

MEDIA RELEASE

CRPS partners with over 50 local employers for Grade 9 Career Exploration Program January 20, 2023

Grade 9 students at Canadian Rockies Public Schools (CRPS) are preparing to embark on a week of immersive career learning as part of the Career Exploration Program.

More than 80 students will join participating worksites during the week of January 23 – 27, 2023.

CRPS has organized 103 placements for students this year thanks to the support of more than 57 local employers in the public, private and non-profit sectors, marking a successful restart of the program after years of COVID-19 disruptions.

Some of the participating employers include Alberta Environment and Parks, Alberta Health Services, ArtsPlace, Banff Sports Medicine, Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley, Iyarhe Nakoda Youth Program, Mountain FM 106.5, Parks Canada: Resource Conservation, Viewpoint Eyecare, Wildrose Electric, and Yokogawa Corporation of America.

A complete list of participating employers is available upon request.

“Many students either don’t know what type of work they’re interested in or what their career interests actually entail. The Career Exploration Program provides students with invaluable experience that will guide their learning in high school and beyond,” says Hans Holthuis, Assistant Principal at Canmore Collegiate High School (CCHS).

“Whether their participation in the program reinforces or challenges their career aspirations, that experience is worth its weight in gold.”

During the weeklong placement, students will participate in authentic learning tasks that encourage “learning by doing.” Students will learn foundational skills, knowledge, and understanding that employees use within the limits of their skills, reflecting the reality of their job placement.

The program, first piloted in 2018 at Canmore Collegiate High School (CCHS), was modelled on the Finnish school system’s 5-Day Work Placements model, where 14 to 15-year-old students spend five days immersed in a career of their choice.

CRPS staff were able to learn about the success of this program as a result of the FinAI partnership established between the CRPS and several partner schools in Finland.

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