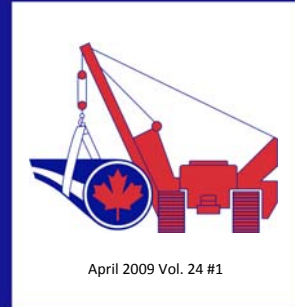


CANADIAN Pipeliners

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PIPE LINE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

A year of accomplishments

This past year was extremely busy as well as challenging for the unionized pipeline industry in Canada. During the year, our members worked the highest number of man-hours on gas distribution construction, and second highest number of man-hours on mainline construction ever recorded in the history of our Association.



*Edward L. Shipka
Triple Random Inc.*

While this is noteworthy by itself, I believe of even greater significance was collective commitment by all those involved to see that this work was done SAFELY with the lowest level of lost-time injuries ever recorded by our contractors. To their further credit, and that of the trade unions with which we partner, this was achieved at a time when there was a critical shortage of skilled workers throughout Canada, necessitating the aggressive recruitment and training of many first time workers.

It was a year of numerous accomplishments for our Association. We successfully concluded project labour agreements; renewed the Pipeline Maintenance and Service Agreements for Canada; and participated in various training programs for pipeline construction workers. One of our greatest successes was the development and presentation of a second generation Professional Leadership Development Program for Pipeline Supervisors, offered in Edmonton, Alberta and Mississauga, Ontario to nearly 150 of our members' employees.

The prospects for work activity in 2009 remain encouraging with several major mainline projects in the midst of construction, and a number of others proceeding through the pre-construction planning phase.

The next couple of years promise to be most interesting. Let's keep up the great work!

Simulated spread training an industry first

In early 2008, Operating Engineers Local 955 came up with an innovative approach to training pipeline construction workers. Under the leadership of Marty McDonnell, director of training for Local 955, the Operating Engineers, the Laborers, the Teamsters and the Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada teamed up and developed a training program that would use a simulated pipeline spread to train their members.

In May of 2008 the first simulated pipeline spread training school was held on a property owned by Local 955 north of Edmonton. The program proved so successful that a second school is presently underway that includes the Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamsters, and United Association in a complete simulated spread session. This controlled environment approach provides both classroom and 'in the dirt' training for the students and offers them the chance to work alongside others fostering the team approach.

The program commenced April 20 and is scheduled to run until May 15. Plans are to have over 100 students trained over the course of the four weeks. An Open House will be held on May 8 for which invitations have been extended to government, First Nations, and pipeline owning company representatives.

Winners of the Cal Callahan PLCAC 2008 bursary

The executive committee selected five students entering first year studies as recipients of the 2008 Cal Callahan Memorial Bursary. The five winners selected, who each received bursaries from the Association are:



Elizabeth Godfrey, the daughter of William Godfrey, a heavy equipment operator for Louisbourg Pipelines Inc., is attending the University of New Brunswick in the Science program.

Skylar Howrish is the daughter of John Slack, a heavy equipment operator who has been employed by O.J. Pipelines Canada and Banister Pipeline. Skylar is attending the university of Calgary in the science program.



Ashley Lepine is the daughter of Martin Lepine, a dozer operator for O.J. Pipelines Canada. Ashley is studying nursing at First Nations University in Prince Albert Saskatchewan.

Stephanie Stevens, the daughter of Mike Stevens, a heavy equipment operator for Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited, is attending Georgian College in the health science program.



Rikki-Lynn Sweetland, the daughter of Larry Sweetland, who has worked for Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited and Waschuk Pipe Line Construction Ltd. as a heavy equipment operator, is studying law at the University of Manitoba.

Bursary application forms can be found at www.pipeline.ca

Professional Leadership Development Program in Ontario

The PLCAC's Professional Leadership Development Program for Eastern Canada was held February 2nd and 3rd at the Toronto Airport Hilton.

The first presentation of this program took place last July in Edmonton. Organized by PLCAC's president, Ted Shipka, this very successful program once again attracted over 60 participants from throughout the pipeline industry and provided them with tools to strengthen their leadership skills through proven behavioural based and performance driven sessions. In addition, emphasis on managing site safety and addressing environmental issues were reinforced using fundamental skill sets and core competencies associated with effective leadership.

The instructors, having individually worked over 25 years in the business, used a variety of presentation styles that captivated and entertained the audience.



UA pipeline conference

PLCAC Executive Director, Barry Brown, was a guest speaker at the United Association's National Pipeline Conference held last month in Arizona.

In a joint presentation with Rob Kinsey, UA International Representative for Western Canada and Pipeline, they reviewed the work completed in Canada over the past year, the state of the current construction labour supply and offered an outlook at some of the prospects that the Canadian contractors and workers could look forward to in the next few years.



The conference, an annual event sponsored by the UA's Pipeline Division in Washington, attracted nearly 200 representatives of pipeline contractors and UA Pipeline Locals from throughout North America.



(L-R) UA General President, William P. Hite, and PLCAC Assistant Executive Director, Neil Lane, were among those attending the UA Pipeline Conference.

On the spreads...

Alberta Clipper spreads for 2009

The Alberta Clipper crude oil pipeline runs from Hardisty, AB to Gretna MB. This 1,607-km segment is designed to have a nominal capacity of 450,000 bpd, with ultimate capacity of up to 800,000 bpd with an expected in service date of mid-2010. The PLCAC contractors will be finishing the Canadian portion this summer with the following 36-inch spreads:

Banister Pipeline

Spread 10: 140 km from Cromer to Glenboro MB

Spread 12: 120 km from Glenboro to Gretna MB

Techint-Somerville JV

Spread 5: 170 km from Rosetown to Craik SK

Waschuk Pipe Line Construction Ltd.

