



# Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 4, 2017**

## **NuVista Energy gift provides significant funding, career opportunities for local students**

Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWSD) expresses thanks to NuVista Energy Ltd. for its support of dual credit programming at local schools.

Today, Vern Crone, Production Superintendent at NuVista Energy Ltd. presented a \$25,000 cheque to the Superintendents and students of the three local school districts. The donation means that students who successfully complete the Foundations in Workplace Safety dual credit opportunity at Grande Prairie Regional College will pay only \$227 of the \$1,100 tuition fee, of which school districts cover \$483.

The Provincial Dual Credit Strategy creates opportunities for students to earn credits in high school and post-secondary institutions at the same time. It also offers post-secondary course exemption and workplace certification. Students who successfully complete the Foundations in Workplace Safety program will earn high school credits along with eight tickets in Confined Spaces Awareness/Rescue, Detection and Control of Flammable Substances, Fall Protection, Ground Disturbance Supervisor, H<sub>2</sub>S Alive, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, WHIMIS, and Construction Safety Training System.

When asked to use one word to describe how news of the donation made him feel, Wally Urich, Grade 11 dual credit student at Peace Wapiti Academy, was quick to reply, "Awesome!"

"After I finish my high school diploma and the Foundations in Workplace Safety program, I'd like to get experience in construction or oil and gas, and then go back to college to study a trade or business," says Mr. Urich. "Being able to enter the workforce directly out of high school will provide the experience and the funds I will need to go to college at a later date."

"Dual Credit students will find tremendous relevance from this training," says Jason Caufield, Alternative Education Principal at PWSD. "The courses are resume building and competency-based, supporting students who are ready to enter the workforce upon graduation from high school. Historically, NuVista Energy has been an advocate for PWSD students, and this support, along with past funding, ensures that our students are prepared for their future careers."

NuVista Energy Ltd. has also directed funds to First Aid training for high school students within the three districts. In the past, the company has supported PWSD school-based breakfast programs, robotics programs, SMART<sup>®</sup> board technology, and team jerseys.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to help kids. Training local workers is good for the local economy and good for NuVista," says Mr. Crone.

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**Photo Captions:**

1. (L-r): Debbie Terceros, *CONNECT* Coordinator at Peace Wapiti Academy; Wally Urich, Grade 11 dual credit student at Peace Wapiti Academy; Vern Crone, Production Superintendent at NuVista Energy Ltd.; and PWSD Superintendent Sheldon Rowe.
2. Vern Crone, Production Superintendent at NuVista Energy Ltd. presented a \$25,000 cheque to the Superintendents and students of the three local school districts on April 4, 2017.

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