

# Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

November 2019 • Page 29



Crews have been working on surface reclamation work along the Enbridge Line 3 right-of-way. The work was to be done this fall, but because of delays due to wet weather, the workers will be back next summer to complete the work.

## Focus shifting from surface reclamation to bringing Line 3 online Enbridge crew will be back next summer

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Wet weather this fall delayed reclamation work on the Enbridge Line 3 right-of-way so much that the 200 workers currently in the Moosomin area will wrap up the work they can by mid-November and the workers will be back next summer to complete the work.

Meanwhile, the focus at Enbridge is shifting to bringing the new Line 3 pipeline online.

"Reclamation of the Enbridge Line 3 replacement project right-of-way continues in southeast Saskatchewan near Moosomin, with crews of approximately 200 workers," said Line 3 Construction manager Al Sawatzky.

"Wet weather has delayed our construction schedule, much the same as it has delayed fall harvest in the area," he said.

"However, we remain optimistic for extended dry weather that will support farmers getting their crops off the fields as well as our final reclamation efforts.

"We expect to wrap up reclamation activities for this season in mid-November, returning next summer to complete the remaining work.

"Our objective, as always, is to restore the land to as good or better condition as it was prior to construction."

As the reclamation proceeds, dedicated crews were mobilizing during the last week of October to begin the task of bringing the Line 3 replacement pipeline into commercial service.

This will involve filling the new replacement pipeline from Hardisty, Alberta to Gretna, Manitoba and some purging of the existing Line 3.

In the Moosomin and Cromer area, these activities are

anticipated to take place in early to mid-November.

"We are targeting December for first commercial service of the Line 3 replacement pipeline in Canada," said Sawatzky.

"The nature of the work requires 24-hour operations and there will be some short-duration localized noise, potential odor and increased traffic as this work proceeds within a small area surrounding some of the Line 3 facilities, including the Cromer Terminal.

"Throughout this process, we will be working to ensure noise levels are mitigated as much as possible.

"We are working to notify landowners and nearby residents who may be impacted by these activities as well as municipalities in proximity to the right of way.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of the community as we near the home stretch of the project.



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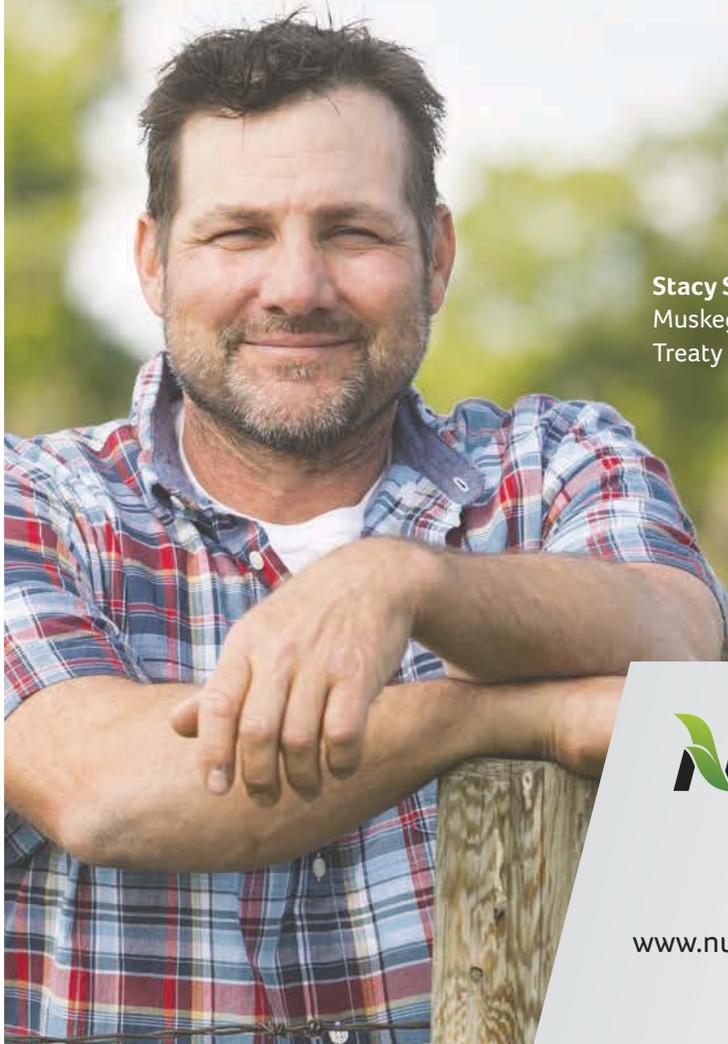
  
