

Earth & Environmental community news

Our Earth and Environmental division plays a key role in the communities where people live and work. In this section of the report details some of the events which took place through the year.

Supporting the less-privileged in our communities

Building an orphanage in Central Mexico

Building an orphanage in Central Mexico was how one Calgary, Alta. employee spent her Christmas holidays.

Mindy Po, Human Resources Assistant in the Calgary office, participated in the humanitarian project with Samaritan's Purse Canada. She was part of a team of 17 people who not only raised the \$50,000 required for this undertaking, but also physically volunteered to construct the orphanage.

"When I began to talk about this project with my Human Resources Director at AMEC, she graciously offered to speak to the units to help me with the finances. Within days, they generously wrote me a cheque for \$1,000 to support the project," recalled Mindy. "We knew we were meant to embark on this trip when we found out we surpassed our fundraising goal by \$7,000! All the additional funds raised went directly to the needs of the orphanage."

CANping in the Wild

The Calgary, Alta. office went wild at the second annual Calgary CANstruction event. Seven hours and

3,000 cans later, the team had constructed a "CANping in the Wild" scene--complete with a tent, trees, campfire and a bear.

AMEC joined 13 other teams downtown at City Hall in support of the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank. CANstruction brings together teams from the engineering, design, and construction communities to create and build extraordinary structures out of canned food and other non-perishables. The complex structures use product labels as a color palette. Founded by the Society of Design Administration to fight global hunger, the Canstruction competition is held in more than 45 cities. The structures are judged, exhibited to the public and then de-Canstructured, with all food going to the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank.

The theme this year was "Go Wild" and AMEC did just that with the CANping scene. The scene consisted of a tent made of Hunt's tomato sauce, two structurally challenging trees made of Del Monte's tasty green beans, carrots and corn, and a backdrop wall of macaroni to represent the sky. A variety of tuna flavors completed the scene with a friendly bear and a campfire to heat things up.



Above: the finished product.

Helping Oklahoma City Seniors

In April, the AMEC office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, donated its time and skills to the community. Staff participated with the local Society of Military Engineers (SAME) post and Tinker Air Force Base CE in the Rebuilding Together With Christmas in April project that helps seniors in the community.

AMEC donated breakfast, lunch, and refreshments for the volunteer workers. Two local employees helped with painting and cleanup. Rebuilding Together With Christmas in April is a non-profit organization whose mission is to 'Rebuild lives and neighborhoods, making homes safe, secure and weatherproof' for older Oklahomans.

"It was a great opportunity to share our skills with older Oklahomans in need. It is a unique program in which repairs and maintenance work is performed on homes of the elderly who qualify," explained AMEC Office Coordinator Martha Annis of Midwest City, Oklahoma. "This was a great endeavor and the Oklahoma City office enjoyed the opportunity to help in our local community."

Nashville, Tenn. Office Exceeds Goal for United Way

What do a scavenger hunt, a costume contest, and a chili cook-off have in common? They were all part of the festivities associated with the Nashville Office's recent United Way Campaign. This year's monetary goal was set at an impressive \$10,000. After a week of fun and friendly competition, this goal was exceeded by \$2,150! With corporate matching from AMEC plc and the Nashville office general fund, the United Way will receive a total of \$24,300, which in turn will be used to meet the needs of our local community.

Westford, Mass. and Nashville, Tenn. Offices Hold Fun-Raising Activities

To encourage participation in the United Way Campaign for 2007, the Nashville, Tenn. office recently had some fun with Mardi Gras-themed fundraising activities. Week-long events included: Mardi Gras bingo, a Cajun shrimp eating contest, and the Grand Finale Parade where department teams decorated "floats" and paraded through the office.

A goal of \$7,500 was set and surpassed. Nashville Group Manager Edwin Watkins kept his promise to match employee contributions, bringing the total of raised funds to more than \$16,000 for the United Way charities this year. AMEC's efforts were graciously recognised in the January 2007 issue of the United Way Campaign Connection newsletter.

AMEC Builds Home for Needy Family

A total of four weekends is all it takes to bring a home to occupancy status, thanks to the help of a mystery AMEC volunteer and friend. On Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007, 12 employees (plus two friends) of AMEC's Nashville, Tenn. office braved the rain to participate in a Habitat build sponsored by Westminster Presbyterian Church. Since assuming sole responsibility for building a home is out of reach for many groups, forming partnerships with other community organizations is a great way to take part in this well-known charity, Habitat for Humanity.

