

Oil and Gas Remarks

Dr. Tom Traves

President, Dalhousie University

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- pleased to announce the establishment of the Atlantic Canada Petroleum Institute at Dalhousie University
- introduce our speakers who will participate in today's announcement
- all aware of the immense impact and potential for our region from offshore development – but to realize the full benefits of this development we need to ensure that we have the full capacity in Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada to address the needs generated by the oil and gas industry, and by the many, many companies that supply it – that means we have to have the skilled trades, the business and engineering graduates, the professions and the arts and science graduates who will work directly or indirectly filling the new opportunities that we are creating – if we don't, the work will flow elsewhere and the development benefits will be lost
- to ensure that we have an educated and capable workforce, we need a strong post-secondary education system dedicated to meeting the educational needs of our population
- the partners in the Atlantic Canada Petroleum Institute – Dalhousie, UCCB and the NSCC – have come together to ensure that we develop and maintain that focus and meet those needs – together we possess the capacity to provide the educational continuum that starts with skilled trades, moves through highly-trained technologists and continues on to the professions and research and development specialists
- It gives me great pleasure to introduce representatives of our partner institutions:
 - Lucia MacIsaac, Director of the Centre of Excellence in Petroleum Development at the University College of Cape Breton
 - Camilla Farrell, Board of Governors, University College of Cape Breton
 - George MacLean, Coordinator of Apprenticeship Training, Nova Scotia Community College
- together we also have the capacity to meet the industry's research needs, to work together with our industrial partners to address new problems as they arise to ensure higher

productivity for the industry, environmental security for the offshore region and greater social benefits for our province and region's people

- In this research endeavour we also plan to work cooperatively with scientists at Memorial University of Newfoundland to maximize our scientific and research potential for the region. I'm please to read a letter of support for our partnership with Memorial that I just received from Memorial's new president, Dr. Axel Meisen.
- clearly we have the intellectual and educational wherewithal in Nova Scotia and the region to meet all these needs – but we also need the means to build up additional capacity and focus it on this new area of development – in this regard we are very fortunate to have the strong support of some of the leading players in the industry, as well as the provincial and federal government
- in particular, I want to acknowledge the generous support of Mobil, Shell, Imperial and PanCanadian Resources – at this point I'd like to recognize the representatives of these companies who are here with us today:
 - Paul Bennett, Mobil Canada
 - Fran Calnan, Imperial Oil Ltd.
 - Doug Gregory, Shell Canada Ltd.
 - Jim Wooder, PanCanadian Resources
- I also want to acknowledge the strong support we have received from our provincial and federal governments through our Economic Development Agreement administered by ACOA and the Nova Scotia Department of Economic Development – in a moment I will call upon Premier Hamm and Senator Boudreau to describe their involvement
- before I close, I'd like to say that none of this would be possible without the intellectual and institutional heritage that we have built up in our province's universities and Community College campuses
- like the offshore ecosystem, we represent a fragile element in our community – if supported appropriately, as we have been in this initiative, we have the capacity to enrich our community for years to come in this and many other developments – but like other fragile ecosystems, it

doesn't take much to wreck our ability to pay rich dividends – we have come through a very difficult decade in Nova Scotia during which our higher education system has struggled to keep up to the demands placed on us during an era of stringent cutbacks – yesterday the provincial government reaffirmed its support for improved post-secondary funding and we are grateful for this – yesterday, the federal government also made an historic announcement creating the 21st Century Chairs for Research Excellence – we are grateful for this announcement as well as recent increases in the funding provided to our national research councils

- strong and continuing support from our federal and provincial governments for higher education and research are an essential investment in our future – today we see a direct manifestation of that impact and potential through the creation of the Atlantic Canada Petroleum Institute – I want to thank all of our sponsors and on behalf of our education partners in this endeavour I want to say how proud and committed we are to helping build a better future for Nova Scotians.
- I'd now like to call upon the Premier of Nova Scotia, the Hon. John Hamm, to say a few words about this important development.
- I'd now like to call upon the Hon. Bernie Boudreau, our new leader of the Senate of Canada and Minister for Nova Scotia.
- Paul Bennett
- Jim Wooder
- Questions

Closing Remarks

- Before we close this event, allow me to summarize the support we've received to date for the ACPI and its overall mandate.
- To date, we have received \$5.35 million over five years to support the ACPI:
 - \$2.1 million from our industry partners
 - \$1.25 million from the Canada-Nova Scotia Economic Cooperation Agreement

\$1.5 million from the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Development Agreement

\$0.5 million from the Dalhousie University Killam Endowment

- Our purpose at this stage in the evolution of the ACPI, and subject to further discussions with our partners, is three-fold:
 - (1) Coordinate and organize research activity in cooperation with our industry partners and community groups
 - (2) Coordinate and organize education programs and training opportunities for those who wish to work and develop in the industry
 - (3) Create a forum where the producers, their suppliers, their customers, affected social groups such as the offshore fishery, government representatives and university faculty and staff can meet informally to define problems of mutual concern and develop solutions that meet our collective needs.