

CAER

WINTER
2008

community awareness emergency response

NEWS

Join us for:
Sherwood Park Safety Fair

Saturday, January 17th
9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Sherwood Park Mall

www.sia.ab.ca

Message from the SIA President



Chris Jager
Scaw Metals,
AltaSteel

Welcome to the winter edition of CAER News. The SIA Board members and I extend to you our very best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.

2008 was another busy year. Our fundamentals of emergency preparedness, environmental responsibility and community outreach were achieved through Strathcona District Mutual Assistance Program (SDMAP), the

Ambient Air Monitoring Network and the Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER) program. These key initiatives demonstrate how the SIA strives to meet its mission of working with the community and government to promote a safe and healthy working and living environment.

My sincere appreciation goes to the SIA board, committee members, and our community partners who bring their collective talents to the Association.

Have a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Full edition of CAER News & 2007 Annual Summary now available at www.sia.ab.ca or call 429-CAER (2237) to receive a copy.



Curious about industry activity? Call the  UPDATEline
1-866-653-9959

Remembering a **Safety Champion**

When the 12th annual community safety fair is held on January 17th in Sherwood Park it will be without its creator, Mr. Allan Wells. Allan passed away in August after a brief illness.

Allan was a tireless champion of community safety, including children's safety. He played an integral role in convincing the Strathcona Industrial Association to get involved in the Safe Communities Coalition of Strathcona County in its early days, and was an active member ever since. The annual safety fair was one of the coalition's original and most important projects.

As a passionate advocate for community safety and community building, Allan brought people together with a unique style and never-ending enthusiasm. He encouraged people to share their energy, experience and knowledge to make our community a safer place to live, work and play. For that, we are fortunate to have known Allan – and have been touched by his commitment to safety in our community.

Students Experience Imperial Oil Strathcona Refinery

Thousands of grade nine students across the country spent November 5th at their parents' workplace as part of Take Our Kids to Work day, an initiative created by the Learning Partnership, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to championing a strong public education system in Canada.

Take Our Kids to Work day enables students to experience first hand some of the career options that will be available to them. The Imperial Oil Strathcona refinery hosted 15 students who spent the day learning about oil refining and the associated career possibilities.

The students participated in a safety orientation and learned about the importance of workplace safety. In addition to a tour of the refinery, students participated in career discussions and some job shadowing activities.

For most students it was the first opportunity they have had to visit their parent's workplace. Most were surprised at the size of the refinery; the variety of shifts that employees worked; and the ongoing training and learning that is part of working. This is the 10th year that Imperial has hosted the event at the refinery.

Imperial's vision in education is to contribute to building a life-long learning system in Canada that ranks among the best in the world. Its focus is on programs that enhance the teaching and learning of math, science and technology. The company strongly believes that investing in education is key to the future success of Canada, and in the spirit of this commitment, the Imperial Oil Foundation recently donated \$1,000,000 to the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. The funds went towards the development of the Imperial Oil Process Control Laboratory and aboriginal education initiatives.

Best-Ever **United Way** Campaign

Imperial Oil – Strathcona refinery employees and Communications, Energy & Paperworkers Local 777 ran their most successful joint campaign to date.

Together they raised \$200,250 for the United Way. The Imperial Oil Foundation presented a gift of \$135,000 bringing the total contribution to the local United Way to \$335,250. Campaign Co-Chairs Anas Zeineddine and Shane Carstens describe their campaign experience as one of the most rewarding opportunities they have had in their careers.

FOCUS ON

Local Emergency Response

At approximately 7:50 a.m. on October 24th, an industrial emergency occurred at the AT Plastics facility on 34th Street and Baseline Road. The investigation into the cause is still underway; however, because responders from industry and municipalities train together and practice their coordinated emergency response plans regularly, the emergency response to the incident that day was handled effectively.

When an incident occurs at an industrial facility, that site emergency response plan is immediately activated. A site alarm sounds, signaling employees and others on site to gather at designated safe area muster points for headcount procedures. A call is made to 911, providing information details and emergency response crews from the local municipality are dispatched to the facility. On site, trained responders are also deployed, and the incident commander sets response priorities according to safety of people, property and the environment. When municipal responders arrive, they are structured to form a joint command system with industry through Strathcona District Mutual Assistance Program (SDMAP).

Both the City of Edmonton and Strathcona County emergency services departments work closely with industry emergency responders regularly to test emergency response plans and procedures. Through SDMAP, routine training exercises ensure emergency response is effective. On the day of the AT Plastics incident, Edmonton Fire and Rescue was dispatched and Strathcona County Emergency Services was on standby in case additional resources were needed.

