



# Chalk Talk

Greetings | Feature | News | ENERGY

**PLEASE SHARE CHALK TALK WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES!!!**

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Educators:

In the *Republic*, Greek philosopher, Plato, wrote that '**Necessity is the mother of invention**', expressing his belief in the innate ability of human beings to use their creativity to find solutions to problems when the need arose. Right now, the world is facing several crises which will require the combined creative efforts of all of us. Solving the current credit crisis is an enormous challenge that, as we have witnessed, has brought together leaders from around the globe to consult and take action with unprecedented swiftness of purpose.



If there is one thing we've learned from the events of the past couple of weeks and the various debates that have taken place on both

sides of the border in this election season, is that the need for a thriving economy and a healthy environment are inextricably linked to one another. There is no doubt that the 21st century world that we want our children and grandchildren to inherit will require the creation of a worldview that reconciles the needs of the planet with those of its inhabitants.

At this time of thanksgiving, let's hope that out of this turmoil a global, long-term plan will emerge that is not tied to election cycles, able to transition our economy from today's reliance on non-renewable energy to a dynamic, balanced approach which will use current and future energy sources in a way that is sustainable and clean. It may require re-thinking of our values and re-alignment of our behaviours, habits and choices. It won't be easy. It never is. But it will be worth it!



New ideas and solutions begin with education. This issue of *Chalk Talk* features educational resources that provide valuable information on Canada's energy supply. CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing classroom resources on a range of topics. We invite you to visit our website at [www.4du.ca](http://www.4du.ca) to view the many free teachers' resources on offer.

[As always, we welcome your thoughts.](#)

*Mary Kovack*

Mary Kovack

## All about energy. All in one place.



Canadian Centre for Energy Information

The **Canadian Centre for Energy Information** invites educators to energize your lesson plans with curriculum-linked resources that explain Canada's energy supply.

### Oil and Gas Learning Resource Series

Offered free of charge to educators, these curriculum-linked learning resources were created by teachers for teachers. To order, please go to [www.centreforenergy.com/k-12](http://www.centreforenergy.com/k-12).



### Careers in Energy

Visit [www.centreforenergy.com/careers](http://www.centreforenergy.com/careers) for a searchable database of energy-related occupational descriptions and corresponding educational requirements.



**New!** In May of 2008, **The Canadian Centre for Energy Information** launched a wonderful addition to its website — the exciting [online consumer magazine, FLOW](#) — offering stories and tips on energy and the environment, and featuring daily updated content on the current state of Canadian energy.

Don't miss **FLOW's** Fall 2008 [back-to-school story](#), featuring lessons, produced in partnership with [Inside Education™](#), a non-profit society that for 23 years has developed quality classroom programming on natural resources and environment education for Alberta's teachers and students.



### Energy Literacy Series

The Energy Literacy Series examines 10 energy sources through the use of interactive and technology-based teaching materials, and will be correlated with curricula from all provinces. For more information check out [www.centreforenergy.com/education](http://www.centreforenergy.com/education).

[Source: Canadian Centre for Energy Information]

**"The Energy of the Mind is the Essence of Life."  
— Aristotle, Greek philosopher/scientist**



## FLOW | Canadian Perspectives on Energy at [www.centreflow.ca](http://www.centreflow.ca)



Energy issues are impacting our world like never before. The Canadian Centre for Energy Information provides you with free, easy to download energy industry learning resources from grades K-12. Updates with the latest industry data, approved by Alberta Education and suitable for curricula across the country, our resources are accessible, reliable and comprehensive. You can search course materials by product, subject matter and by grade. [Note: You can also purchase books and brochures about Canada's petroleum industry from our bookstore (<http://centreforenergy.com/EE-OS.asp>). Special pricing applies to educators.]



We also provide information beyond our prescribed learning materials, including our new online magazine [FLOW](#).

**FLOW** will connect you and your students to Canada's energy industry and all the information you'll need to discuss the issues that continue to shape our world. It's easy to tap into the discussion:



**Explain and explore** the energy of your daily life with **FLOW's** blog-style articles on emerging green technologies, energy-saving gadgets and tips and Canada's energy innovations.

**Connect your students** to major newspapers, websites and the Canadian Centre for Energy's comprehensive resources on Canadian energy with links seamlessly included in every article.



**Investigate the issues** with **FLOW's** feature-length articles providing commentary and interviews on major energy issues like emissions trading and Alberta's nuclear debate. Follow hyperlinks to take the story and your discussion even further.

**Join the debate** online by posting comments, suggesting story ideas and participating in polls with readers from across the country.