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**Foundation for success:**

**'I always wanted to be a pipeliner'**

**With trailer in tow, Manitoba First Nations woman thrilled to hit the road as an inspector**

In their late fifties, most people are winding down their careers and beginning to look ahead to retirement. At age 58, Elaine Dowan is just getting started.

"I always wanted to be a pipeliner, right where I am now," says the resident of Canupawakpa Dakota Nation (CDN), about 30 kilometres south of Virden in western Manitoba. "My dream is to be an inspector, go on the road. I bought a trailer and I'm ready to go."

Elaine's been a welder and she worked at Maple Leaf Foods in Brandon for 10 years. Then she landed a job doing security and even did a stint as an Enbridge community liaison for CDN.

Then came an opportunity she'd be wanting for many years—a chance to work in pipeline construction. And none better than the large project near her home base—Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline replacement.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd be where I am now," Elaine says. "Never—I always thought I'd always just be working security."



Elaine is thankful for the opportunity to fulfill her dream of working in the pipeline industry, and she wanted to show her appreciation by presenting a star blanket to Brian Rowher, Senior Construction Specialist on Spread 7 of the Line 3 project, in December 2018. To give a star blanket is to show utmost respect, honor and admiration and to receive one indicates that the giver hold you in high esteem for your generosity and accomplishments. From left are Elaine, Brian Rowher, Senior Aboriginal Construction Monitor Arnold Breland and Gerrilynn Cochrane, junior monitor.



In July 2018, Elaine bought herself a next-to-new 30-foot trailer. "I'm excited about becoming an inspector and going on the road." Elaine lives on-reserve with her 80-year-old mother.



The phone call Elaine had been waiting for came in the summer of 2018 and she joined the Line 3 pipeline replacement project as a junior inspector on construction Spread 7 in August 2018. Pictured are Elaine, center, with Dunn and Hiebert inspectors Clarence Clementovich, left, and Farren Dixon.

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## Saskatchewan Potash Nourishing the Earth.

A snapshot of Saskatchewan's potash industry

Saskatchewan potash is a vital and replenishing agricultural fertilizer used world-wide to grow healthy crops. Its application is becoming increasingly important as the globe's population soars toward an estimated 9.7 billion by 2050.

Three producing companies — K+S Potash Canada, Mosaic Company and Nutrien Ltd. — operate 11 mines in the province: eight are underground and three are solution operations.

Saskatchewan has the largest and richest potash resources on the globe, and could supply the needs of farmers world-wide for several hundred years.

Not only does potash nourish the Earth, it's also used to make industrial products and pharmaceuticals.

Potash is a valuable resource that has a significant positive impact on the economy of Saskatchewan and its communities.

### POTASH MINING FACTS AT A GLANCE

**Amount mined:**  
20.7 million tonnes

**Amount exported:**  
95 per cent  
Major markets of US, China, Brazil, India

**Sales:**  
\$4.4 billion

**Reserves:**  
Saskatchewan has approximately half the world's potash reserves.

**#1**  
Potash Producer in the world  
30% of world production

## SASKATCHEWAN POTASH ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

**Financial** Contribution to GDP: **\$5.52 billion**

Taxes (federal, provincial and local): **\$516 million**

**Employment**  
Potash mining employs Saskatchewan residents and is indirectly responsible for many more jobs and careers.  
Jobs: **5,100**  
Wages: **\$1 billion**

**Safety**  
Mining is one of the safest industries in Saskatchewan, and in Canada.  
Recordable injury frequency rate\* employees (average): 1.057  
\*RIFR reflects the annual injury rate per 100 full-time employees.

