque for \$1000 from Donna Kulba, Chairperson of Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities.



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Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember....

Saturday, Sept 6th,
10am - 3pm. Come
and visit the Safety
City Display at the
Crystal Centre
Community
Connections Event.

September 10th -
World Suicide
Prevention Day.
www.sp-rc.ca
780-539-6680

September 13th -
World First Aid Day;
Canadian Red Cross.
780-539-7127

October 1st -
National Safe
Communities Day.
Car Seat Clinic to be
held at the Peace
Country Safety
Resource Centre,
10am - 2pm.
780-402-2818

October 5 - 11th -
Fire Prevention
Week: "Prevent
Home Fires".
Remember to change
the batteries in your
smoke detector!
780-538-0392

Did you Know?

- ♦ A pedestrian hit at 64km/hr has an 85% chance of being killed.
- ♦ At 48km/hr, that same pedestrian has a 45% chance of being killed.
- ♦ While at 32km/hr, the chance of dying is only 5%.
- ♦ Reduce your speed. Drive the limit. Yield to pedestrians. Save a life...
- ♦ Injury is the leading cause of death and disability for Alberta's children.

ATV Safety Campaign

ATV deaths and injuries are a huge concern for us at Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities. Please take a moment to consider the shocking statistics:

In Alberta, 2002-2006:

- There were **64** ATV-related deaths.
- 16 per cent of the deceased were **less than 16 years of age**.
- **The Peace Country Health Region had the highest ATV-related injury emergency department visit rate with 560.0 visits per 100,000 population, in 2006.**
- **The Peace Country Health Region had the highest ATV-related injury hospital admission rate with 79.2 admissions per 100,000 population, in 2006.**
- Alberta had the highest number of sales of new ATVs in 2006 with 23,438 units. This accounted for over a quarter (26 per cent) of all new ATV sales in Canada, yet Alberta accounted for only 10 per cent of the population.

For more information and a radio ad link that Capital Health in Edmonton has developed for their ATV campaign go to www.capitalhealth.ca/safeATV. If you have time to check out the link there is also an ATV Survey that takes less than a minute to fill out.

The key message of the campaign is that children and teens under 16 years of age do not have the strength, skills or judgment to operate a full size ATV.

While very real risks remain with the use of recreational vehicles, for those teens and adults who choose to operate an ATV, injuries can be prevented by following these recommendations:

- ATVs should only be operated by drivers 16 years of age or older.
- All drivers should take an approved training course.
- ATVs should be registered and licensed.
- Do not carry a passenger on an ATV unless recommended by the manufacturer.
- Wear an approved ATV or motorcycle helmet, eye protection, and appropriate clothing.
- Never use alcohol or drugs while operating an ATV.
- Drive the ATV at a safe, controlled speed.
- Parents must be involved when their teen begins driving an ATV. This includes: actively supervising, controlling access to the ATV, teaching safe driving habits, providing opportunity for practice and setting and enforcing rules.



Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research. All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Injuries in Alberta. Edmonton: Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research; 2008.

Young Worker Safety Web Site Launched

Safe Communities Canada officially launched a new web site, www.passporttosafety.com, to increase awareness of workplace safety for young workers 15 to 24 years old. In Alberta, young workers made up 19.5 per cent of all long-time claims and 22.7 per cent of disabling injury claims, even though they made up about 17 per cent of the entire workforce. Over 400 young workers are injured right here in the Peace Region every year. The most effective way to inform our children about their rights and responsibilities is through the school system. Teachers across Canada have been the highest users of Passport to Safety in their lesson plans and many of the improvements to the web site are as a result of their feedback. Harry Balfour junior high students participated in the program funded by Grande Prairie & Area Safe Communities, during the 2007/08 school year. Highlights of the new site include greater flexibility for teachers to download supporting videos and handouts to use in the classroom, test answers are simplified and shorter, and successful participants can now receive their transcript and certificate on one page. Please contact our office if you would like more information on using the site.

Thank you CASA for your support!



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

CASA Grant Approved

We are very excited to announce that the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association has approved funding in the amount of \$15,472 for the Safety City Farm Safety program. CASA's mission is to make the agricultural sector a safe place to work and live by helping producers see and manage risk in their workplace. The 2000 sq ft barn that will be located within the Safety City streetscape has been designed with the goal of teaching area children an awareness of safety issues that happen daily in a rural setting. The Farm Safety Program will focus on safe animal handling, equipment safety, chemical safety, water safety and ATV safety.