Spread 8: 172 km from Montmartre SK to Cromer MB

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome to Victoria!

April 26-30, 2009

Fairmont Empress Hotel



Convention speakers

Mel Johnson, our AGM speaker, is the Project Director for TransCanada's Alaska Pipeline Project. Mel will present an overview of this exciting project, including concise historical and background information, project scope, timelines, projected costs, what it will mean in terms of resources – people, equipment and materials, and what to expect for communication and interaction through the project milestones.



Bruce Vincent is a third generation logger from Montana who speaks throughout the world on resource issues all in the interests of sustainability. In addition to the natural resource itself, Bruce focuses on the human resource and cultures



that work to bring those natural resources to market. The challenge is, how do you attract the Gen-X population into a 'get your hands dirty' business like construction and logging? Bruce will answer this challenge with his speech on "With Vision There Is Hope".

Sahara Desert adventurer, Steve Donahue combines fast paced humour with heart-stopping tales that draw powerful parallels between his desert adventure and the journeys of corporate and personal life. He captivates audiences with his gripping stories that inspire, entertain and impart ancient desert wisdom.



Convention activities

Our convention location is spectacular, and the program is packed full of enjoyable, exciting activities and events. The golf tournament kicks off the convention on Monday at Olympic View

Golf Club, a course that boasts tranquility and nature with a variety of golf holes that constitute individual masterpieces. The business sessions on Tuesday through Thursday will feature great speakers, with plenty of informative and inspirational information for all delegates and their companions. We will let our hair down on Tuesday night with a visit to Sooke for a dynamic logging show and barbeque. The afternoons hold a variety of things to keep everyone busy: ziplining; a tour of the famous Butchart Gardens; a visit to a British Columbia ancient forest; and an unforgettable yachting experience in the waters around Victoria. The evening will come alive on Wednesday at the PLCAC's Mobile Army Surgical Hospital. M*A*S*H night promises to be a blast! The first class entertainment at the Gala Banquet on Thursday night will wrap up the 55th Annual Convention. See you there!



Convention sponsors

New members


The PLCAC is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Regular:


Rebel Transport, located in Edmonton AB, has been specializing in equipment and heavy hauling for 36 years. Ron Lystang is general manager and Jim Brodie is sales and marketing manager.

Associate:

Garnett Wood Products Company, Inc. of West Plains, MO


 is a supplier of hardwood pipeline skids and crane mats. Mark Garnett is president and Robby Hughes is sales representative.

Hammerhead An Earth Tool Company is a supplier of pipe

 ramming, HDD assist, pipe bursting, boring, and HDD equipment and accessories based in Oconomowoc WI. Brian Metcalf is president and Jarrett Cowden is vice president.

Hex-Hut Systems, based in Calgary AB, supplies the industry with portable welding shelters. Mark Morony is president and Rick Scott is general manager.

McFarland Cascade, in business for 82

 years supplying industry with a variety of wood products, is based in Tacoma WA. Lloyd Docter is vice president and Russ McGillivray handles sales from Portland OR.

ACTION DATES

2009

14-18 September

International Pipe Line & Offshore Contractors Association
43rd Annual Convention
Fairmont San Francisco
San Francisco CA
Contact: Juan Arzuaga
41 22 306 02 30
www.iploca.com

17-20 October

Australian Pipeline Industry Association
41st Annual Convention
Cairns Convention Centre
Queensland, Australia
Contact: Steve Dobbie
(02) 6273-0577
www.apia.net.au

2010

20-22 January

Underground Construction Technology (UCT) Conference and Exhibition
San Antonio TX
Contact: Sheila Coats
281.558.7029
www.uctonline.com

17-21 February

Pipe Line Contractors Association (US)
62nd Annual Convention
Hyatt Gainey Ranch
Scottsdale AZ
Contact: Pat Tielborg
214.969.2700
www.plca.org

23-28 February

Distribution Contractors Association
49th Annual Convention
Fiesta Americana Grand
Los Cabos, Mexico
Contact: Dennis Kennedy
972.680.0261
www.dca-online.org

6-10 June

Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada
56th Annual Convention
Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland
St. John's NL
Contact: Barry Brown
905.847.9383
www.pipeline.ca

New members... cont'd

Vacuworx International



of Tulsa OK has specialized in vacuum lifting equipment for the pipeline industry for over 10 years. Bill Solomon is president and Shawn Lowman is director of sales and marketing.

UA Local 488 education centre

The construction of a world-class pipe trades training facility in Edmonton by United Association of



Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 488 is nearing completion. Scheduled to open in the spring of 2009, this 55,000 square-foot building will be able to handle the training of over 1700 students annually. A "state of the art" energy savings design features an open concept allowing students to have visibility to industry 'best practices' during training sessions. This \$24 million investment is one indication of the importance UA Local 488 places on continuous improvement of its members to allow it to provide the highest level of skilled labour to the pipeline and mechanical construction industries. UA Local 488 has scheduled the dates of June 6 and 7 for a public open house of the facility.

Reproduction of material is encouraged, please acknowledge the association's newsletter.

Contributors are invited to send material to:

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