



## Industry Notes

- Pipeline completion expectations of Calgary-based EnCana Corporation remained the same for the Horn River Basin, despite recession. They reportedly are moving forward on the 155 kilometer pipeline project at an estimated cost of \$340 million. Subject to regulatory approval, they've set 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2011 as project operational date. Expected to use new pipelines, up to 36 inches in diameter, the pipeline will be used to transport sweet natural gas from the basin, to a tie-in point, on TransCanada's, existing Alberta system
  - YRC Worldwide announced a merger of Reimer Express Lines and Yellow Canada into a "single market facing brand" to be known as YRC Reimer
  - Communities along the Beaufort Sea will have a new, cheaper option for shipping goods up from southern Canada this summer, according to Inuit-owned, Northern Transportation Company Ltd. They announced launching a West Coast barge route from Richmond, BC. A 12,000-tonne ocean barge will depart from Richmond once a season, moving north along BC and Alaska coasts to Arctic coastal communities in the Northwest Territories and western Nunavut. It's reported they'll keep their existing sealift route on the Mackenzie River from Hay River, NWT, although saying the new BC route will be cheaper for customers
  - The Western Transportation Advisory Council (WESTAC) held a successful annual meeting in Edmonton, Alberta. Visit: [www.westac.com](http://www.westac.com)
- David G. A. McLean, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CN announced the board selected Claude Mongeau as President and Chief Executive Officer to succeed E. Hunter Harrison at the end of 2009
- An agreement was announced, enabling First Nations to secure direct interest in Pacific Trail Pipelines Limited Partnership (PTP). Currently a 50/50 partnership between Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. (PNG) and Galveston LNG Inc., PTP is developing a proposed 463 km. natural gas pipeline from Summit Lake to Kitimat (KSL Looping Project). PNG President and CEO, Roy Dyce, said, "We are very pleased to have participated in creating such an innovative and important arrangement among the Province of B.C., the First Nations and industry and look forward to realizing the many benefits this project will bring to our existing customers, to First Nations located in the Summit Lake to Kitimat area and to our shareholders."
- Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. announced 1<sup>st</sup> quarter earnings of \$1.02 per share, or \$308.3 million, their second-highest 1<sup>st</sup> quarter ever. Results compared to \$1.74 per share, or \$566.0 million, earned in their last year's record 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. This was reportedly achieved largely on the strength of potash pricing. 1<sup>st</sup> quarter potash movement was reported as extremely slow while major offshore markets destocked inventories and buyers waited for outcomes of contract negotiations with China and India. By quarter's end, Brazil and Southeast Asian customers had worked through significant portions inventories, gradually beginning to place new orders. These were reported to be at spot market prices of around \$750/tonne, comparable to the spot, pre-financial downturn.
- TransCanada Corp. began the process of seeking permits from the U.S. government to build a natural gas pipeline along the Alaska Highway. TransCanada has the approval of Alaskan state government to build the proposed pipeline. The 2,760 kilometer pipeline would run from Prudhoe Bay through the Yukon and northeastern B.C., to a hub in Alberta. The Calgary-based company submitted its plans for the proposed 2,760-kilometre pipeline to the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for review

## Federal Notes

- In April, Canada's Transport Minister, John Baird, and the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment, announced federal support of a joint Canada–U.S. proposal to the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The joint proposal is to establish an Emission Control Area (ECA) in North American coastal waters. It's intended to help reduce air pollution, smog and acid rain, benefiting human health in coastal areas and further inland. This proposed Canada–U.S. ECA will subject large ships operating in the designated areas to stringent standards, reducing their nitrogen oxides emissions by 80 per cent and sulphur oxides by 96 per cent. Under the ECA, fine particle emissions will also be reduced. An IMO committee is to review the proposed ECA in July. Formal adoption is anticipated in March 2010. After the ECA receives IMO approval, supporting regulations under the Canada Shipping Act, 2001, will be developed by Transport Canada
- Governments of Canada and Manitoba announced joint funding of the next phase of CentrePort Canada. It is building a high-speed transportation corridor, CentrePort Canada Way at a total cost of over \$212 million. As an infrastructure priority, it is to be fast tracked in support of development of Manitoba's 20,000 acre inland port. The initiative involves using the James Armstrong Richardson International Airport and surrounding land
- At the invitation of Foreign Affairs Minister, Lawrence Cannon, Canada's three territories participated as members of the Canadian delegation to the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council held in Tromsø, Norway, on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Nunavut's Premier Eva Ariak, Northwest Territories' Premier Floyd Roland and Yukon's Deputy Premier Elaine Taylor joined the federal minister to discuss Arctic issues, including those emerging as a result of the impacts of climate change. The eight Arctic States and the six international indigenous peoples' organizations that are Permanent Participants at the Arctic Council, issued the Tromsø Declaration at the meeting's conclusion. A full copy of the Tromsø Declaration can be viewed at: <http://tinyurl.com/c8gv2q>

