

Field Trip 2: Renewable Energy Tour

Please meet in the lobby of the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel at 8:00am. The bus will depart at 8:15 am sharp. All other times provided below are approximate (please check out of your room and bring your luggage if you plan to get dropped off at the airport).

10:00am – 12:30am First stop is the Pine Creek Water Treatment Plant ACWA which is a partnership between The City of Calgary and the University of Calgary. It supports research and development and knowledge transfer and works to de-risk and pilot leading-edge wastewater treatment technology. Their mandate is “Our mandate is to facilitate the transformation of today’s wastewater treatment into tomorrow’s innovative technologies for sustainable resource recovery, for the benefit of communities locally and globally.” Receiving environment effects can also be tested in 12 replicated experimental creeks. ACWA is embedded within a full-scale wastewater treatment plant and fills the gap between bench-scale testing and full-scale deployment. It replicates real-world conditions and enables testing in a globally unique facility.

1:00pm – 2:30pm Lunch provided at Ralph Klein Park

This is a 30 hectare wetland park in the City of Calgary, Alberta. It is named after former premier of Alberta and mayor of Calgary Ralph Klein. Construction started in 2009, and the park was opened to the public on June 18, 2011.

The site includes learning gardens, interpretive trails, wetland viewing areas, study stations and an environmental education centre (which includes classrooms and meeting rooms). For more information on this facility follow this link:

<https://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Parks/Pages/Locations/SE-parks/Ralph-Klein-Park.aspx>

3:00pm – 3:30pm

The Shepard Solar project includes 2,700 solar panels, rated at 400W to produce electricity that directly feeds into Calgary’s composting facility. This is a new addition to Calgary’s fleet of solar power plants and the Shepard Solar Park produces enough electricity to power over 185 average Calgary homes, while generating over 800 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions reductions a year. The City is currently adding 8,250 solar panels to the area and will soon be generating 4.4 MW.

Bus leaves Shepard and arrives at the Calgary International Airport at ~4:00pm and returns to Banff at ~6:00pm