

HEAVY METAL ROCKS BACKGROUND

**Kamloops, B.C.
April 1 – 4, 2009**

What is the objective of Heavy Metal Rocks?

Heavy Metal Rocks will introduce 28 School District No. 73 high school students to the variety of jobs available in the road building and construction industries. The students will learn the importance of safety training and receive mentoring from equipment operators as they learn through hands-on experience to operate different types of heavy machinery.

How were the students chosen?

The Trades & Transitions Program in the School District advertised Heavy Metal Rocks throughout the District. Interested students completed an application form which was reviewed by the District's trades & transitions program staff who checked attendance and course history. The students were then interviewed and selected for the program.

Is there a cost to the students?

The students pay nothing for participating in the program.

All of the equipment, operators, and machinery servicing has been donated by local companies.

Will the students be safe?

Prior to their time at the T'kemlups Indian Band gravel pit, WorkSafeBC will conduct the safety orientation for the site the students who are provided with a hard hat, high-vis vest and safety glasses.

School District No. 73 will conduct computer based WHMIS training and First Response Training And Safety Professionals Inc. donated personal First-Aid Training for the students.

The students are covered by School District No. 73's liability insurance.

At all times, the students are under the direct supervision of machine operators.

WorkSafeBC occupational safety officers will be on the site.

Who are the organizers of Heavy Metal Rocks?

School District No. 73, T'kemlups Indian Band, the Southern Interior Construction Association, International Union of Operating Engineers – Local 115, Acres Enterprises, Extreme Excavating, Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources and WorkSafeBC formed a committee in the spring of 2009 to bring the Heavy Metal Rocks to Kamloops.

What is the extent of community involvement?

More than 21 local companies have donated time, equipment, and food services to meet the needs of the more than 50 people who will be on the site at any one time.