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# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

## **Nexen Invests \$1 Million in Science and Technology Centre in Fort McMurray**

**Calgary, Alberta, January 5, 2012** - Nexen Inc. today announced that it is proud to invest \$1 million over four years to support the implementation and development of a new Science and Technology Centre at Father Patrick Mercredi High School in Fort McMurray, Alberta. This new state-of-the-art facility, which opened September 2011, has innovative educational programming for students in grades 7 through 12.

The Science and Technology Centre gives students access to educational opportunities not currently available in Northern Alberta. The five main areas of focus are Engineering, Industrial Technologies, IT Essentials, Health Sciences and Photography/Multi Media. Working at individual workstations, students can learn about industrial robotics, pneumatics, hydraulics, structural engineering, electrical control and much more.

“ We are very excited about this investment which brings cutting-edge educational programming to school-age students in Fort McMurray,” said Tony Mankowski, Nexen’s Vice President, Long Lake Operations. “ Not only does the centre teach students new skills in areas that may open doors to exciting careers, it also helps our business by introducing potential future recruits to technical fields highly sought after in the oil sands industry.”

The goal for both senior and junior high programs is to create a classroom environment that motivates, inspires and engages students by providing them with real-world opportunities. These classroom opportunities will help them to make informed life and career choices about post-secondary education, options for local employment and other possibilities in the Wood Buffalo region.

The Science and Technology Centre is just one of a number of significant educational investments Nexen has made benefitting the Wood Buffalo Region. In October 2011, Nexen announced a pledge of \$750,000 to boost a new campaign launched by the Keyano College Foundation. Nexen is supporting the first phase of the planned Oilsands Trades & Technology Centre which will allow Father Patrick Mercredi High School students to continue to pursue their high school programs in a post-secondary setting in their home community.

“ Nexen is committed to the region of Wood Buffalo,” said Mankowski. “ We know we need a well-trained workforce available to assist us in our growth. Investing in these educational initiatives is vital to families, our community and our company’s future sustainability.”

Nexen Inc. is an independent, Canadian-based global energy company, listed on the Toronto and New York stock exchanges under the symbol NXY. Nexen is focused on three growth strategies: oil sands and shale gas in Western Canada and conventional exploration and development primarily in the North Sea,

offshore West Africa and deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Nexen adds value for shareholders through successful full-cycle oil and gas exploration and development, and leadership in ethics, integrity, governance and environmental stewardship.

Editor's note: No photo courtesy required

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