geoconvention
Calgary • Canada • May 11-13 2026

Advancing Skills in Emerging Energy for Canada's Subsurface Professionals

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Summary

Carbon Management Canada (CMC) is leveraging its expertise in geological carbon dioxide (CO_2) storage to develop a new training program for geologists, geophysicists and those wanting to explore Canada's emerging energy sector. The training will educate participants on the geoscience principles, operations, processes, technology and regulatory frameworks developing in the energy sector with a focus on Carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS).

CCUS, and geological carbon storage, is a significant opportunity to help Canada meet its emissions reduction commitments, while advancing the skills, knowledge and technology that exist within Canada's energy industry. Investment in the clean energy sector is projected to grow, presenting an opportunity to prepare a workforce to meet the needs of the evolving energy sector. A strong partnership between industry, training institutions, underrepresented community-serving and employment-focused agencies, and subject matter experts, will accelerate development of a world-class CCUS talent pipeline. CMC aims to effectively upskill the workforce to meet the impending job demand required for Canada's CCUS sector.

Through this new project, more than 1,200 workers across Canada will gain and upgrade their skills through a unique training program designed to close the skills gap for employers, while providing a compelling, hybrid educational experience through in-class, online and onsite field training opportunities. Most impressive of all is that this program will be free of charge to Canadian learners of all demographics – youth, newcomers and immigrants, mid-career workers in a transition, new entrants to the energy sector, professionals working in the energy sector, Indigenous peoples, post-diploma and post-graduate students, and more.

Along with its three leading energy education partners: the University of Calgary, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and geoLOGIC systems ltd., CMC will deliver the Talent Acceleration and Career Training in Low-carbon Energy (TACTILE) program. The program objectives include:

- Upskilling workers across Canada and equip them with in-demand skills for jobs in carbon capture, utilization and storage;
- Building an ecosystem of industry, training institutions, underrepresented community-serving and employment-focused agencies, and subject matter experts;
- Providing a pool of trained and prospective workers available to meet employment demand in the carbon management sector.

We'll discuss how TACTILE will advance knowledge for workers across Canada in less than three years and build a talent pool ready to address the looming CCUS skills gap. We'll explore the challenges and opportunities the program is experiencing in recruitment, curriculum development, alignment with industry needs, breaking down barriers for underrepresented

learners, and public acceptance. Join us to discuss how establishing a training ecosystem that considers knowledge-building in key areas for a diverse workforce, provides employment supports for workers in need, and incorporates industry input and feedback, positions Canada at the forefront of success in large-scale CCUS deployment.

TACTILE has the potential to be an innovative model for other training programs in Canada's emerging energy sector. Meet the program team, and learn how you can take the course or participate in an industry involvement capacity.