

## Penn West Invests in Child Care for Employees

**CALGARY, AB – April 6, 2010** - Penn West Energy is continuing to put its commitment to employees, families and the community into action. With the opening of the building's new West Tower on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue in downtown Calgary, a state-of-the-art child care centre (*The PlayPenn*), will also open on June 1.

The facility will be open with first priority to children of Penn West employees and thereafter to others in the community. Penn West has partnered with Churchill Park Family Care Society to operate the licensed day care program for up to 82 children under six years of age.

"The construction of the new offices gave us the opportunity as a company to respond to the needs of our staff in a tangible way that will support work-life balance" says Keith Luft, Senior Vice President of Stakeholder Relations and General Counsel. "We expect demand for the service to be high, since child care is often challenging to find downtown. The service will make it easier for employees to return to work after parental leave, and to manage the on-going demands of child care for young families while at work."

The PlayPenn features six program rooms, a full-service kitchen and an outdoor play area. Employees of Penn West are prioritized for the service, with other available space open to working parents in the downtown core.

"Family-friendly companies like Penn West who invest in employer-sponsored child care not only benefit their employees, but also the company's bottom line," says Noreen Murphy, Executive Director, Churchill Park Family Care Society. "We are pleased to operate the new facility on behalf of Penn West."

"Partnering with an experienced agency like Churchill Park, we are confident The PlayPenn will be a trusted and reliable child care option for our employees and a safe and special place for children to learn and grow," says Shauna McIntosh, Manager Corporate Resources

Penn West Energy is a large oil and natural gas producer based in Calgary, Alberta with operations across western Canada. Penn West has a significant portfolio of properties which provide opportunities, both conventional and unconventional, for future growth.

Churchill Park is a non-profit agency providing accredited early learning programs and support to families in Calgary. Churchill Park provides care for up to 500 children from birth to 12 years of age in child care centres, School Age Care programs and family day homes and has been supporting families in Calgary for approximately 40 years.

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