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Blubber Mitts, Beluga Ears, and Acoustic Engineering for Kids!

Youth in West Moberly and Saulteau First Nation will discover first hand the insulation qualities of blubber as they cover their hands in shortening and dip them in ice cold water! They will learn how Beluga whales hear by making a set of ears that allow them to “hear” through their cheek bones. They will learn how radios work by making their own speakers!

These are just a few of the many fun and exciting opportunities that local youth will have to explore the world of science around them at next week’s science camp provided by Actua, a national non-profit organization that inspires youth through hands-on science, engineering and technology programming across Canada.

The camp, which is supported by Suncor Energy Foundation, will involve hands-on activities around a series of themes including health, neuroscience, the environment, the science of sport, and earth sciences. Whether that means kids will be using GPS technology to track a mock animal herd in an interactive game, splitting light beams, making solar heaters, or excavating soil core samples for dissection – what it amounts to is a solid week of learning while having fun!

“The Actua program is an exciting opportunity for Suncor to partner in delivering important science, technology and engineering camps for the youth of our neighboring Aboriginal communities. The camps have proven to be very popular with youth, parents and leadership alike. Providing the communities with the opportunity to educate their youth in these focus areas is something everyone can benefit from.” Bonnie MacPherson, manager, Stakeholder Relations, Suncor Energy.

“Our goal is to build confidence and interest among youth in the areas of science and technology whether or not they actually go on to study science. By engaging youth in experiences that demonstrate how science is exciting, fun, and related to every day life, they start to see the potential role that science can play in their lives,” says Jennifer Flanagan, Actua President and CEO.

Actua is Canada’s leading science, engineering and technology youth outreach network. Over 2.7 million young Canadians have been inspired through their participation in Actua’s positive, hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Each year, Actua’s growing network of member organizations reach over 250,000 young Canadians in over 450 communities nationwide. Actua’s major funders include: GE Canada, Synapse – CIHR Youth Connection, Suncor Energy Foundation, NSERC, Honda Canada Foundation, Shell Canada, and The Ontario Trillium Foundation. For more information about Actua visit www.actua.ca.

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