



MEDIA ADVISORY

September 20, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Firefighters from across Western Canada come to Nisku for big rig rescue training

NISKU, AB – In just a few days, 80 firefighters from across Western Canada will descend upon the Leduc County regional firefighting and rescue training facility in Nisku for specialized hands on training in big rig rescue situations.

“This training is invaluable to emergency response departments,” says Darrell Fleming, Deputy Fire Chief with Leduc County and event coordinator. “As a result of this Big Rig Hands On Training Symposium (H.O.T.S.), first responders will learn new techniques and use new tools and technologies to improve their rescue skills and pre-hospital care management in these unique rescue situations.”

This training symposium is hosted by Leduc County in partnership with Alberta Vehicle Extrication Association (AVEA). They are a proud member of Transportation Emergency Rescue Committee (TERC) Canada who is committed to contributing to the reduction of injury and deaths of Albertans involved in transportation emergencies through education, collaboration, partnerships, learning symposiums and challenges. This week’s Big Rig H.O.T.S. in Nisku is a perfect example of their educational mandate.

“Just imagine coming across an accident where a large crane has tipped and crushed a small car. It can be very intimidating and overwhelming for firefighters when responding to an emergency situation where the vehicles involved are on a very large scale; conventional tools and rescue techniques aren’t going to help you in a situation like that,” states Randy Schmitz, AVEA Chair, “Unfortunately these emergency situations are becoming too common, but through this training we provide the skills to help first responders safely and effectively handle these emergencies to keep the public safe.”

ALL MEDIA ARE INVITED

WHEN: Friday, September 23
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WHERE: Leduc County Fire Services - Nisku Station
606-21 Avenue, Nisku

WHAT:

- Observe demonstrations and training from perspective of first responders
Scenarios to include: Cement truck rolled onto car, car runs under a trailer, bulk hauler rolls onto a semi, extrication techniques
- Interview participants and instructors
- Find out why this training is so specialized but also so important

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Media contacts:

Brandy Kelly
Communications Coordinator
Leduc County
780-979-2391

Darrell Fleming
Deputy Fire Chief - Operations
Leduc County
780-955-7099

Randy Schmitz
Chair
Alberta Vehicle Extrication Association
403-699-0750