## Manitoba Notes

- Province of Manitoba and Government of Canada jointly announced development of a new Canadian Environmental Test Research and Education Center (CanETREC) to be located in Thompson, Manitoba. "We are pleased to support this leading edge testing facility," Premier Gary Doer said. The Honourable Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, said, "Our Government is proud to be investing in the largest, and most advanced cold weather testing and research facility in the world." CanETREC will be a year-round research facility specializing in supporting engine icing certification as well as research and development of new, more efficient and advanced aerospace designs. CanETREC, in partnership with secondary and post-secondary educational institutions, will offer a wide variety of aeronautical sciences and aerospace research and maintenance programs for attracting, developing and retaining highly-qualified professionals within Canada. The testing technology to be used also has application in other sectors, such as bus and automotive manufacturing. CanETREC will co-locate with industry in a new facility being built by the Global Aerospace Centre for Icing and Environmental Research Inc. (GLACIER). It will be a state-of-the-art facility and represents a new joint venture between Rolls-Royce Canada Limited and Pratt & Whitney. The National Research Council Canada (NRC) will supply, own and operate the icing system in GLACIER. It will also be partnering with CanETREC. The NRC is a pioneer in development of icing simulation technology for aircraft engines and wings, as well as ice detection equipment for aircraft and atmospheric measurement of icing conditions
- At the Capturing Opportunities business forum in April, Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Rosann Wowchuk announced the next steps to implement Manitoba's Agri-tourism Development Framework and formation of an Agri-tourism Advisory Committee for moving forward with products enriching the Manitoba tourism product mix for domestic and international travelers

## Saskatchewan Notes

- In April, the Saskatchewan government officially received and released the report, "Capturing the Full Potential of the Uranium Value Chain in Saskatchewan." The report from the Uranium Development Partnership (UDP) contains 20 recommendations on further development of uranium resources in the province. It deals with further exploration and mining, power generation and research and development. A public consultation process now follows the report's release, with Mr. Dan Perrins appointed as Chair. The full UDP report is available online at: [www.saskuranium.ca](http://www.saskuranium.ca)
- Highways and Infrastructure Minister Wayne Elhard announced a two-stage plan for construction of an access road and Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway #16 truck route, making way for continued economic development in the City of Yorkton and surrounding region. This, as anticipated the improvements will spur future industrial corridor development in addition to handling truck traffic from the new canola crushing plant, scheduled to open in 2010
- Highways and Infrastructure Minister Wayne Elhard announced grants totaling \$500,000 to help fund improvements for seven of Saskatchewan's community airports; this as part of the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure's Community Airports Partnership (CAP) program. These grants are matched by successful applicants and will contribute to such airport infrastructure improvements as the repair and repaving of runways, along with the upgrading and repair of runway and taxiway lighting

## Yukon Notes

- With approval of Yukon Zinc's Wolverine project's 'Tailings and Infrastructure Design and Construction Plan' by Yukon Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, a major mining initiative moved one step closer to its anticipated mid-2010 start of production. The plan details design of a tailings storage facility for the underground zinc-silver mine located in the Finlayson mining district, 180 km southeast of Ross River

