

Red Deer  
Construction  
Association  
LATTE Program

learning about trades and technology education



RDCA

**INFORM BUILD CONNECT**

## **Latte Information**

The Red Deer Construction Association (RDCA) is funding a Learning About Trades and Technology Education (LATTE) program in the Central Alberta area. We will be working with your local school divisions to offer this innovative hands-on professional development experience to teachers and administrators. The hope is our participants will take this opportunity to learn about and experience the exciting skilled trades and career opportunities of the construction industry.

To get started, teachers and/or administrations are placed for one or up to two days (based on the participant's preference) with a local construction company in order to fully experience the true nature of our positive industry. The program will operate on a one for one basis; meaning that LATTE will offer to financially cover a professional development day and the division will sponsor the other, if applicable.

Our goal is that through this professional development, your experience will strengthen your ability to help students achieve the career-focused outcomes. By experiencing the world of construction first hand, we hope this will assist you:

- To build long-term partnerships with local business
- Provide students a realistic picture of construction careers, and
- Demonstrate the relevance of their current studies as necessary tools for their future careers.

## **Get Started**

Teachers and/or administrators submit an application to participate in the program to the Red Deer Construction Association. This will consist of a simple one-page information request and questionnaire available through the Red Deer Construction Association. The information can be found on the website at [Initiatives – Red Deer Construction Association \(rdca.ca\)](https://rdca.ca)

## **Orientation**

Those selected to participate by the Red Deer Construction Association will be provided with orientation materials and will work with the RDCA to finalize their placements. Prior to the placement days, the participant will be provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) which will be supplied by the RDCA.

## **What Does the Professional Development Day(s) Look Like?**

The day will be spent working in the company's offices where the participant will be shadowing either one or multiple people. The day will allow participants to understand what the company does and some of the processes it undertakes to accomplish its projects. This time will also be used to continue the participant's understanding of safety, estimating, project management, office processes and dynamics as it relates to the teachers/administrators teaching area of speciality. The company will work with you to try and ensure your needs and as well as the needs of your students are met, whether it is career information or learning outcomes.

The day will also allow the participant to witness the company's field operations. Participants will be placed with a staff member who will explore a jobsite, showcasing the duties of multiple individuals, as well as their own. The participant will see first-hand the collaboration and complexity it takes to embark

on completing a large commercial project. The project plan will be discussed as best as possible in order to provide a holistic view of the building process.

### **Follow up**

Participants will complete an exit questionnaire and short summary, as well as a follow up with the Executive Director of the RDCA. This program is designed to create a long-term partnership with the local construction industry and the educational facilities in Central Alberta. These long-term projects can include field trips, in-class presentations, try-a-trades and much more that ultimately will enhance students learning experience.

### **Did You Know?**

The construction industry in Alberta:

- Contributes to 11% of GDP
- Over 260,000 employees work in the construction industry, which is one in ten working Albertans
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest employer (behind retail and healthcare)
- Average weekly wages are ~\$1,500.00, which exceeds many other industries. Workers in most cases get to work locally and be home every night.