**Community investment** **\$15.5 million**  
Saskatchewan potash companies invest in community initiatives, partnerships, and causes that enhance the quality of life in the regions where they operate.  
In 2017, \$15.5 million was invested in various communities and indigenous partnerships.

**Statistics**

Statistics have been compiled from information provided by Saskatchewan's three potash mining companies and Statistics Canada/RIAS Inc. RIAS, or Regulatory Impacts/Alternatives/Strategies compiled a report entitled Economic Benefits of the Fertilizer Sector in Canada based on StatCan information. All numbers from 2017.

# Potash facts: Canada is world's largest producer

Potash is the common name given to a group of minerals and chemicals containing potassium (K), which is a basic nutrient for plants and an important element of fertilizer. Potash is mostly produced in the form of potassium chloride (KCl), but deposits can have different amounts of potassium, so we often measure and refer to it in terms of potassium oxide (K<sub>2</sub>O) equivalence, for consistency.

- Potash is primarily used to produce fertilizer
- Canada is the world's largest producer and exporter of potash
- Canada has the world's largest potash reserves, with 1 billion tonnes of potash (potassium oxide equivalent) or about one-quarter of the world's reserves

**Uses**  
Potash is primarily used as a fertilizer (approximately 95%) to support plant growth, increase crop yield and disease resistance, and intensify water preservation. Small quantities are used in the manufacturing of potassium-

bearing chemicals such as:

- detergents
- ceramics
- pharmaceuticals
- water conditioners
- alternatives to de-icing salt

Potassium is an important element of the human diet. It is essential for growth and the maintenance of tissues, muscles and organs, as well as the electrical activity of the heart.

#### PRODUCTION

Canada produced 20.3 million tonnes of potash in 2017, an increase of 2.4 million tonnes compared to 17.9 million tonnes in 2016.

Global potash production was estimated at 60.4 million tonnes in 2016. Canada is the world's largest potash producer, accounting for 29% of the world's total in 2016.

Four countries (Canada, Russia, Belarus and China) accounted for more than 75% of the world's potash produc-

tion in 2016.

In 2017, the estimated global reserves of potash were 4.3 billion tonnes (potassium oxide equivalent). Canada had the world's largest reserves with 1 billion tonnes.

#### TRADE

Canada is the world's largest exporter of potash. In 2017, Canada exported 19 million tonnes of potash, accounting for 39% of the world's total exports.

Three countries (Canada, Russia and Belarus) accounted for more than 75% of the potash traded internationally in 2016.

#### PRICES

Potash prices have been declining since 2012. Prices stabilized in 2016 at around US\$200 per tonne, then increased slightly from the second half of 2017 to reach US\$207 at the end of 2017.

Source: Natural Resources Canada

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## What a new federal deal with the Prairies might look like

I don't know if it's a blessing or a curse but I am one of those people who often has a soundtrack playing in their mind as they witness certain of life's moments. (I hope there are others.)

For example, a read of Trump's Twitter feed can unfold to Gordon Lightfoot's *The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald* (the former not doing the latter any justice at all).

The news coverage of the campaign promises of the federal election, especially from the NDP, played out in my mind's ear to BTO's *Gimme Your Money Please*.

And as the television election maps graphically portrayed the complete ouster of the Liberals from Saskatchewan and Alberta during the election, I was hearing *Twisted Sister*. I think most of you know the song.

After the election, watching a more humble and self-aware re-elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau say some of the right things in the face of a rising angry tide of Western alienation and even separatist sentiment, it was Elvis I heard. The song charted for him twice, the second time after he had supposedly died. A little less conversation, a little more action, please. I can hear it as I type.

