

The EXCAVATOR



Digging Around GCS

Hello Everyone!

As I am sure everyone can tell, things have really picked up here at GCS. We have quite a few new projects starting up in May and June so we have been busy hiring new people to staff these projects accordingly. I would like to welcome all of our new hires aboard and thank all the staff that have been doing a very good job in Cheecham, Hardisty, Edmonton, at the Crushing projects and all other projects that have been completed so far this year! Safety reports have been coming back very good and we must continue to maintain our great track record and find ways we can improve it during this busy construction season. If you have friends or relatives that are not working give them a call and send them our way as we need good Rock Truck Drivers, Laborers, Packer Operators, Loader Hands, etc to fill the recent workload. The Red Deer office is still busy bidding more and more projects as we are still looking for even more work to carry us through the fall and winter as well. So hold on, because it is going to be a busy time here at GCS!!

Keep smiling and keep it safe! ☺

Greg Schmidt



PROJECT UPDATES

Red Deer Shop - things have been going along pretty good here in Red Deer, we have had Jonathan helping out which has made a big difference in keeping up with the maintenance and repairs of the equipment, he has also been helping out the apprentices by showing them things to be on the lookout for with equipment coming back in off rent. Marshall has been putting a lot of time in getting all the bids done on time, seems to be many more than usual.

Hardisty Shop - the shop has been keeping busy with maintenance, repairs and CVIP'ing. We have recently purchased 4 new trucks so the shop is readying them for site.

Hardisty Operations - the truckers have been kept busy moving equipment from Lac La Biche (Job # 180) to Smoky Lake (Job # 179), to Edmonton (Job # 185) and to and from Cheecham (Job # 126), additionally they

have been continuously hauling product to Flint Hills (Job # 186). We recently hired 3 more crusher hands, and will start crushing again shortly at the Wahlstrom pit.

Virden Operations - Jim has been making the rounds visiting prospective clients in the Manitoba and Eastern Saskatchewan regions. GCS has sponsored the High School Rodeo in Virden that takes place in June.

Enbridge Cheecham - Job #126 - Dean and a crew of 50 have started installing 40mm on the liner while continuing to build berms around the containment pond and pouring concrete on the PVC sleeves. Everything is progressing well to meet the June 1 deadline.

Cord - Christina Lake, AB - Job # 149 - All 3 sites are going, Chris will be taking over for Randy who is going to Edmonton (185)

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◆ STAFF COUNT IS ~ 120

◆ 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.



◆ May Office Closures

⇒ The Red Deer, Hardisty and Virden offices will be closed on Monday May 23, 2011 for the Victoria Day Holiday



◆ 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 billie@gregscontracting.ca and sign up today!

◆ You can get the newsletter delivered to your inbox every month. To sign up go to our website or email sheralee@gregscontracting.ca

Gibson Energy - Hardisty, AB - Job # 157 - Duwayne and a small crew are leveling ruts, hauling in and installing gravel and screenings, dewatering and backfilling ditches, removing fence posts and installing sonotubes.

Cord - Hardisty, AB - Job # 163 - we have had 2 people on site up until recently, there is now 1 operator on site.

Border Paving - James River, AB - Job # 164 - the crusher crew has mobilized fully to James River and have been busy crushing. The job is coming along well.

Enbridge - Edmonton, AB - Job # 172 - Darcy and crew are back on site preparing an excavation for additional concrete work for the PLM tie in.

Gibson Energy - Hardisty, AB - Job # 174 - Eldon and a small crew are backfilling Hydrovac holes, pumping water, setting up jersey barriers and leveling and packing gravel and screenings hauled to site.

Hazco - Virden, MB - Job # 175 - Kelvin D. has been driving the rock truck at the Hazco Virden Landfill when they need us, the wet conditions and rain there have

meant that a few days we were not able to work out there. It is flooding all around the Virden area.

Enbridge - Cheecham - Job # 178 - the trailer pad is complete, and the contractor laydown pad should be complete prior to the long weekend.

Cord - Smoky Lake - Job # 179 - Glenn and a small crew are busy stripping topsoil, building a ramp over the pipelines, loading and hauling clay for ramps and compacting the road and leveling the pad for the office area.

Cord - Lac La Biche - Job # 180 - Klinton and a small crew have been cleaning up ruts, preparing clay around the pump base, grading and drying the sub grade, layering filter cloth in the excavated sub grade and installing and compacting gravel.

Husky - Hardisty, AB - Job # 127 & 181 - Eldon and a small crew are finishing off some deficiencies on job # 127 and hauling in some screenings along with some backfill of Hydrovac holes.

Border Paving - Rimbey, AB - Job # 183 - the crushing crew will be starting this work once they complete Job # 164.

Enbridge - Edmonton, AB - Job # 185 - Darcy and a crew of 11 have started mobilization for construction start on May 24, 2011. Hydrovac trucks and surveyors are working on pipe locations and layout.

Flint Hills - Hardisty, AB - Job # 186 - Max and a crew of 4 operators are resurfacing the roads with gravel on the Flint Hills site.

