



Digging Around GCS

◆ STAFF COUNT IS ~ 92

⇒ Congratulations to Candice J who completed and received her CSO certification on Feb 11, 2011

◆ T4 Information

⇒ T4's have been sent out. The envelope is the same as the pay slips with the exception that they are **PINK!** So don't throw it out!!

◆ **Did you know** that you can access your T4's, view your hours, subsistence and any notes posted by the office by logging in to the Payworks site using the login information given to you when you signed up for electronic paystubs.

⇒ If you haven't yet signed up for electronic paystubs, email becky@gregscontracting.ca and sign up today!

◆ Olympia Health Benefits

⇒ Olympia Health Benefits reimbursement can now be deposited directly into your bank account. Forms to sign up for direct deposit are available online through your "My Olympia" account or you can request the form from the Site Office or Hardisty Office.

◆ Easter Office Closures

⇒ The Red Deer, Hardisty and Virden offices will be closed on Friday April 22, 2011 for Good Friday.



Hello Everyone!

I think we can all agree that we are ready for the snow, cold temperatures and now mud to go away and bring us some sunshine. We have work to do and all this weather is not helping us get started very fast! LOL. As the newsletter states, we have a few projects on the go and we just picked up another one building some pumping stations near Smoky Lake that Glenn Turner and his team will be looking after. Marshall, Ritch and I have been putting in a lot of extra hours trying to keep up with the largest workload of tenders we have ever seen at GCS. We have not been awarded too many yet, but I am sure that won't last long. Judging from past experience, it will all hit at once and we will all be very busy once again!

I would like to thank everyone for the great job you are doing at GCS, it does not go unnoticed no matter what you are doing or what position you are in, it takes ALL of us to maintain a safe and successful place to work!

Have a great month!

Greg Schmidt



PROJECT UPDATES

Red Deer Shop - with all this snow we sure are missing Ryan, man that guy could shovel! Dylan has been trying hard to fill his shoes and is doing a great job. Gord and Dylan have been working hard to keep up with all the equipment coming back from rentals and our job sites. Keep up the great work guys!

Hardisty Shop - Troy has been busy with CVIP'ing equipment and trucks and the mechanics have been keeping busy with regular maintenance to keep our fleet rolling.

Hardisty Operations - the heavy haulers got the Big Valley site (Job 132) demobilized. The Crusher crew is currently crushing at the Wahlstrom pit and the truckers have been keeping busy hauling product to Gibsons (Job 157), Waiward (Job 170) and completing snow removal for Gibsons (Job 165)

Virden Operations - the office is getting ready for a busy spring.

Enbridge Cheecham - Job #126 - Dean and a crew of 20 have passed the 60% completion mark of the project, and are on target for the June 1 completion date. Cord has completed the pipe in ditches 7 & 8 and the site is starting to get very muddy with the warmer temperatures, hopefully the sun will dry up the ground quickly.

Buffalo Jump Contracting - Job #132 - was completed in March.

Cord - Christina Lake, AB - Job # 149 - Randy and his crew are busy pumping water, cleaning out ditch slopes, backfilling and sanding pads, and leveling roads and lay down areas.

Enbridge - Edmonton, AB - Job # 152 - Darcy and crew completed the crane pile replacement and restoration for manifold 105 at the end of March.

Gibson Energy - Hardisty, AB - Job # 157 and 165 - Eldon and crew are working on snow removal and transfer on site digging ditches, and assisting the pile drivers.

Border Paving - James River, AB- Job # 164 - Mobilization of the crusher equipment is currently in progress.

Enbridge PLM - Kerrobert, SK - Job # 168 - Klinton and crew completed this work with great comments from Enbridge on the performance of the work. Great job!

Enbridge - Edmonton, AB - Job # 169, 172 & 176 - Darcy and crew have been working on several jobs inside the terminal including an excavation and spread footing for a PLM tie-in, snow removal, Hydrovac survey for summer work and pumping water.

Waiward - Hardisty, AB - Job # 170 - The Truckers continue to deliver fill and

clay as required.

Powell - Edmonton, AB - Job # 173 - Duwayne has been busy working at the Hazco/Virden landfill hauling cover material and relocating fill piles for Hazco with a 350 JD Rock Truck.

Gibson Energy - Hardisty, AB - Job # 174 - Eldon and crew are widening the approaches, supplying screenings and slough filling.

