

May 20, 2005

5,900 kilometres of highway receive spring cleaning

Over 5,000 young people cleared 29,000 bags of trash from Alberta highways

Edmonton... The province's highways are much cleaner thanks to the efforts of 5,128 young Albertans and 3,669 adult supervisors.

"This year's annual cleanup was a great success," said Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation. "I thank all the young people and their supervisors for their efforts to make Alberta's highways look more presentable."

Volunteers from 347 clubs and non-profit community groups took part in this year's 29th annual highway cleanup day. Participants collected over 29,000 bags of garbage from highway rights-of-way or enough to fill 41 C130 Hercules cargo airplanes. Volunteers cleaned over 5,900 kilometres of highway and collectively earned \$183,000 for their organizations.

Last year, over 5,000 young people from 354 clubs and organizations collected over 34,000 bags of garbage from over 5,700 kilometres of highway rights-of-way. That's enough garbage to fill 630 dump trucks. Volunteers earned approximately \$170,000 for their community groups.

Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Edson, and Hinton area groups had to use the May 14 alternative day due to wet conditions on May 7. Groups from all other areas of the province were able to participate on May 7.

- 30 -

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