



News Release

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For Immediate Release

ATCO Gas and Calgary Fire Department Honour Young Albertans

CALGARY, Alberta - The Calgary Fire Department, in partnership with ATCO Gas, will be celebrating the graduation of 16 cadets, aged 15 to 19, from the Fire Cadet Academy and on Saturday, May 21, 2005. The program, which started in 2000, offers participants a hands-on opportunity to develop skills and knowledge while working in the fire service. Cadets participate in an accredited evening high school program instructed by trained fire professionals who also provide an insight into firefighting as a career.

As a long-standing sponsor of the cadet program, ATCO Gas has been providing two graduates with \$1,000 scholarships to further pursue education within the emergency services field. One of the main attributes in selecting the recipients of the 2005 scholarships was the cadet's commitment to being a community volunteer.

"The Calgary Fire Department and ATCO Gas both recognize the importance of youth and education, and this strong partnership is an excellent opportunity to support Alberta's youth through the Fire Cadet Academy," says Jerome Engler, President of ATCO Gas. "ATCO Gas is also a strong supporter of volunteerism in the many communities we serve, which is why our scholarship program recognizes the recipients' commitment to community service."

Throughout their program, cadets took part in physically challenging, active, educational experiences that involve working with Calgary firefighters and members of the communities. The skills and experience gained by learning directly from people in the field uniquely positions the cadets for further career progress as a firefighter.

The graduation will be held at the Fire Training Academy, 5727 – 23 Avenue S.E., which will allow cadets the opportunity to showcase their newly acquired skills and techniques.

High school students interested in joining the academy can call 268-8774, visit www.calgaryfire.ca or e-mail firecadet@calgary.ca for more information.

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