Fresh, conversational and essential, **FLOW** is the perfect way to connect you and your students to a Canadian perspective on energy.

## Get ENERGY NEWS & more from **FLOW** online e-magazine!

In an increasingly environmentally conscious world, keeping track of our impact on the environment has become as essential to our lives as understanding the food we eat. And if the comparison seems forced, consider that Japan recently announced it would be including carbon footprint information on products, strikingly similar to existing nutritional information. In fact, it wouldn't be unfair to say that tracking our carbon footprint has become something of an obsession, even to the point of making consumers cautious when making any decisions at all. [More ...](#)

### CALCULATING YOUR FOOTPRINT

ADD A CARBON CALCULATOR AND SUBTRACT UNNECESSARY ENERGY USE. SIMPLE, RIGHT?

Full story



### GETTING THE WORD OUT

PROFILING THE CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Full story



Bringing together distinct but complementary energy research from across the country, The Canadian Centre for Energy Information's [Energy Research and Innovation Directory](#) is a searchable listing of projects and organizations designed to present Canadian innovation to like-minded researchers and businesses around the world. It's a site designed not only to highlight energy research, but also to encourage the kinds of collaboration that make innovation possible. The directory's subjects include an expansive survey of current Canadian energy research, offering links to current projects and information on organizations like [The Centre for Sustainable Transportation at the University of Winnipeg](#). [More ...](#)

## [Energy: An Alberta Snapshot](#)



[On July 12, 2008, the Centre for Energy and its sponsors presented a supplement in the *Calgary Herald*, '[Energy: An Alberta Snapshot](#).']

"Alberta leads the country in energy production and in its variety of both energy sources and energy-based enterprises. Driven by Albertans' vision of sustainability and their innovative, entrepreneurial spirit, it is a province that believes energy can be produced both profitably and responsibly.

Beyond the essential facts about Alberta's energy industry like our energy sources and consumption, '[Energy: An Alberta Snapshot](#)' (1.1MB PDF, cover shown, left) features the stories of exceptional individual and corporate creativity. Through profiles and personal interviews, the supplement will show how steps taken by individual Albertans are bringing innovation and sustainable energy to the province."

[Financial crisis darkens outlook for climate talks](#) -- Jerome Cartillier and Richard Ingham, AFP, *canada.com*, October 06, 2008

"Wall Street's sickness and its contagiousness for the world economy are bad news for the already faltering effort to craft a new pact to tackle climate change. Tighter budgets, shrinking corporate profits and worries about jobs could crimp manoeuvring room at upcoming UN talks on toughening curbs on greenhouse-gas emissions, sources say. But -- so far, at least -- the crisis does not appear to be having an impact on investment in clean technology, say these sources. Indeed, some are confident that spending on wind, solar and other renewables may even rise." [Read more.](#)

['Cool Ideas' to combat climate change highlighted in Jay Ingram's book](#) -- Canadian Press, *Oil Week*, October 7, 2008

A new book by award-winning science writer and "Daily Planet" host Jay Ingram explor[es] the efforts of everyday individuals -- extreme and otherwise -- to reduce their carbon footprint and work towards addressing the warming of the world. "The Daily Planet Book of Cool Ideas" (Penguin Canada) is an adaptation of a weeklong series that originally aired on the Discovery Channel program in March 2007. "Global Warning: A Daily Planet Special Series" examined what could be done to reverse global warming and steps that some people were taking to a sustainable future." [Read more.](#)

**EDUCATORS:** [MindShare Learning Report Launches Canada's 21st Century Back-to-School Interactive Classroom Contest](#)

"The MindShare Learning Report today announces the official launch of the HP MindShare Learning Report™ 21st Century Interactive Classroom contest. This inaugural event aims to create greater awareness around 21st century learning skills and the need to prepare students for the global knowledge-based economy. Through a video submission, K-12 educators from publicly funded schools across Canada are challenged to share their interactive classroom technology success stories or vision of the 21st century classroom. Qualified entrants will be eligible to **win one of three classroom technology prize packages**, each valued at more than \$10,000, from leading classroom technology providers. There are three entry deadlines for submissions — Friday, October 17, 2008; Friday, November 14, 2008; and Friday, December 12, 2008 (Midnight is the deadline in all cases)." [Learn more.](#)

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We are the Company for Education Communications. We specialize in developing, producing and evaluating school resources and award programs. Working in conjunction with Departments/Ministries of Education, school district/boards, associations, teachers and subject specialists across the country; we provide free, curriculum-based educational resources to Canadian classrooms.

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