Elvis didn't exactly open up the Townes Van Zandt catalogue when choosing his songs.

They were never encumbered by the weightiest of subject matters.

Yet this one offers excellent counsel for the feds at a very important moment in the life of this country.

This is not a time for talk or process obsession. This is a time for action.

Trudeau's words were nice. The desire to ensure representation at the cabinet table from the two provinces that were supposed to form the one province of Buffalo 114 years ago is laudable.

But it would be little more than what's been the case for the past four years.

We did have a voice at the cabinet table prior to the election, three in fact. One of them was the formidable Ralph Goodale.

The very Ralph Goodale who had survived and thrived in his Saskatchewan seat through a lot of tough times for and from his party.

He survived the hated long-gun registry. He survived the leaderships of Stéphane Dion and Michael Ignatieff, the latter of which reduced his party to 34 seats and third place in the worst election result for the Liberals in Canadian history.

But even Goodale could not survive the anger generated by the Trudeau government's perceived mistreatment of the West over the past four years.

Not even close.

No, it was a fully representative Liberal cabinet table that brought us a capitulation on the Northern Gateway pipeline and KXL.

It brought us National Energy Board changes mid-stream of Energy East that effectively killed that pipe-



Brad Wall

line.

It brought us a federally imposed carbon tax and the promise of no new pipelines thanks to Bills C-69 and C-48.

It brought us talk of phasing out the Canadian fossil fuel industry and the tickle-trunk tour of India that might have made things worse for Prairie pulse crop growers.

So discussions about process and tweaks to cabinet representation miss the point.

There are two strong first ministers in Saskatchewan and Alberta—Premier Scott Moe and Premier Jason Kenney—who had news conferences of their own and expressed on behalf of their provinces a desire for a new deal with Canada.

Therein lies the opportunity for something that is more than thoughts and prayers from the federal government.

Is such a deal possible?

If its elements do not require constitutional changes, at least in the short term, and if the feds are earnest in a desire for reconciliation and re-engagement, then yes, it is.

It could look something like this.

- Federal equivalency granted for the current climate-change plans of Alberta and Saskatchewan, both of which include a price on carbon ... for heavy emitters. (Imagine that.)

And a corresponding commitment by all three partners to strengthen the focus in each of the plans and in Canada's approach on technologies that can help our country truly contribute to the global climate fight.

- Equalization rebates to provinces whose taxpayers continue to pay into the federal program even while they

face the fifth consecutive year of low commodity prices. Such a rebate can be sunsetted, tied to commodity price recovery and roughly on the per capita contribution to the program from each province's tax base. It could be a payment separate from the program itself keeping all current recipient provinces whole. Such a payment could take the form of a large-scale abandoned oil well cleanup program. That would put a lot of front line oil workers back to work and have an obvious attendant environmental upside.

- TMX completion and then privatization with a significant portion going to First Nations-controlled interests on commercial terms.

- Amendments to Bills C-69 and C-48 that remove uncertainty for pipeline construction and oil exports from the West Coast.

The deal might also include a longer-term commitment to put Senate reform and equalization on the table in terms of constitutional discussions but shouldn't be predicated on the pursuit of unachievable constitutional change.

Songs in my mind notwithstanding, I have no standing to present such a list. The premiers may well desire other elements.

The point is that both premiers have signalled their interest in a fairer deal with the federation.

And that should be greeted as a hopeful thing by Trudeau.

It is time for Ottawa to engage with these two premiers. It is time for less conversation and more action.

*Brad Wall is a former premier of Saskatchewan.*

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Source: Carbon Footprint for Canadian Potash Production, Cheminfo Services Inc., 2018.

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**10%** 

Decrease of GHG emissions per tonne of product





# McLellan says Mining, Energy, Manufacturing vital to Prairies

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce president Steve McLellan says the mining, energy, and manufacturing industries are vital to the Prairie provinces.

