

# internal MEMORANDUM

VERMILION  
ENERGY



**TO:** All Vermilion Staff  
**FROM:** Nicole Davis  
**DATE:** May 11, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** Energy in Action – Planting the seed for a better future!

---



A little rain mixed with some snow and unrelenting wind didn't stop the Grade 4 students at Evergreen Elementary and Eldorado Drayton Christian School from participating in this year's Energy in Action events which included planting an outdoor garden oasis in their Drayton Valley schoolyard on May 3 & 4.

Vermilion stepped up again this year as Team Lead and sponsor for both events and welcomed participation from other Calgary-based energy companies including Conoco Phillips, Baytex, Pembina Pipeline and CCS Corporation. The students and participating volunteers spent the afternoon learning how to mix soil, compost and peat moss to fill 10 flower beds with potatoes, onions and tomatoes which will eventually be harvested and enjoyed as part of the school's lunch program.

"We've never had anything like this before in our schoolyard, and it is really amazing to see all the kids get excited about gardening at home and at school," said Kim Desmarais, Grade 4 teacher at Evergreen Elementary.



Deputy Mayor of Drayton Valley, Deb Bossert (left) also attended the Energy in Action events, pitching in at both schools. Vermilion employees Daniel Goulet, Director, Production and Operations, Canada, Reid Rauch, Southern Foothills District Area Foreman (right) helped the students dig up soil and compost to fill all the flower beds. From the Drayton Valley office, Kerry Baumann, office assistant and Paul Newberry, contract operator were also on hand to help out.



Special to Energy in Action this year, students built birdhouses at Eldorado Drayton Christian School as part of the environmental stewardship projects. The birdhouses are designed specifically to attract bluebirds, a species on the decline and without active preservation could one day become extinct. Bluebirds are one of the most beautiful and desired of backyard birds across North America. A total of 51 birdhouses were built by the students and volunteers throughout the afternoon. A single house can attract up to a dozen bluebirds each year.



Plans are now underway for Energy in Action 2011. Thank you to all who participated this year! [Learn more about Energy in Action and participating companies.](#)

