

Facility**Calgary** eNewsletter – March 20, 2006

Real Estate / Energy / Infrastructure / Construction NEWS

Facility**Calgary** eNewsletter est. October 15, 1999

< **NEWS Today** > Monday, March 20, 2006

- + Liberal Party of Canada announce leadership convention for Nov. 29 - Dec. 3/06 >
- + OPEC lowered 2006 global oil demand forecast 110,000 bpd on lower US consumption >

< **NEWS – March 14 – 19** >

- + Arsenal Energy Inc. completed acquisition of Tiverton Petroleum Ltd. >
 - + bclMC Realty Corporation bought the Hy's & ATCO Century Square sites, \$ 27 million >
 - + CanWest Petroleum Corporation adopts Shareholder Rights Plan >
 - + CDX sold to TCW private equity group for US\$ 835 million >
 - + Chaparral Resources Inc. & LUKOIL Overseas Holding Ltd. agreed to merge >
 - + Cheetah Oil & Gas Ltd. closed US\$ 5 million convertible debt financing >
 - + Connacher Oil and Gas Limited acquired Luke Energy Ltd. >
 - + Enerchem International Inc. to acquire Millard Trucking & J.D.M Trucking >
 - + Energy Alloys completed acquisition of Ryerson's US oilfield distribution assets >
 - + G8 Energy Ministers met in Moscow >
 - + NQL Energy Services acquired Prescott Drilling Motors Inc. & Prescott Manufacturing >
 - + Petro-Canada & Gazprom agree to engineering go-ahead for St. Petersburg LNG plant >
 - + Plains All American buying Andrews Petroleum natural gas liquids biz, US\$ 205 million >
 - + Sawtooth International Res. arrangement with TriStar Oil & Gas OK'd by shareholders >
 - + The Buffalo Oil Corporation closed \$ 6 million equity financing >
 - + TransAlta Corp. & EPCOR Utilities to develop Keephills 3, 450 megawatt plant >
 - + Trinidad Energy Services Income Trust amalgamated with sbu. Mastco Derrick Service >
- [Editor's note: we do not report refinancings, offerings or credit facility news; we report relevant CLOSED new debt & new equity financings in excess of \$ 1 million]

< **People on the move** >

- + Bruce Busmire @ Sr. VP & CFO @ Noble Corporation >
- + Gale Norton, US Secretary of the Interior resigned >
- + Mark Childers to CEO Generation Development @ TXU Corp. >
- + Paul Eisman to Exec. VP Refining & Marketing @ Frontier Oil Corp. >
- + William West to CEO @ Cap Rock Energy Corporation >

material obtained from sources believed reliable; send items to research@maxcomm.ca]

< **Commentary & Stuff** >

+ retirement ? golf ? corporate boards ? not yet it seems - Premier Ralph Klein has led a good party well, but he's not prepared to leave the party just yet; he announced a fall 2007 retirement & told hopeful successors in cabinet to step down by June 1. Sound management & sound leadership for the future are what this province needs; leaving sooner & engaging a new generation in the party is what this province needs. His timing will certainly impair his successor – whoever it is - regarding setting any kind of planning, legislative or budgeting agenda in place before a required 2008 election . . . stay tuned >

+ who will announce the next building in downtown Calgary ? vacancy rates remain low & pressure builds . . but how much new supply can the market sustain ? In other words, who will be the fool who builds one building too many, but don't expect the

problem for quite a while. Meanwhile, I'll wager EnCana's palace never gets built; I figure the board of directors will exercise some judgement somewhere along the way opting to contain the David O'Brien's ego largesse extraordinaire >

+ a lot of people wonder why pension funds like real estate so much; most of the major pension funds will have between 8-12% of their assets in real estate, the balance in more conservative stocks, bonds & more liquid securities. The reason they like real estate is that the returns are so much stronger both in terms of operating income but also for capital appreciation, usually outperforming other assets in their portfolio. Even the big guys struggle though: Ontario Teachers Pension Plan [now with assets of \$ 96.1 billion] earned \$ 14.1 billion from investments in 2005 which sounds like a lot of money to me, . . . but it's not enough; a year ago their plan was 84 % funded, now it is 77 % >

+ Singles & Friends Toastmasters: a singles club for speakers meets every Wed. @ 7 PM <http://singlesandfriendstoastmasters.blog-city.com> >

+ comments & news items always welcome: research@maxcomm.ca >

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< **Infrastructure / P3 / Education Facility News – go green** >

+ Spain's Grupo Ferrovial lobbying major shareholders in BAA Plc to back its rejected 8.8 billion pound (US\$15.45 billion) takeover bid for the company which owns London's Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports . . . stay tuned >

+ U.S. government agencies & departments will continue to use special-purpose public-private partnerships to meet financing requirements says a report released by Standard & Poor's: "U.S. Government Agencies Are Expanding Their Use Of Public-Private Partnerships For Financing." <http://www.standardandpoors.com> >

+ the Alberta government is adopting the Go Green certification program for provincial facilities to improve energy efficiency and environmental sustainability in its buildings. The Go Green program emphasizes ecologically sound building operations by establishing performance standards in such areas as energy use, water use and indoor air quality. "BOMA Go Green is a green building initiative that ensures our buildings are safer for those who work in them and improves staff health and productivity, while reducing energy consumption and operating costs," said Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation >

+ **LEED CANADA** <http://www.caqbc.org/> >

+ **LEED USA** <http://www.usgbc.org/> >

+ **BOMA Go Green program** <http://www.bomagogreen.com> >

< **BOMA Calgary – Building Owners and Managers Association** >

+ a big wayto go to all the nominees & winners at the **BOMA Awards GALA 2006** & also tremendous thanks to my committee co-chair Patti Buskas & our entire team for

a job well done . . . & kudos to SAIT's food services for an awesome food, to The Event Group for their superb organization & emcee Dave Kelly . . great as always >

< IT, MIS, Tech & Telephony News > **

+ Sony's Blu-ray blues: to delay the launch of the eagerly anticipated PlayStation 3 by half a year to give the company more time to agree on a technical standard that will stop the pirating of movies and other content from the new games console. PS3, which had been slated for a release sometime in the next few months, is Sony's attempt to take the lead in home entertainment and tap a growing online leisure market. The latest Sony console, which comes six years after PlayStation 2, makes use of wireless broad connections and plays Blu-ray discs that promise more than five times the storage capacity of conventional DVDs. Sony will start shipping VAIO computers with built-in Blu-ray drives by mid-2006. Companies supporting the Blu-ray Disc Association include Apple Computer, Dell , Hewlett-Packard &The Walt Disney Co. Whatever the reason, the postponement is a blow to Sony's bid to revive profitability. >

+ the US Senate will be voting soon on a bill called the "Cyber Safety for Kids Act of 2006", a measure that would require the U.S. Department of Commerce to work with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), to develop .XXX domains for adult businesses, creating in effect a red light district on the internet . . . stay tuned >

+ Oracle offer a free e-magazine <http://www.submag.com/sub/oc?pk=NA26R8> >

< Annual / Special Meetings >

Mar. 21

Calgary Exhibition & Stampede, Calgary, Annual & Extraordinary General Meeting

April 12

Enerplus Resources Fund, Calgary, Annual General Meeting

April 17

OPTI Canada Inc, Calgary, Annual & Special Shareholder Meeting

April 18

Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, Toronto, Special Meeting of Shareholders

April 21

Canadian National Railway Company, Memphis, Tennessee, Annual Meeting of Shareholders

May 1

Enbridge Income Fund, Toronto, Annual Meeting of Unitholders

May 3

Enbridge Inc., Toronto, Annual Meeting of Unitholders

Pioneer Natural Resources Company, Irving, Texas, Annual Meeting of Stockholders

[readers: please send us your AGM date/details for listing here]

< Mark your calendar – business events, functions etc. >

Mar. 23

NIOP/SIOR, breakfast meeting, Hyatt Regency, Calgary

Tickets/Register: <https://securegs.com/naiop>

Mar. 23-26

Alberta Assoc. of Architects – DESIGNfronts 50th Anniversary, Banff Centre, Banff

info: info@aaa.ab.ca or www.banffsessions.ca

Mar. 29

Montreal Real Estate Forum, Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, Montreal

<http://www.realestateforums.com>

Apr. 3
 1st Session of 39th Parliament begins, House of Commons, Ottawa

Apr. 4
 39th Parliament Throne Speech, Senate Chamber, Ottawa

Apr. 10-11
 National Green Buildings Conference, Ottawa Congress Centre, Ottawa
 Info/Register: <http://www.realestateforums.com/greenestate/mission.html>

Apr. 13
 BOMA Calgary Luncheon, location to be announced, Calgary
 Guest speaker: John Masters, Pres. & CEO, Calgary Technologies Inc.

Apr. 19
 Vancouver Real Estate Forum, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Vancouver
 Info/register: <http://www.mediaedgewest.com/realestateforumswest/vancouver/>

May 3-5
 20th annual GasMart, Colorado Convention Centre, Hyatt Regency, Denver
 Info/inquiries: <http://gasmart.com>

June 13-15
 Global Petroleum Show & Conference, Stampede Park, Calgary
 Info/Register: <http://www.petroleumshow.com>

July 7 –16
 Calgary Stampede, Stampede Park, Calgary
 Info/Tickets: <http://calgarystampede.com>

July 15 – 17
 G8 Summit, St. Petersburg, Russia
 Info: <http://en.q8russia.ru>

Sept. 23-26
 International AgBiotech Conference, TELUS Convention Centre, Calgary
 Info/inquiries: ryan@bioalberta.com

< **Golf Tournaments** >

June 19
 2006 IFMA OPEN, course to be announced
 info/register: info@ifmacalgary.org

July 19
 Clark Builders, 4th Annual Charity Golf Classic, Heritage Pointe Golf Club
 Info/register/sponsor: Shelley @ 403-253-0565

< **Calgary real estate - commercial** >

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< **closing quotes on life, real estate & golf** >

+ 'The Liberals have many tails, and chase them all.' – H. L. Mencken >

+ 'Conservatives usually prefer twin beds, which may contribute to the fact that Canada has more Liberals. – Peter C. Newman >

+ 'A liberal is a man too broadminded to take his own side in a quarrel.' – Robert Frost >

+ 'The ardent golfer would play Mount Everest if somebody would put a flagstick on top.' – Pete Dye >

+ A man staggers into an emergency room with a concussion, multiple bruises, two black eyes and a five iron wrapped around his neck. Naturally, the doctor asks him what happened. "Well," the man says, "it's like this; I was playing a quiet round of golf with my wife, when at a difficult hole, we both sliced our balls into a pasture of cows. We went to look for them, and while I was rooting around, I noticed one of the cows had something white on its rear end. I walked over and lifted up the tail, and sure enough, there was a golf ball with my wife's monogram on it--stuck right in the middle of the cow's butt. That's when I made my big mistake." "What did you do?" the doctor asks. "Well." the man replies, "I lifted the cow's tail and yelled to my wife, 'Hey, this looks like yours!' I don't remember much after that.">

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