AMEC volunteers showed up for the first weekend of the build and were involved in the framing and roofing of the home. They climbed ladders, hammered, nailed, measured and sawed for four hours. A total of four

weekends is all it takes to bring a home to occupancy status.

Supporting local economies

AMEC wins prestigious Eisenhower Award from US Small Business Administration

AMEC has won the highly coveted 2007 Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence in the Construction category from the US Small Business Administration (SBA). The award was be presented on 23 April 2007, during Small Business Week, in Washington D.C.

The award, created in 1991 and named for the president under whose administration the SBA was founded, honors large federal prime contractors that have excelled in their utilization of small businesses as suppliers and subcontractors. Only one recipient is chosen in each of five categories (Construction, Research and Development, Manufacturing, Services and Utilities) from a pool of 2,500 eligible large contractors.

AMEC's nomination highlighted the company's many small business activities and successes. These include:

- Creation by AMEC of annual Small Business of the Year and Small Business Advocate of the Year awards
- Receipt of three Department of Defense Nunn-Perry awards since 2002 for outstanding mentor-protégé teams with small businesses
- Active corporate support and participation by President Roger Jinks and other senior executives in the small business program

- Company attendance at 25 outreach events in 2006, including major events such as the National Veterans Small Business Conference and the US Army Corps of Engineers Small Business Conference
- Receipt of a 'Highly Successful' rating from the SBA and the Defence Contract Management Agency during a 2005 compliance review of AMEC's small business program

Supporting Aboriginal business initiatives

The Aboriginal Business Initiative exists to help AMEC personnel across all divisions and units identify and deal with aboriginal business opportunities as they arise. This initiative is focused on Canada - with many requests for our services coming from all across Canada, including First Nations Organizations. Assistance is available with Aboriginal business components of proposals and we work directly with Project Managers to implement First Nations programs and participation in our projects.

Through our Aboriginal Business Initiative, AMEC sponsored another successful Breakfast Speakers event, held at our downtown Vancouver, British Columbia office. We sponsored a series of speakers as part of our membership contribution to the Industry Council for Aboriginal Business (ICAB).

In May, we listened to Robert Duncan – one of British Columbia's prominent aboriginal leaders and president of the Naut'sa Mawt Resource Group. Robert Duncan previously held the position of Economic Development Officer for the Campbell River Indian Band where he was instrumental in the development of

the Discovery Harbor Centre. Robert is a member of the Da'naxda'xw First Nation, accepts the privileges and responsibilities of a Bighouse Chief, and actively participates in Kwakwiltl culture.

During June, we will participate in the development of National Occupational Standards for aboriginal environmental employees, for Building Environmental Aboriginal Human resources (BEAHR). BEAHR is a joint initiative between ECO Canada and the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Council of Canada (AHRDCC). We will be better positioned to manage aboriginal participation opportunities on our client projects. The environment in which businesses and Aboriginal people operate in is ever changing. Resources are limited and the issues are increasingly complex. AMEC supports ICAB and opportunities for organizations with similar interests to benefit from sharing information, ideas and resources to reach common ground.

Supporting health care

Nashville Blood Mobile

The Nashville office held their first Red Cross Blood Drive in February 2007. The event was a huge success. The Red Cross 'Blood Mobile' rolled into the AMEC parking lot and collected 37 units throughout the day.

Lorie King, civil engineer and dedicated member of the Sustainability Committee, is determined that this will be more than a one shot deal. Arrangements are being made to have the 'Blood Mobile' return approximately every 56 days, which is the waiting period between donations. An aggressive goal of 40 units for each of

the six visits has been set, so Nashville employees are encouraged to invite friends and family members to join in.



Above: The Blood mobile at the AMEC offices

As an extra incentive, Nashville Group Manager, Edwin Watkins, has committed to treat all those who donate at least four times in 2007 to a celebratory lunch at the end of the year. But of course the real reward is in knowing that lives are being saved. This on-going program will give AMEC staff the opportunity to positively affect the community for years to come.