"They're incredibly important," he says. "The bottom line is the diversification we have with our manufacturing, the fact that we make everything from pedal boards for guitar players to processed meats to large scale cylinders for mining operations to farm equipment that is exported around the world, we make incredible things in this province. Our agriculture manufacturers like Vaderstad are exporting to countries we have trouble spelling, and making money doing it, and helping those countries feed their people."

"The direct expenditures those companies make are important, the hiring, the products and services that they buy from their local contractors and subcontractors. It could be just an electrician or a plumber that's serving their needs. It's incredibly important."

## Regulatory, tax burden

He said the mining industry does face some challenges in competing with other jurisdictions.

"One of the challenges for the mining industry is they are competing in global markets with jurisdictions that don't have the regulatory burdens that we have. We need to have some of our regulations streamlined and we need to make sure our tax system is fair. We need to make sure we are competing on a level playing field."

"The ability of these companies to operate to the standards that Canadian values dictate is being challenged by a federal government that adds duplication of provincial regulations, that requires reporting structures that duplicate provincial regulations. We need to get rid of those to make sure that our Canadian companies can compete. We can do a lot better and make



Steve McLellan addressing the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce

it easier for our Canadian companies to compete."

## Discussions with province

He said the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce has had discussions with the provincial government over the tax burden on the potash mining industry.

"We did a report called Beyond 2020 that talks about a review of the potash sector, with the potash sector at the table."

"The calibre and the expertise we have within our potash sector is exceptional and they have ideas of using different metrics to base the taxation on, that may be better for the companies and the province, that will provide the province with their fair share, but in ways that will not penalize the mines when they do expand."

"The government hammered the potash

sector out of the blue by changing some metrics on which they are charged. It was unnecessary, it was unfair, it wasn't a consultative process. They simply said 'well, they are big companies, they can absorb it' and that's horrendous public policy. The government needs to do better, and our companies can provide some insight on how to do it better."

## Lots of potential

McLellan said he sees great potential for further development of the industries in Saskatchewan.

"There is tremendous potential," he said. "In the energy industry there is a whole lot more we can do, both in the traditional oil and gas sector, getting that product to market, making sure we are using the expertise that we have and the raw resources that we have. There are opportunities to expand that industry. There are hurdles such as getting pipelines in place, but if we can get over those hurdles, the future is bright."

"In manufacturing, there is no question that there is great opportunity. The legacy of companies like SeedMaster, like Vaderstad, Morris, Doepker, all of those companies that originated here, we need to make sure we have the right ecosystem for them, so that innovation is celebrated and encouraged."

"We need to make sure that government doesn't get in the way but celebrates and supports them. Manufacturing, from metal fabricators to food processors, are an important part of the economy of this province and there's lots more than can be done. Of course, one of the newest manufacturing activities is the tech world. There's lots of money being made in technology, creation of different processes, we're hiring hundreds of people every month in Saskatchewan in our tech companies, and there could be more of that, without question."



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### Major operations

The two potash mines in the region, Nutrien Rocanville (above) and Mosaic Esterhazy, are the two largest potash mines in the world.

The mines operate at a lower cost than other mines in Saskatchewan because of the higher grade ore at the eastern end of the Prairie Evaporate formation.

Richard Downey, Vice-president of Investor and Corporate Relations with Nutrien told the World-Spectator last week, "Rocanville is our largest and lowest cost facility and has and will continue to operate at full rates now and into the future."



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# Trudeau has turned Canada's most economically important industry into a pariah

My belief in the importance of Canadian-headquartered companies goes back to the early 1970s when, as a young engineer, I joined the Canadian subsidiary of a Nebraska-based oil and gas company.

While I was treated well and given substantial responsibility, I yearned to work for a company where the decisions were made in Calgary, not Omaha.

That opportunity came with a new startup called the Alberta Energy Company.

I joined AEC to head the building of the oil and gas division.