Enbridge - AB/SK/MB - Job # 189 - Klinton and a small crew will be travelling to 9 Enbridge sites from Hardisty, AB to Gretna, MB doing some preparation for new HVAC units.

Husky - Hardisty, AB - Job # 190 - Eldon and a crew of 3 are excavating and installing liner for containment.



Equipment Activity
External Rentals - 49



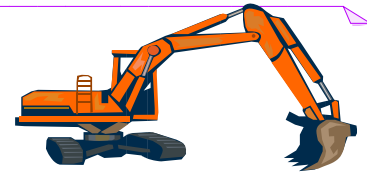
FEATURED EMPLOYEE

Wendell Swain

Equipment Operator

Wendell joined GCS in April of 2007, bringing with him over 30 years experience in equipment operation. Having operated everything from shovels, rakes, packers, mini-hoe, loader, grader, backhoe and dozer, Wendell offers a wealth of knowledge and experience to new operators and laborers alike.

Working 10 days on and 4 days off is one of the things Wendell appreciates about working for GCS, he also says that he has worked with some great crews over the years that know that a project gets completed on schedule and safely when you work as a team. Wendell goes on to say that the office staff are always helpful and have a smile on their face when you go in, after a long shift, it is appreciated for sure.



Since joining GCS, Wendell says he has learned how to build tank pads and how much work it takes for laborers and operators. He has also learned a lot about safety and how much goes into it, at past positions he says FLHA cards and the like were not a requirement, he is glad that GCS makes safety a priority!

Married 38 years, Wendell has a son and 2 daughters, he also has 3 granddaughters. Although he hasn't had much time to do it over the past 4 years, Wendell likes to ski-doo, ride horses, and water ski. He told his wife he would come to Alberta for 1 winter, not it been over 4 years. Well Wendell, we are glad you have stayed!

Dean C who is working with Wendell up at the Cheecham site says that Wendell brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to site and is always willing to help out a co-worker. His attitude is upbeat and he is a valuable part of the team.

Happy 5th Anniversary to Jen S!



Movement around the Hardisty Office

Becky F (Payroll) has decided to move on to new things. We would like to thank Becky for her 10 plus years of commitment and loyalty. Becky started in November 2000 bringing the office staff up to a whopping 3 people at the time. She was witness to a lot of growth at GCS. Good luck in your next endeavor, we will miss you.

Billie S will now be handling Payroll in addition to her Accounts Receivables duties. Thank you Billie for tackling additional duties, we know Payroll is in good hands.

Also a thank you to Suzan M who will be taking on a lot of Becky's other duties that relate directly to Suzan's Accounts Payable position.

Manitoba under water

Jim was able to snap a couple pictures of Highway 83 just North of Virden, MB...for those that have been in the region working over the past couple of years, I am sure you will recognize the valley. As you can see from the pictures, the water is almost over the highway.



Jim also took a few pictures of Melita, Manitoba and the flooding happening there.



Sudoku #8



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





May Word Search

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


BLOOMING	CINCO DE MAYO	EMERALD
FIFTH MONTH	FLOWERS	GARDENING
GEMINI	GROWTH	HAWTHORN
LILY	MAIA	MAY DAY
MEMORIAL DAY	MOTHERS DAY	NIGHTINGALE
SPRING	TAURUS	THIRTY ONE DAYS
VICTORIA DAY	WARM	

Forest Fire Prevention

It is that time of year again. The Snow is gone, the weather is hot and the wind is blowing. With the tragedy that is striking Slave Lake, AB right now, it is definitely the time to make sure we are doing what we can to prevent fires from starting. Here are some tips that are important to remember:

- If smoking outdoors, extinguish your cigarette butts and take them with you. Throwing away a cigarette butt is one of the highest causes of forest fires!
- Don't park your vehicle on dry grass 
- Know the fire bans in the region, in Alberta you can find out the fire bans by visiting <http://www.albertafirebans.ca/> or by calling 1-866-FYI-FIRE (394-3473)
- Leave campsites as natural as possible, traveling on trails and other durable surfaces.
- Inspect your site upon leaving, check, check and re-check that all fires you created are out when you leave. Use water to take care of smoldering remains or cover them with sufficient sand to keep them from re-igniting.
- Never remove burning sticks from a fire.
- Keep stoves, lanterns and heaters away from any and all combustibles.
- Store flammable liquid containers in a safe space.
- NEVER use stoves, lanterns and heaters inside a tent. 
- At the first sign of a wildfire, leave the area immediately by established trails or roads. Contact 911 as soon as possible.
- If the escape route is blocked, go to the nearest lake or stream.
- Fires generally travel faster in the direction of the wind. In addition, fires travel faster uphill than downhill, that this into account.
- Should you be force to try to break through the fire, cover your face and mouth with a wet cloth (or dry if no water available) and run as fast as possible through the flames. Should your clothes catch fire, extinguish them by rolling and padding.





A BIG SHOUT OUT to Melissa G for all the great help she has given to everyone! We don't say it often enough, but...

THANK YOU MELISSA!

Answer to April Sudoku # 7

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



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