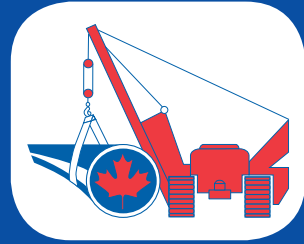


# CANADIAN Pipeliners

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PIPE LINE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



DECEMBER 2005 VOL.20 #4



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

### At last! Plenty of contract work ahead!

Long ago, Canada's pipeline contractors were conditioned to the reality that their business was governed by factors over which they had no control. The past five years, the longest and toughest anyone can remember, have tested our mainline contractor members as never before. Fortunately, we were able to rely on our distribution contractor members to shoulder more than their share of the load to keep the PLCAC active through these lean times. But all the signs today point to a substantial resurgence of activity - the stuff that big-inch dreams are made of. As contractors sharpen their pencils in the coming months they will have to contend with the challenges that result from the long layoff - labor and equipment shortages. But no question, the most challenging issue for pipeline contractors is the substantial demand for labor and equipment in western Canada. Pipeline contractors will have to compete with the rest of the construction industry for the available supply of these resources in a booming economy. While the immediate demand for pipeline contractors will be seen in the oil sector, it seems more and more likely that those enormous natural gas pipeline projects along the Alaska Highway and down the Mackenzie Valley will finally come on stream as the end of the decade looms, placing ever greater demands on the available supplies of skilled labor. The PLCAC and its members have not been sitting idle for the past few years. We have been fine-tuning our safety training programs, upgrading skilled workers, introducing innovations to mechanized welding and maintaining our equipment. We know we have a lot more to do now - more training courses for skilled workers and mentoring programs for newcomers. Members of the Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada might well conclude - we live in challenging and exciting times. May I wish you and your loved ones a very joyous holiday season and prosperity in the coming years.



PETER THOMPSON

### Somerville's share of Waupisoo for Enbridge starts in 2007

The start time may be 20 months away, but Nick DeKoning, Somerville's president, will take it. Enbridge has awarded his company 2 of the 4 sections of the combined 30in. oil pipeline and 16 in. diluent pipeline between Fort McMurray and Edmonton known as the Waupisoo Pipeline. Construction of the first dual pipeline section of 120 km. will start on 1 August 2007 and the second will start on 1 December 2007.

### OJ awarded Pembina project

Pembina Pipeline has awarded construction of the 56 km. of 16 in. condensate pipeline to OJ Pipelines Canada. Work on the project which is situated between Algar and Cheecham, AB, will start in early January for completion in March.

### Three bursary winners announced by executive

Last month the executive committee named the winners of this year's Cal Callahan Memorial Bursary.

This bursary is awarded annually to the son, daughter or ward of a person whose principal income is derived from the pipeline construction industry in Canada and whose employer is a member of the Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada.

The three winners selected, who will each receive \$2,000 bursaries from the association are:

JULIA ABRAHAM

daughter of Kent Abraham general superintendent, Robert B. Somerville.

She is attending the University of Toronto, Toronto, ON and studying the humanities and social services. KAYCEE FOY

daughter of Jeff Foy, foreman and sideboom operator, Waschuk Pipeline Construction, Banister Pipelines and Robert B. Somerville. She is attending the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK studying engineering. JODIE HODGINS

daughter of John Hodgins, sideboom operator for Pe Ben Industries and Banister Pipelines. She is attending Brandon University, Brandon, MB studying psychiatric nursing.

### [Banister underway with Access project this month](#)

The Lac La Biche, AB project consists of the installation and testing of 103 km. of dual NPS 16 and 24 this winter and 62 km. of dual NPS 16 and 24 in the summer of 2006. Completion of the whole project is scheduled for September 2006. Banister is also involved with Nexen Inc. on the Long Lake project, the installation and testing of 20 km. of below ground pipeline and the above ground fabrication of various sized pipeline. This installation will be completed in March 2006.

### [Louisbourg Pipelines building a pipeline for TCPL](#)

Known as the Smoky River Extension it consists of 27.8 km. of NPS 20 between Grand Cache and Sturgeon Lake, AB. Kevin O'Donnell, Louisbourg's controller, reports the installation is underway with completion scheduled for April, 2006.

## [PLCAC's executive director charts Canada's pipeline developments over the next few years](#)

The audience consisted of members of the International Pipe Line & Offshore Contractors Association attending its annual meeting at Vancouver last September. The speaker was Barry Brown, our long-time executive director. After undergoing the longest stretch of the doldrums suffered by the Canadian pipeline industry, it was timely for our association's key executive to be able to tell the world that Canada's pipeline contractors would once again be demonstrating the skills they have honed while having to function in one of the most forbidding climates known to man. After detailing the systems PLCAC members have installed over the past half century for a total that exceeds 100,000 km., he emphasized the recent activities of the association's safety committee in developing a computer-based safety training program that is now available to contractors and pipeline workers world-wide, in either CD or on-line format. It became clear to delegates that the preparatory work of PLCAC was intended to position its members so they could respond to the enormous demand for their services in the coming decade. Much of this anticipated activity would be associated with the massive oil sands in northern Alberta, that will eventually yield recoverable oil IN EXCESS of the known reserves in Saudi Arabia. He reported that the current production from the oil sands of one million barrels a day would double by 2010 and reach over three million barrels a day by 2015.