The company grew quickly. But five years later, the entire oil and gas industry was struck a huge blow by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's National Energy Program that capped oil prices below world levels and slapped a confiscatory tax on the gross revenues of energy companies.

Canadian-headquartered companies were supposed to benefit from cash grants, provided we shifted our drilling to federally owned lands.

But most of those lands were in the Arctic where drilling costs were prohibitive and access to pipelines non-existent.

After the Mulroney Conservatives killed the Trudeau policies in 1985, AEC got back to the job of company building.

I could never have imagined that, seventeen years later, the company would decide to export itself.

Not long after I became the company's CEO in 1994, American takeovers of Canadian oil and gas companies began accelerating.

Having grown AEC into one of the two Canadian energy companies with

the largest market value, rivaled only by PanCanadian Petroleum (a member the venerable Canadian Pacific group), we had managed to avoid that fate.

But market intelligence revealed we were on the radar screen of the big global multinational majors, the only players with the capacity to take us out.

We knew that the best defence was to become an even larger, nationally-important energy company.

On Jan. 28, 2002, Alberta Energy and PanCanadian announced a \$27 billion "merger of equals" that would create the world's largest publicly traded independent oil and gas producer.

Given my career-long belief in the importance of Canadian-controlled companies, it was important that the name of our new company symbolize its status as Canada's flagship energy company.

Hence the name Encana — from the words "Energy Canada."

Employees of the two companies united in our mission of "energy for people."

When I retired four years later, Encana was our country's largest energy company and also the largest of all Canadian companies by stock market value.

My dream of building a Canada-headquartered energy company, invulnerable to takeover, had become a reality.

I could never have imagined that, seventeen years later, the company would decide to export itself.

Encana had already shifted most of its multi-billion-dollar capital program to the United States when the \$6 billion acquisition of U.S. producer Newfield Exploration was



Gwyn Morgan

announced last May.

That meant that Encana's largest production region would now be the United States, not in Canada.

That was followed the move of CEO Doug Suttles from Calgary to Denver.

With half its board of directors, 60 per cent of its production and the vast majority of its capital program south of the border, it was clear that Canada's flagship energy company had become Americanized.

Apparently, the company's board concluded even keeping a name that implies Canadian roots repels investors.

That lamentable process was completed with the recent announcement that the head office was moving to the U.S..

CEO Suttles stated that the primary reason was to attract a higher stock market valuation.

Why would that be true? The answer is that the Trudeau government's toxic policies towards what has long been Canada's most economically important industry have transformed Canada's oil and gas business climate from positive to pariah.

For me and the once proud current and former Canadian employees, the Americanization of the company is distressing enough, but the loss of the Encana name is particularly heart-wrenching.

Apparently, the company's board concluded even keeping a name that im-

plies Canadian roots repels investors.

That is a stark reminder of how far down our country has plummeted in the eyes of investors, a tragedy that should concern all Canadians.

In the days since the announcement, I've been asked if I thought the federal election outcome pro-mulgated the change in domicile.

Given the re-election of national government ideologically opposed to the oil and gas industry's very existence, it's clear to me that its re-election struck the final blow to Encana as a Canadian headquartered company.

Gwyn Morgan is the retired founding CEO of Encana Corp.



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**THE MINING, ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING**  
FALL 2019



Surface remediation on Enbridge's Line 3 right-of-way. Crews plan to wrap up work on Nov. 15 and will be back next summer to finish the project. Around 200 workers have been based in Moosomin for the last few months working on surface remediation.



Indigenous monitors on the Enbridge Line 3 right-of-way.



Straw crimping along the Enbridge Line 3 right-of-way on Spread 6 in western Manitoba.



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# SE Sask focus of October oil and gas offering

Southeast Saskatchewan was the focus of the October 1 public offering of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights in the province, which generated \$2.2 million and brought the 2019-20 fiscal year total to more than \$11 million. Saskatchewan currently averages \$529.63 per hectare for the fiscal year, higher than Alberta, which averaged \$149.66 per hectare.

