

*June 18, 2010*

## **Alberta's highways get a spring cleaning**

### ***Young Albertans earn \$476,000 for their clubs and organizations***

*Edmonton...* Less-than-ideal weather, including a May snowstorm, failed to deter 5,000 young Albertans from sprucing up Alberta's highways.

Volunteers from 357 clubs and non-profit community groups cleaned more than 5,500 kilometres of right-of-way and earned an estimated \$476,000 for their organizations. The enthusiastic youth were assisted by 3,987 adult supervisors to keep the event safe. There were no reported injuries nor major incidents associated with this year's cleanup.

This year's participants filled 43,914 garbage bags. That's enough garbage to fill 75 average-size bungalows from floor to ceiling.

Last year, over 6,000 volunteers from 505 groups cleaned approximately 7,100 kilometres of right-of-way and earned \$596,000 for their organizations. Weather contributed to the drop in participation this year. Rain and/or snow caused logistics and safety concerns that cancelled the original May 1 cleanup day in all areas but northern Alberta. The same conditions and concerns cancelled the cleanup in the Lethbridge and Hanna districts on the May 8 alternate day. All other areas were able to get the 34th annual cleanup done.

The highway cleanup is an annual event held on the first or second Saturday in May, as weather permits. Established as a fundraiser for non-profit and community groups, the program also helps keep Alberta's highways clean and safe by removing garbage from rights-of-way.

Visit [www.transportation.alberta.ca/605.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/605.htm) for more details on highway cleanup programs in Alberta.

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