

March, 2011

## **BC Technology Professionals Support Big Little Science Centre; Contribute \$5,000 to Promote Technology Careers To Students**

The Big Little Science Centre in Kamloops has received a \$5,000 boost from the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC), an association of 9,500 technology professionals. “We are huge fans of Big Little,” says ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech. “We need to get our youth excited about science and technology and encourage them to pursue careers as technologists, engineers or geoscientists. Gord Stewart and his group offer this extremely valuable service to this region.”

Centre Executive Director Gord Stewart welcomed ASTTBC’s ongoing leadership in promoting the Centre. “Without groups like ASTTBC, business and industry and others, Kamloops and the region would not benefit from the special experiences offered at our Centre. We appreciate the support of the Bert Edwards Science and Technology Elementary School and the School District, and look to support from other agencies to keep this centre going strong.” The Big Little Science Centre hosts 14,000 visitors a year. ASTTBC’s contributions to the Centre over the past four years now total \$21,000.

March is National Engineering & Geoscience Month. This year ASTTBC has joined with the Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC to spread the word to parents, teachers, and youth about the great career opportunities in science and technology. “We’re not a highly visible profession,” Mr. Leech admits. “Most members of ASTTBC work behind the scenes on BC’s infrastructure and environment. Technicians and Technologists work as part of teams that design, construct, inspect, test and maintains our buildings, roads, airports, computer systems, water and sewer systems, and pretty much anything related to the world in which we live, work and play”. Leech noted that because ASTTBC members are invisible, students do not gravitate to these careers as readily as they might to health and business careers.

ASTTBC’s 9,500 members include biomedical engineering technologists and technicians, professionals responsible for managing and maintaining all equipment in the health care system.

“Everyone accessing hospital services knows about the Doctor, Nurse, X-ray and Lab Techs, but most will not know about the Biomedical Tech who plays a huge role in patient care,” concludes Leech. “Our world would come to a standstill without ASTTBC technology professionals.”

For more information on technology careers visit <http://www.asttbc.org/> and check out ‘Technology Careers’.

**ASTTBC presents \$5,000 cheque to Big Little Science Centre Executive Director, Gord Stewart**



*Pictured (l to r): ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT CAE; Kamloops Deputy Mayor, Marg Spina; Big Little Executive Director, Gord Stewart; ASTTBC Community Representative, Mark Hall, ASCT; and ASTTBC Regional Manager, Bruce Steven, ASCT.*

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