

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - EARTH WEEK STORY

SFU and UBC students bring conservation science to life for BC youth this Earth Week

WHISTLER, B.C. – In celebration of Earth Week, more than 500 kids in remote B.C. communities will learn about energy conservation and safety from Let's Talk Science Outreach volunteers from Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia.

On Monday, April 18, 2011, two Let's Talk Science volunteers will visit Spring Creek Community School to engage kids in Grades 4 to 7 in exciting hands-on science activities about energy and electricity.

For example, students may have the opportunity to explore emerging technologies by building small-scale cars powered by fuel cells and by building their own generators to understand how windmills produce electricity. Throughout the activities, Let's Talk Science volunteers will discuss the importance of energy conservation and the implications of alternative energy.

"It's easy for kids to forget the number of things in their lives that use energy – driving to school, turning on the lights, making dinner, watching a movie, texting," says Denise Lang, a Let's Talk Science volunteer from Simon Fraser University. "During our visits at each school, we'll get the kids to do hands-on science activities that not only show where our energy comes from, but also highlight the increasing importance of energy conservation."

Students will also have the opportunity to engage in activities related to engineering, force and motion, optics, ancient machines and crime scene investigation.

"Science outreach road trips are a great way to reach a lot of schools that don't normally get many visitors, let alone real scientists engaged in exciting research," says Lang.

Let's Talk Science volunteers strive to make science learning relevant and accessible so children and youth at any age can understand how science impacts their everyday lives.

BC Hydro and the BC Year of Science have provided support for the science outreach trips to these communities.

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For more information, or to ask about the school visit schedule, please contact:

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About Let's Talk Science:

Let's Talk Science is an award-winning, national, charitable, science outreach organization. We deliver science learning programs and services that turn kids on to science, keep them engaged in learning and develop their potential to become 21st century citizens, stewards and innovators. Through Let's Talk Science Outreach, we engage more than 2,600 enthusiastic post-secondary student volunteers at 33 universities and colleges across Canada to turn more

than 120,000 kids on to science, engineering and technology each year. For more information about Let's Talk Science, please visit www.letstalkscience.ca.