## North West Territories Notes

- With additional reductions in fuel prices in April, communities served by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Petroleum Products Division (PPD) saw decreases of up to 27% in the prices of petroleum products since January. Minister of Public Works and Services (PWS) Michael McLeod said reductions reflected the GNWT's work to address high costs of living in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The GNWT provides heating fuel and gasoline in communities, not served by the private sector, through its Petroleum Products Division. Heating oil and gasoline prices in higher cost communities may be reduced by subsidy from the Petroleum Products Stabilization Fund
- Winter roads and ice crossings closed as of the end of April, for the season, included:
  - The Mackenzie River Ice Crossing near Fort Providence
  - The Liard River Ice Crossing near Fort Simpson
  - The N'Dulee Crossing of the Mackenzie River on the road to Wrigley
  - Dettah Ice Crossing
  - The Mackenzie Winter Road system north of Wrigley
  - Winter road to the community of Nahanni Butte
  - Winter road to the community of Trout Lake
  - The Tlicho Winter Road system
- An extension of the Federal Gas Tax Fund from 2010 to 2014 was announced in April by the federal government and the GNWT. Additional to this four-year extension, the Government of Canada is doubling funding received by the Northwest Territories through the Gas Tax Fund. In a Statement on the issue by Gordon Van Tighem, President of the NWT Association of Communities (NWTAC) and Mayor of the City of Yellowknife, he states, "The Government of Canada and Government of the Northwest Territories deserve recognition and thanks for their ongoing support of this important funding program and the working partnership they have forged with NWT communities." For Gordon Van Tighem's complete statement from the NWTAC website can be viewed from the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/cxkp33>

## British Columbia Notes

- A provincial general election campaign got underway on April 14<sup>th</sup>. B.C. voters will go to the polls on May 12<sup>th</sup>. There are 85 electoral districts for this 2009 general election versus 79 electoral districts in the 2005
- Initiatives Prince George and the Prince George Airport Authority jointly participated in attending the China World Cargo Summit 2009. The Summit, held in Shenzhen, facilitated broad distribution of the Prince George Global Logistics Park Prospectus. A recently developed promotional tool, the 12-page prospectus highlights the multimodal transportation potential of Prince George. The prospectus can be downloaded at: <http://tinyurl.com/d3uu9a>

## Alberta Notes

- The province introduced its budget in April, forecasting \$36.4 billion of spending in 2009-10 and \$31.7 billion in revenue. \$23.2 billion will be invested over three years to build health facilities, schools, and roads. It also includes funding for carbon capture and storage, and GreenTRIP. Link to Alberta Budget documents from: <http://budget2009.alberta.ca>
- The Northern Alberta Development Council, an NCDC member, held a very successful Challenge North 2009 Conference in Cold Lake, Alberta in April. Link to Premier Ed Stelmach's keynote address to conference goes attending from across Alberta's north: <http://tinyurl.com/cbljyv>
- The Honourable Rona Ambrose, Canada's Minister of Labour, and Alberta Premier, Ed Stelmach, announced in April, both the federal and provincial governments will each invest up to \$100 million in support of a number of public transit projects in the City of Edmonton, Alberta
- It was announced regarding Edmonton's City Centre Airport, a further opportunity to speak to Executive Committee of Edmonton City Council will occur June 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. The three days afford communities another chance to voice opinion on the Edmonton City Centre Airport's future

## NCDC Organizational Notes

- The next Board of Directors meeting of the Northwest Corridor Development Corporation occurs June 9, 2009 in Prince Rupert, BC
- "One Mind, One Heart, One Corridor" – The 2009 NCDC Conference and Annual General meeting October 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, Prince George, BC
- Organizations are invited to investigate sponsorship of the NCDC Conference and AGM. Request a sponsorship rate card by email today: [aldridge@nwcorridor.com](mailto:aldridge@nwcorridor.com)

## Editor's Notes

- This edition of "In the Corridor" marks the first anniversary of NCDC's monthly newsletter. It also marks the first edition of "Corridor Close-up", profiling NCDC member, the K.T. Industrial Society. Next month look for a "Corridor Close-up" on NCDC member, Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. Make sure as an NCDC member that your organization cues up for their "Corridor Close-up" by emailing your two-page submission to: [aldridge@nwcorridor.com](mailto:aldridge@nwcorridor.com)

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