Sudbury, Ont. Staff Raise Funds for Local Toddler With Rare Blood Disorder

AMEC's Sudbury, Ont. staff has a big heart. When they heard about a local toddler suffering from a rare genetic blood disorder who needed to go to a Toronto, Ont. hospital for treatment, they rallied together and donated \$3,000 to the toddler's family. Unit Manager Dan Cacciotti has also encouraged his staff to donate blood to help the Canadian Blood Services assist other people in need and numerous staff has already signed up.

St. John's, Nfld. Blood Drive and "Shave for the Brave"

AMEC Earth and Environmental in St. John's has joined the "Partners for Life" program of the Canadian Blood Services due to the great response at the first drive and the fact that many

employees asked to make this a regular event.

"We have pledged to donate 40 units by the end of the year," said GIS Analyst Jeana McGrath. "Every blood donation saves lives. I will continue to coordinate the blood drive and encourage others to donate."

Earlier this month, the St. John's office supported a program for young adults dealing with cancer. Senior Environmental Biologist James McCarthy participated in a Shave for the Brave fundraising campaign. Within three hours on a Friday afternoon, Jim, with the help of a coworker who agreed to shave his "beloved" beard if Jim reached a hundred dollars in donations, managed to raise \$283.

Kirkland, Wash. Office Top Fund-Raiser for Children's Hospital

In conjunction with one of the largest charity wine auctions in the country, AMEC's Kirkland, Wash. staff participated in the first annual Covey Run 10k race and 5k fun run/walk and was the top fund-raising team at the event. The wine-auction weekend helped to raise nearly \$2.5 million for unfunded care at Children's Hospital Seattle.

The AMEC team consisted of 10 members, including three who were friends or family. Everybody finished with a smile on their face-or at least had the smile return as soon as they caught their breath! After the race, team members enjoyed the post-race crowd and the 'freebies' always handed out at such events. Jim Shellooe, Kirkland's area manager, even willingly entered the dunk tank.

The Covey Run raised a total of \$75,000 for unfunded care and the

Kirkland office was the top fund-raising team. As if the satisfaction of helping families who cannot afford to pay for the health care of critically ill children was not enough, each member of the AMEC team went home with beautiful bread baskets donated by a local bakery.

Supporting the environment

Adpt-a-stream efforts in Nashville, Tenn.

Two AMEC offices recently gave back to their communities. On a Sunday afternoon, 36 AMEC staff and family members got 'down and dirty' to help clean a section of Sorghum Branch, a tributary to Mill Creek, located near the Nashville, Tenn. office. The Mill Creek watershed is especially important, as it is home to an endangered species - the orconectes shoupi or Nashville Crayfish.

The Adopt-A-Stream program is a community outreach by Metro Water Services (MWS), a long-standing municipal client. Project Manager Byron Hinchey states: "We have had a strong working relationship with MWS for several years, providing an extensive array of water resources services. This semi-annual stream clean-up is a wonderful opportunity for us to give back to the community. The Nashville Office Sustainability Committee did a fantastic job in organizing the event and securing AMEC as the very first volunteer for this new Adopt-A-Stream program."

Portland, Ore. Office Participates in Tree Planting

Ten AMEC Earth & Environmental staff joined nearly 80 volunteers from all over the Portland area to complete this project. Tree planting at Willamette Park is part of Portland desire to enhance and/or rebuild the Willamette

River's riparian habitat by reintroducing native riparian species (i.e. Douglas Spirea, Common Ninebark, and Dogwood) and removing invasive grasses and shrubs. AMEC Portland Office Manager John Kuiper and staff Nicole Tursich, Michelle Kinard, Kasey Hersey, Jack Spadaro, Heidi Rice (and family), Michelle Peterson, Roland Brady, Greg Baker and Matt Rarity all lent a hand.

New Brunswick Team Climbs Higher than Mount Everest in Climb-a-thon

AMEC's New Brunswick office contributed climbers and more than \$3,000 to a Climb-a-thon organized to save peregrine falcons' nesting areas in New Brunswick. AMEC staff raised \$609 by climbing 1,710 feet of the University of New Brunswick's climbing wall on Feb. 10. Altogether, climbers managed to climb a total of 30,315 feet, just above the height of Mount Everest (29,035 feet).