



News Release

April 11, 2011

INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO SAFETY EDUCATION USES LIVE THEATRE AND SUPER HEROES TO TEACH YOUNG AUDIENCES

Edmonton, Alberta – Who says safety education can't be fun? This month, ATCO Energy Theatre and its brand-new "Power Game with the Blue Flame" show is visiting schools in 28 communities across central and southern Alberta to the delight of students who are laughing, giggling and shrieking all the while learning to be safe around natural gas and electricity.

Offered free-of-charge to elementary schools in communities served by ATCO Gas and ATCO Electric, ATCO Energy Theatre is a unique approach that uses "edu-tainment" to teach young children important lessons about electricity and natural gas, their hazards and how to avoid potentially fatal situations.

"Safety of the public, our customers and our employees is a core value at ATCO and ATCO Energy Theatre is a tangible part of that commitment," says Brian Hahn, President, ATCO Gas. "The program reinforces information presented in safety education programs already offered to schools by both ATCO Gas and ATCO Electric, as well as science information related to the Alberta school curriculum (Grades 4-6)."

"We believe live theatre is a particularly effective educational tool," says Bobbi Lambright, President, ATCO Electric, Operations Division. "The script and performances by our actors allow our young audiences to see themselves in the context of the play which is extremely important for learning. We're using the power of theatre to tell a story that is relevant to their world and provides important information they can bring home and start applying immediately."

Since its introduction in 2007, ATCO Energy Theatre has "edu-tained" and received applause from over 65,000 students, teachers and school principals in every corner of the province. The tour has visited several smaller schools in more remote areas of the province, giving students their first exposure to the performing arts and live educational theatre that uses song and dance to deliver a very serious safety message.

ATCO Gas and ATCO Electric are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Canadian Utilities Limited, part of the ATCO Group of Companies. ATCO Group, with more than 7,700 employees and assets of approximately \$10 billion, delivers service excellence and innovative business solutions worldwide with leading companies engaged in Utilities (pipelines, natural gas and electricity transmission and distribution), Energy (power generation, natural gas gathering, processing, storage and liquids extraction), Structures & Logistics (manufacturing, logistics and noise abatement) and Technologies (business systems solutions). More information can be found at www.atco.com

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Corporate Communications
ATCO Gas and ATCO Electric
Tel: (780) 288-7621

ATCO Energy Theatre Backgrounder

ATCO Energy Theatre is ...

- a professional three-person acting troupe supported by a stage manager delivering up to two (2) 40-minute theatrical performances per scheduled day.
 - Mathew Hulshof as the super hero, The Blue Flame
 - Karyn Mott as the villain, Rocket Socket
 - Leah Paterson as the villain, Carmen Monoxide
 - Dawn Friesen is the Stage Manager / Sound Technician
 - delivering two 4-week tours annually:
 - Spring 2011 – south and central Alberta (April 11 – May 6, 2011)
 - Fall 2011 – northern Alberta (October 2011)
 - produced by ATCO Gas and ATCO Electric and offered free of charge to elementary schools throughout its service areas. Since its introduction in 2007, the production has completed seven 4-week tours and performed to over 65,000 elementary school students, teachers and principals in every corner of the province.
-

Its purpose

- Is part of ATCO's commitment to public safety, teaching our customers and future customers about the hazards as well as how to be safe around electricity and natural gas.
 - To support the learning objectives of current ATCO school safety education programs.
 - To reinforce learning in a young "media savvy" audience by harnessing the power of "edu-tainment."
 - Combines music and live theatre to enhance delivery of important safety information.
 - Students interact and see themselves within the context of the story which enhances learning.
-

Touring 28 Central & Southern Alberta communities April 11 – May 6, 2011

Week #1: April 11 – 15

April 11 – Edmonton
April 12 – Blackfalds / Lacombe
April 13 – DeWinton / Cayley
April 14 – Stavely / Champion
April 15 – Picture Butte / Coaldale

Week #2: April 18 – 21

April 18 – Lethbridge
April 19 – Calgary / Bragg Creek
April 20 – Cochrane
April 21 - Calgary

Week #3: April 26 – 29

April 26 – Red Deer
April 27 – Brownfield / Coronation
April 28 – Forestburg / Bashaw
April 29 - Camrose

Week #4 – May 2 – 6

May 2 – Edmonton
May 3 – Three Hills / Penhold
May 4 – Standard / Strathmore
May 5 – Hussar / Rockyford
May 6 – Stettler / Castor