

## Heartland industrial activity remains steady

Local communities gather valuable information about industry plans at update evening in Lamont

Lamont, Alberta (May 3, 2016) – Between existing operations and new construction, industrial activity in Alberta's Industrial Heartland maintains a steady pace. Ongoing construction continues on several major projects, while groundbreaking for new projects will happen as early as this summer. More than twenty industrial companies and organizations shared current and future plans at the bi-annual Heartland Community Information Evening on May 2 in Lamont.

Hosted by Life in the Heartland, the event was one of the best attended. The evening drew a crowd of nearly 250 local residents, business owners, government, and industry representatives. With trade show style booths and seven presentations, the event provided a valuable opportunity for the community to become more aware of nearby industrial activities.

"Knowing our neighbors is a big part of what keeps communities healthy, growing, and safe," commented Vanessa Goodman, Chair of Life in the Heartland. "In our region, industrial facilities are considered our neighbors. This event provides a unique opportunity for local residents and business owners to get to know those industrial neighbors a little better."

Seven organizations delivered presentations and shared the following details:

- Northeast Region CAER encouraged the audience to lend their feedback to the nationwide public consultation on Wireless Public Alerts as a means for emergency alerting via cell phones.
- Alberta Midland Railway is expected to have shovels in the ground this June for their \$34M rail terminal project, which will have the capacity to store and switch 850 rail cars.
- **Cenovus** provided an overview of their operations, including the Bruderheim Rail Terminal, in addition to their local community investment in food banks, hampers, and school programs.
- **Enbridge** is expected to continue construction on their Norlite Pipeline and Stonefell Terminal this summer/fall, and highlighted their \$145K in local community contributions last year.
- **Graymont** shared an overview of their lime hydrating and distribution facility which began operations in 2014, in addition to supporting local initiatives such as Bullarama, parks, and schools.
- **Shell** highlighted the completion of their Quest CCS project last November and noted their dedication to local community investment, which exceeded \$500K in the past few years.
- Williams featured their new offgas facility now operating near Fort McMurray, in addition to their planned propane processing facility which would be the first of its kind in Canada.

Life in the Heartland provides information and resources for residents of the Heartland region. Supporting partners include Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association, Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society, Fort Air Partnership, Northeast Capital Industrial Association, and Northeast Region Community Awareness Emergency Response.





The presentations will be posted at <u>www.lifeintheheartland.com</u> as they become available. Tweets from the evening can be found by following <u>@LifeinHeartland</u> or searching #ABHeartland on Twitter.

Details about Life in the Heartland's fall 2016 Community Information Evening will be available in September.

To learn more, visit www.lifeintheheartland.com or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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A crowd of nearly 250 attended the event on May 2 at the Lamont Hall.

Enbridge's booth provided a unique demonstration of pipelines and pump stations.

Emergency alerts could be available via cell phones, explained Brenda Gheran with Northeast Region CAER. A public consultation on Wireless Public Alerts is currently underway across Canada.

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