Southeast Saskatchewan brought in \$1,608,244.49 for 35 leases totalling 4,917,960 hectares.

Four leases, comprising 516,414 hectares northwest of Lampman, received \$469,580.00 in bonus bids; the highest

bonus bid received in this offering was \$240,480.00 for a 129,274 hectare parcel in that area.

These parcels are prospective for oil in the Midale Beds of the Madison Group and oil in the Bakken Formation. The successful bidder on these parcels was Midale Petroleum Ltd.

Synergy Land Services Ltd. was the successful bidder on two leases in the Kindersley area consisting of 516,658 hectares, which received a total offer of \$234,369.81. These parcels are situated northwest of Kerobert and are prospective for oil in the Viking Formation.

The global oil and gas industry recognizes that Saskatchewan has a favourable and low-risk investment climate relative to other jurisdictions in Canada and elsewhere.

The Fraser Institute's annual interna-

tional survey of petroleum executives for 2018 ranked Saskatchewan second among jurisdictions in Canada for oil and gas investment attractiveness.

The scheduled date for the next public offering will be December 3, 2019.

**Contact Plain & Valley at 306-435-2445**



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**THE MINING, ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING**  
FALL 2019

# Line 3 replacement will be in service by end of 2019

By any measure, replacing the Line 3 pipeline in Canada was a monumental undertaking successfully executed in the field over four seasons by a peak construction workforce of about 5,300 workers, including a large component of Indigenous men and women.

New 36-inch-diameter steel pipe milled in Regina and Camrose, 1,070 kilometres of it, joined by nearly 50,000 welds and stretching across the vast Canadian prairie from Hardisty, Alberta to Gretna, Manitoba.

Three new storage tanks, ready to be filled to a capacity of almost 1 million barrels of Canadian crude at Enbridge's Hardisty Terminal; from there and further downstream along the pipeline right-of-way, 18 new pump stations to keep the oil flowing past villages and hamlets like Metiskow, Langbank and St. Leon.

Earlier this year as final restoration continued along parts of the construction right-of-way, Enbridge has announced an agreement with shippers that the new pipeline will be brought into commercial service by the end



of this year. "We are always talking to our customers to determine their transportation needs and how we can meet those needs by optimizing our pipeline systems, so reaching a commercial agreement is a major milestone for Enbridge," explains Chad

Dechaine, Director, Business Development and Asset Performance. "Bringing this line into service in Canada represents the culmination of several years of hard work by thousands of Enbridge employees and contractors—and we wouldn't be here without the strong

support of landowners, municipalities and Indigenous communities," adds Guy Krepps, Director, Major Projects Execution. "We're very grateful for that support."

The Line 3 replacement pipeline and related facilities were engineered and built with

the newest and most advanced pipeline technology, using the latest in construction methods. As a result, it offers enhanced safety and reliability in addition to being more energy efficient.

"In Wisconsin and now Canada, we've replaced Line 3 with new steel pipe and await final permitting to begin construction in Minnesota," Krepps says. "By bringing the Wisconsin segment and now the Canadian segment into service, the number of preventative maintenance digs that would have been required will be significantly reduced, resulting in fewer disruptions to communities, landowners and the environment."

The 14-mile (22.5 km) Wisconsin segment was connected to the Minnesota Line 3 and has been operating since May 2018.

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**Myth 1:** I know where pipelines are from the marker signs.

**Fact:** Markers don't show the exact location or depth of pipelines, and the line doesn't always follow a straight path between markers.

**Myth 2:** Pipelines are so deep, I'll never hit them.

**Fact:** Depth can change over time due to erosion, land use and other factors, sometimes leaving less than 12 inches of cover.

**Myth 3:** I'm not digging, just driving over it.

**Fact:** While certain equipment is okay, heavy loads can damage a pipeline or its coating, creating significant future risk. For long-term safety, get a crossing agreement.

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