Hazco - Virden, MB - Job # 175 - Jim and one operator are hauling material and stockpiling as required.

Cord - Smoky Lake & Lac La Biche - Job #'s 179 & 180 - Glenn and crew will be starting this project mid-April.



Equipment Activity

External Rentals - 49



On March 22, 2011 Christina, Todd and Ashley attended the spring addition of the Central Alberta Career and Job Fair in Red Deer, Alberta.

Then on March 30, 2011 Christina, Todd and Melissa attended the Employer Connections Job Fair in Edmonton, Alberta.



FEATURED EMPLOYEE

Nicole Masnyk

Field Safety Representative



Nicole joined GCS in July of 2008 as a labourer, in her time with GCS she says that she has been able to do a variety of things she never thought she would have the opportunity to do, she has learned to use a chop saw, has run a jumping jack, has operated small equipment and in April she got to do her first employee orientation. Since February, Nicole has been helping out in the office doing up tailgates and preparing presentations, completing tracking sheets for monitors and PPE, has organized the storage room, and has assisted Safety with foreman training.

Nicole is appreciative of the opportunities she has had at GCS and is reminded that hard work pays off, but you have to have patience and keep in mind that some things take longer than expected. Teamwork is a key part of the success any person experiences, you have to learn to work with everyone and if you can't work as part of a team, you won't be successful in this industry, nor will you be able to meet your deadlines. You also have to keep a good attitude and always try to smile...it's contagious!

Chief Safety Supervisor Randi F says Nicole is working towards her NCSO and is currently in the Hardisty office supporting the Safety Department in preparing for the busy spring and summer ahead. The Safety Department has put together a storage room in which Nicole is maintaining inventory and tracking lists of the products and materials to keep an accurate count of what we have available. She has also been working on creating tailgates and presentations pertaining to our industry and has also been performing observations in Hardisty, Red Deer, Virden and at the Gravel Pits. Nicole has been a great addition to the safety department and we look forward to her completing her NCSO and joining the field safety representatives.

Thank you for your hard work Nicole, and we look forward to seeing more of your smile around the offices and the jobsites in the future.

THIS MONTH'S SAFETY TOPIC – National Day of Mourning

April 28, National Day of Mourning is also known as Workers Memorial Day. It commemorates workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness due to workplace related hazards and incidents.

Workers' Memorial Day was started by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in 1984

Canadian Labour Congress officially declared it an annual day of remembrance on April 28, 1985

In December 1990, this day became a national observance with the passing of the Workers Mourning Day Act.

On April 28, 1991, it was officially the National Day of Mourning for persons killed or injured in the workplace; making April 28, an official Workers' Mourning Day

The National Day of Mourning has spread to over 80 countries around the world, mostly known as the Workers' Memorial Day

April 28 was picked because on that day in 1914, the Workers Compensation Act received its third reading. In 2001 the International Labour Organization first observed World Day for Safety and Health at Work on this day.

Typically the Canadian flag on Parliament Hill is flown at half-mast, and workers and employees observe this day in various ways including lighting candles, donning ribbons and black armbands, and observing moments of silence.

The numbers are staggering.
Workplace deaths recorded in Canada:
 2009 - **939**
 2008 - **1036**
This represents more than 2.57 deaths every single day

From 1993 to 2009, 15,129 people lost their lives due to work-related causes. That's an average of 889 deaths per year

April 28 is as much a day to remember the dead as it is a call to protect the living.



The purpose of Day of Mourning is twofold- to remember and honour those lives lost or injured and to renew the commitment to improving health and safety in the workplace - to prevent further deaths, injuries and diseases from work.



Earth Day
CANADA

Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide.

More than **6 million** Canadians join **1 billion** people in over **170 countries** in staging events and projects to address local environmental issues.

In 1990, **2 million** Canadians joined **200 million** people in **141 nations** in celebrating the **1st International Earth Day.**

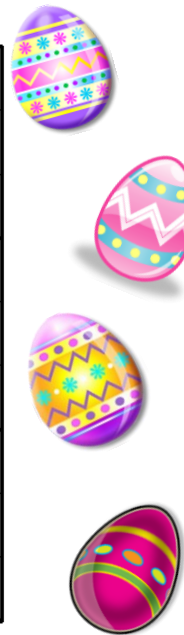
In Canada, Earth Day has grown into Earth Week and even Earth Month. Some events and are: Victoria's Earth Walk, Edmonton's Earth Day Festival, and Oakville, Ontario's Waterways Clean-up, and thousands of private events staged by schools, employee groups and community groups.