If residents and businesses in the area need to take any safety actions, they are contacted by municipal officials, usually through local media. Information about SIA member activity or incidents can also be found on the UPDATEline 1-866-653-9959, a toll free 24 hour information line. Citizens also should be aware of safety precautions such as "Shelter In Place" – the safety action of going indoors and preventing outdoor air from coming inside to minimize exposure to airborne substances. *For Shelter In Place steps, go to the back page of CAER News. For more information on SDMAP, visit www.sdmap.ca.*

City of Edmonton



Edmonton's Office of Emergency Preparedness was created in September 2002 to ensure the city is ready to respond to any disaster that may occur. When situations arise that require co-ordinated response, trained Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) staff have access to a command room with phones, maps, and communication equipment, to ensure proper resources are directed where they are needed. Predetermined levels of EOC activation range from monitoring a situation to full activation of staff and resources. Edmonton's EOC was activated six times in 2008: twice for tornado watches, once for a chemical spill into the North Saskatchewan River, once for a major gas leak and evacuation as well as on Canada Day and Halloween.

Strathcona County



For Strathcona County Emergency Services, multi-tasking, multi-skilling and working in teams are three key foundations to the department. The results are responders trained in both medical and fire response and a strong working relationship with local industry. In total, Strathcona County Emergency Services responded to more than 5000 calls last year in Sherwood Park and rural Strathcona County. It employs 180 full and part-time staff members.





SAFETY COLOURING FUN with Aware Bear

COMMUNITY AWARENESS EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Obey all signs near outdoor ice



Strathcona Industrial Association

Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER)
connected to our community since 1974

“ALWAYS PLAY SAFE AND KNOW WHAT TO DO!”

For More Safety Tips Check 'Safety Corner' on Our Web Site www.sia.ab.ca

A Day on the River: Petro-Canada's Elizabeth Bunney



Petro-Canada's Edmonton Refinery has a unique partnership this year with two great groups. Partnering with Riverwatch, the company is sponsoring a program for Ross Shepherd High School Biology 20 and Science 30 students to take a field trip on the North Saskatchewan River. Elizabeth Bunney is with Petro-Canada and had the pleasure of joining Biology 20 students for a trip at the end of October.

We had great weather and the sun even came out in the afternoon, making for a beautiful day on the rafts!

We departed from Dawson Park and paddled towards our first testing site. As we passed through Dawson, we learned about some of the issues the park is facing as a result of it being a landfill site a hundred years ago. We talked extensively about our City's drainage systems and I learned what the City does in instances of emergency flooding.

At our first testing site, students conducted water quality tests for dissolved oxygen, phosphates, ammonia, nitrogen, pH, temperature, turbidity, bacteria and invertebrates. That was the most fun for us, especially watching the students look for invertebrates. There were some fun surprises in those buckets!

We hopped back into the rafts and made our way to Gold Bar Park for lunch, a short break and then on to the Gold Bar Wastewater Treatment Plant for a tour. What a great relationship the plant has with Riverwatch! Our Riverwatch guides were able to tour the students through the plant themselves. I thought this was really great because students could get a first-hand look at the plant in action led by the people who were helping them understand the river. I learned a lot that day about wastewater treatment and will be making some changes in my home life.

I think everyone should see what this first class facility does, all without the help of chemicals. It was amazing to see what goes into this process and I am very proud to live in a city with such an innovative system!

Next, the students went to the second testing site to compare the results they obtained before and after the treatment plant. A fun paddle race ended the raft trip and the students returned to school.

Petro-Canada is proud to be a part of this great program as it teaches students first hand about the effects we have on the river itself. It was a real eye opener and I was grateful to be able to participate and to be a student for the day!

Many SIA members are sponsors of Riverwatch programming, including Petro-Canada, Imperial Oil and Gold Bar Wastewater Treatment Plant. For more information on Riverwatch, please visit www.riverwatch.ab.ca

Sherwood Park CAER Fair

SIA's final CAER Fair of the year was held September 20th in Sherwood Park at Fire Station #1. Approximately 750 people attended the morning event to learn about industry and community emergency response.



Petro-Canada Gives to United Way

Between its employee campaign and corporate donation, a total of \$286,599 was raised at Petro-Canada Edmonton Refinery for the 2008 United Way.




Pictured from left to right: Campaign Co-Chair Trish Davies, Campaign Co-Chair Elizabeth Bunney, Manager Randy Parcels and UW Campaign Manager, Patricia Verruyt

SDMAP Strathcona District Mutual Assistance Program

SIA members are proud to be part of SDMAP, a partnership of more than 30 industrial and community agencies dedicated to emergency response planning in east Edmonton and Strathcona County. Since 1979, SDMAP members have been sharing best practices for industrial incident planning and response.

Check out the SDMAP website: www.sdmap.ca

SHELTER-IN-PLACE In Case of a Chemical Emergency

1. Go inside. Turn on local radio/TV. 
2. Close all windows and doors.
3. Turn off exhaust fans.
4. Listen to radio or TV for further instructions. Keep phone lines free.
5. If odour is strong, seal an inside room with wet towels at base of door. Breathe through a damp towel to filter air.

911 should be called only for emergencies.



We would like to HEAR FROM YOU!

COMMENTS:

Send to:
Strathcona Industrial Association, P.O. Box 3374,
Sherwood Park MPO Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2T3
or visit www.sia.ab.ca



CAER News is a quarterly publication of The Strathcona Industrial Association.
PRINTED ON 100% POST-CONSUMER MATERIAL (PCW)