But as the industry is aware, this gigantic increase in production of heavy crude oil, demands an adequate supply of pipelines to transport it to markets and the provision of refineries able to process this 'black gold'. And then, of course, there is the twin concerns of distance and terrain.

He noted that the Alberta oil sands are located over 1,000 km. from the ocean, but access would have to contend with the continental divide across the Rocky Mountain range that spans both Alberta and British Columbia, and the equally hazardous tasks of gaining approval from Parks Canada, the environmentalists and aboriginal groups. It's as well, he noted, that Canadian contractors are conditioned to viewing these obstacles as normal challenges. Although the industry will hear of dozens of pipeline projects over the coming years, because some are competing, not all will make it to construction. The certainties are those projected by the major players such as Terasen, Enbridge, Pembina, Devon Energy and TransCanada PipeLines. Then, of course, there is the other major energy source - natural gas. The talk of the industry and the nations for far too many years, it seems that at long last Arctic gas from Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline and the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline will be built and come on line during the next decade. The good times are just ahead for the Canadian pipeline construction. Hold on to your hats!

## Safety Training course now available on-line or CD

The International Union of Operating Engineers, local 870, at Saskatoon, SK, is offering an interactive, pan-Canadian safety training course that provides a basic standard of safety awareness for contractors engaged in pipeline construction.

While it is freely available to its members, local 870 is also making it available to the pipeline industry on-line or by CD at a cost of \$90, plus GST. Contact Fran Ferster or Ron Williams at local 870, telephone: 306.665.7718.



## IPLOCA elects new officers and directors

*The International Pipe Line and Offshore Contractors Association elected a new slate of officers and directors at its 30th annual convention held at Vancouver, BC in September.*

*Front row (l-r) Andy Lukas, 1st vice-president, A.J. Lucas Ltd., Australia; Scott Summers, immediate past president, ARB Inc., USA; Issam Shammass, president, C.A.T. Group, Turkey; Phil Bond, 2nd vice-president, Pipeline Induction Heat, U.K.; Yasser Pakel, treasurer, Technip, Germany. Middle row (l-r) Steve Preston, Heerema Marine Contractors, Europe North West; Greg Miller, Pipeline Inspection Co. Ltd., associate member director; Roberto Pirani, IPLOCA, technical consultant to the Board; John Phillips, IPLOCA, consultant to the Board; Luc Henriod, IPLOCA, executive director; Ibrahim Zakhem, Zakhem International Construction, director at large. Back row (l-r) John Dempsey, Flour, North America; Roberto Castelli, Bonatti S.P.A., Europe Mediterranean; Osman Birgili, Tekfen, Europe Eastern; Daniel Gasquet, Amex Spie Capag, Europe Mediterranean; Harald Dresp, FAB Fernlietungs, Europe Central; Vladilen Ermolin, Podvodtruboprovodstroy, Europe Eastern; Juan Maria Arzuaga, Techint, Latin America; Gus Meijer, CRC-Evans Pipeline International, associate member director.*

## ACTION DATES

### 2006

#### 8-12 FEBRUARY

Distribution Contractors Association  
45th Annual Convention  
Sheraton Maui Resort  
Lahaina, HI  
Contact: Dennis Kennedy  
Richardson, TX  
972.680.0261 [www.dca-online.org](http://www.dca-online.org)

#### 15-19 FEBRUARY

Pipe Line Contractors Association (US)  
58th Annual Convention  
Four Seasons Aviara Resort  
Carlsbad, CA  
Contact: Pat Tielborg  
Dallas, TX  
214.969.2700 [www.plca.org](http://www.plca.org)

#### 24-28 APRIL

Pipeline Technology Trade Fair  
Hannover Fair 2006  
Hannover, Germany  
Contact: Oliver Frese  
+49-511/89-31303 [www.pipeline-technology-hannover.com](http://www.pipeline-technology-hannover.com)

#### 31 MAY - 3 JUNE

Pipe Line Contractors Association  
of Canada  
52nd Annual Convention  
Sutton Place Hotel  
Edmonton, AB  
Contact: Barry Brown  
905.847.9383 [www.pipeline.ca](http://www.pipeline.ca)

#### 24-29 SEPTEMBER

International Pipe Line & Offshore  
Contractors Association  
40th Annual Convention  
Hotel Arts Barcelona  
Barcelona, Spain  
Contact: Luc Henriod  
Geneva, Switzerland  
+41-22-306-0230 [www.iploca.com](http://www.iploca.com)

## Louisbourg gets Peerless Lake Phase 3 project

Word from Kevin O'Donnell, Louisbourg Pipelines' controller, that his company has been awarded the TCPL Peerless Lake Phase 3 project near Wabasca, AB. The project consists of 32 km. of 24 in. gas pipeline. Work is slated for completion next March.

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

Contributors are invited to send material to:

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