April 22, 2011



Sudoku #7

	7		3	6	2			4
6	3	1	5	8				9
						6		
1			2		6			5
	5			7			2	
2			1		9			8
		5						
3				9	1	4	5	2
7			8	4	5			3



Easter Word Search

R	X	U	K	X	E	C	C	H	I	C	K	D	T
H	B	A	S	K	E	T	G	O	L	Y	M	A	D
I	T	S	E	N	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y
D	S	L	H	J	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
E	R	I	T	E	X	T	T	R	A	B	B	I	T
G	E	D	O	L	U	F	R	O	L	O	C	Y	A
G	W	O	L	L	I	W	Y	S	S	U	P	A	R
S	O	F	C	Y	V	E	A	S	T	E	R	D	O
S	L	F	W	B	A	T	F	B	E	D	E	N	C
A	F	A	E	E	Y	N	N	U	B	A	P	U	E
R	I	D	N	A	L	U	G	N	I	R	P	S	D
G	N	Z	F	N	A	H	V	S	E	A	R	C	H
Z	D	P	A	L	M	T	U	L	I	P	S	K	D
K	Y	L	I	L	B	L	D	I	K	O	C	H	A

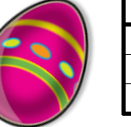
- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| BASKET | EGGS | NEST |
| BUNNY | FIND | NEW CLOTHES |
| BUTTERFLY | FLOWERS | PALM |
| CHICK | GRASS | PARADE |
| CHOCOLATE | HIDE | PUSSYWILLOW |
| COLORFUL | HOTCROSSBUN | RABBIT |
| DAFFODILS | HUNT | SEARCH |
| DECORATE | JELLYBEAN | SPRING |
| DYE | LAMB | SUNDAY |
| EASTER | LILY | TULIPS |



EARTH DAY - APRIL 22, 2011

Top 10 Actions to Reduce your Impact on the Environment

- Smart Shopping**
 - * Consider renting and borrowing things that are seldom needed
- Simple Savers**
 - * Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs
 - * Weather-strip windows and doors
- Transportation Alternatives**
 - * walk, cycle, car pool and use public transportation
 - * when driving, reduce idling and maintain correct tire pressure
- Food Choices**
 - * choose local and organic foods that are in season and support local food producers
- Washing and Drying**
 - * wash full loads of clothes in cold water and hang to air dry
- Heating and Cooling**
 - * for summer air conditioning, set your thermostat to 24C or 25C
 - * for winter heating, set your thermostat to 19C or 20C
 - * install ceiling fans and programmable thermostats
- Close to Home**
 - * vacation and travel as close to home as possible
- Bathroom Basics**
 - * take short showers instead of baths
 - * turn off water taps while brushing your teeth
- Careful Cleaning**
 - * choose natural, non-toxic cleaning products
 - * make simple, natural cleaners with ingredients like vinegar and water
- Don't Discard**
 - * donate, reuse and recycle items before throwing them into the trash
 - * harmful materials like chemicals, batteries, electronics, etc should be taken to local hazardous waste depots or recyclers.



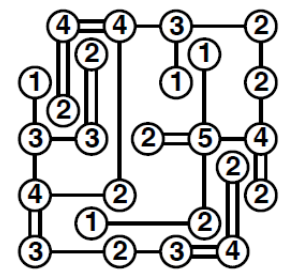
DID YOU KNOW

That you can get the GCS newsletter delivered directly to your inbox every month. To sign up go to our website our website or email sheralee@gregscontracting.ca



Answer to March Sudoku Answer to

2	4	3	7	6	9	5	1	8
8	7	6	4	5	1	3	9	2
1	5	9	3	8	2	7	6	4
4	1	2	6	3	7	8	5	9
5	6	7	2	9	8	1	4	3
3	9	8	5	1	4	2	7	6
6	8	5	9	7	3	4	2	1
9	2	1	8	4	5	6	3	7
7	3	4	1	2	6	9	8	5



For information or submission of news and interviews, please call Sheralee at the Hardisty Office (780) 888-3845 or email: sheralee@gregscontracting.ca

For more information visit the Earth Day website at <http://www.earthday.ca>