

# Mythbusters talk science at GPRC

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What incites a bull to charge? Is it the flag or the movement?

That's what the Mythbusters demystified to a sold-out crowd at the Grande Prairie Regional College Saturday.

The popular Discovery Channel show hosts Tory Belleci, Kari Byron and Grant Imahara used video footage of the experiments they did to get to the answer, as bringing a bull on stage at the college to prove their point was out of the question.

"This is, after all, Science Alberta," said Imahara. "What we want to do is show the kids in the audience here what they see on TV, there's actually science behind it. We sort of hope to help inspire."

The show brought its act to Grande Prairie as part of Science Alberta Foundation's Science Happens Here campaign. The foundation's CEO said the busters' message is exactly what the foundation wants Albertans to hear.

"What it is about is to be skeptical and be curious and if you hear or read something that seems strange to you, be a mythbuster too," said Arlene Ponting. "That's part of what science is, is being curious and won-

dering and solving problems and figuring out."

The show about urban legends and common beliefs has been shown in countless science classes throughout Alberta and beyond.

"I get e-mails all the time from kids saying it's because of Mythbusters that I pay attention in science class," said Belleci.

"I get e-mails from teachers who say thank you for producing this show because it's so unique. It's something that makes science kind of fun for the kids," said Imahara. "I'll use a clip of your show right at the beginning of class and then it provokes a spirited discussion for half an hour after that."

"We've noticed it's been used in schools a lot more in kind of making science a little more accessible, just giving it a lit more pizzaz," said Byron. "We notice a lot of kids kind of get interested in science. It's just been a really nice side effect."

Ponting said some youths have very traditional views - textbooks, labs - of what science is.

"Yet, science is really engaging and interesting and relevant to our everyday lives. The Mythbusters help us get that message across too," she said.

So what does incite a bull to charge? The movement.

