

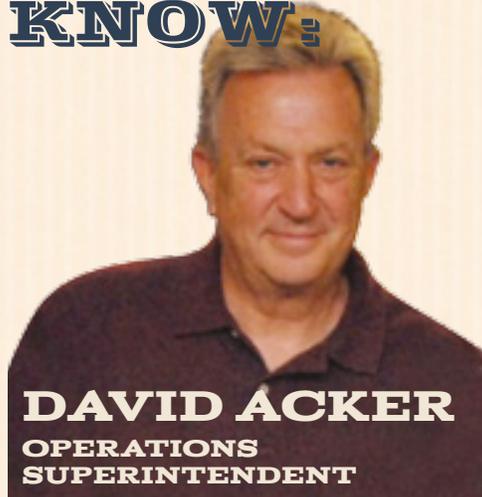
SABLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



SABLE OFFSHORE ENERGY PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 2013

GET TO KNOW:



DAVID ACKER
OPERATIONS
SUPERINTENDENT

“I've always considered Nova Scotia home. I have relatives on the South Shore and in Antigonish. My studies were completed at the Royal School of Military Engineering. When the offshore oil and gas industry was in its early days, the skills that come from a military background were in high demand.

Over the course of my career I've travelled quite a bit with the company in global operations, and I've worked in Nigeria, Russia, Singapore, Angola and Indonesia. Early on in those years, I served as field superintendent for the Sable Offshore Energy Project, and as the Offshore Installation Manager for Hibernia off of Newfoundland.

It is a pleasure to live and work in Nova Scotia again.”

The Sable Offshore Energy Project operated by ExxonMobil Canada produces natural gas and natural gas liquids from five fields and seven platforms off Nova Scotia's coast. The gas and liquids are processed at onshore plants in Goldboro and Point Tupper, then delivered by pipeline, rail and truck to markets in the Maritimes and the United States.

Having worked around the world, what are your observations about the Sable Project?

Sable is quite an amazing story. We have seven offshore platforms in five different fields, and about 20 wells spread over 200 square kilometres in the harsh North Atlantic. They have been successfully producing natural gas and natural gas liquids now for almost 14 years for delivery to our onshore plants for processing. The project has enabled the construction of pipeline infrastructure that connects Nova Scotia to North American gas markets, and this infrastructure opened the door for other projects such as onshore natural gas production in New Brunswick, and the Deep Panuke Project.

Projects like Sable and the infrastructure they create have allowed industry and businesses right here in Nova Scotia to use clean-burning natural gas for the first time. The project is staffed by Nova Scotians, and is supported locally by a whole spectrum of industry. It impacts supply boats and their mariners, helicopter operators and their crews, maintenance contractors, and all the way to caterers. It has created years of employment, delivered every form of tax revenue to governments at all levels, and according to provincial estimates, paid direct royalties of more than \$1.7 billion. Sable is an impressive project by any measure, and all of this has been accomplished with a world class safety record. With

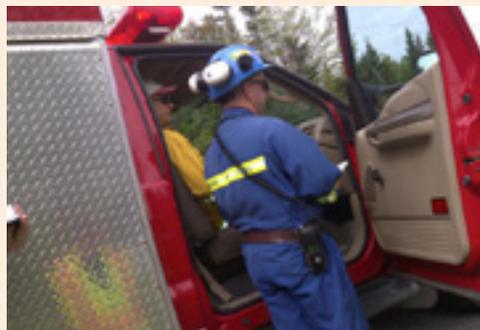
ExxonMobil, safety is at the core of everything we do, and the safety performance at Sable has set an example within the global organization. We've gone more than 10 years without a lost-time injury. Our offshore workforce has achieved more than three years without a recordable incident.

This is a tremendous accomplishment that involves the entire organization being focused on living our motto: *Nobody Gets Hurt.* I'm very proud of all the employees and contractors whose efforts are reflected in this achievement, and I'm also proud of our company's relentless focus on safety and the support that is provided to everyone in the organization to make safety more important than any other business objective.

What does the future hold for Sable?

My job is to make sure that we are all focused on safe, reliable production. **We have to take care of one another and our assets to ensure that Sable continues to produce and deliver on its potential.** Meanwhile, as prudent operators, we must begin to plan for the eventually winding down of the project and the decommissioning process after production ends. We are currently in the early stages of study and planning for this aspect of the project. But it's important that we don't get ahead of ourselves. The Sable Project will continue to operate and produce natural gas for some years to come.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



If you have a concern about our operations please call our toll free number: 1-877-374-0770.

ExxonMobil Canada works closely with local first responders to be prepared to act in the unlikely event of an emergency. On June 1, 2013 an exercise was conducted in the area of Milford Haven, Guysborough County that simulated a breach of the natural gas liquids line running between Goldboro and Point Tupper. Participants included local fire departments in Manchester-Boylston and Guysborough, Emergency Health Services, Emergency Measures Organization, Eastern Canada Response Corporation, Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, and the National Energy Board.

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2012 BURSARY WINNERS

Each year, the Sable Project's co-venturers, ExxonMobil Canada, Shell Canada, Imperial Oil, Pengrowth Energy Corp. and Mosbacher Operating Ltd., provide bursaries to Strait area high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education.

From participating schools, this year's bursary winners are:

DR. JOHN HUGH GILLIS REGIONAL

Emma Gallivan
Catherina MacIntyre
Devon McGrath
Christian Stephen

STRAIT AREA EDUCATION RECREATION CENTRE

Carlee DeCoste
Sarah MacEachern
Paige Power
Lesley Bland

GUYSBOROUGH ACADEMY

Kathleen Hines
Tosha Lucas
Teagan Lombardo

CANSO ACADEMY

Chris Greencorn
Kendra Boudreau
Jessica Keefe

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Wade Tibbo
Marina Duggan
An-Tzu Cheng

EAST ANTIGONISH ACADEMY

Rheanna Chisholm
Nicole Meagher
Cherie Bennett

RICHMOND ACADEMY

Benjamin Boudreau
John Burt
Chelsea Dakai
Kathleen MacCuspic

GEOLOGY ROCKS!

Educational Rock Kits reach students across NS



Robin Bent (left) a teacher at Southdale Elementary School in Dartmouth, NS introduces Ian George and Breiah Boutilier to a sample of Nova Scotia rocks and minerals. In collaboration with Youth Experiences in Science, the Nova Scotia Department of Education and ExxonMobil Canada, the rock kits have been provided to 350 elementary schools across the province.

Nova Scotia students in Grade 4 will have the opportunity to explore some of the earth materials that make up their world, thanks to **ExxonMobil Canada**.

Rock Identification and Collection Kits, a unique collection of rocks, minerals and fossils showcasing Nova Scotia's world-class geology and mineral deposits, will now be in every Grade 4 science classroom throughout the Province. These kits provide teachers with what they need to support hands-on science in the classroom, and give students access to samples of more than twenty common rocks and minerals that they might find on a field trip.

“Our hope is that we’ll have more young people develop an interest in earth science and develop an appreciation for their local environment.”

“We want to ensure students get the encouragement and hands-on learning resources they need to explore the world around them,”

said Cliff Coveyduc, Executive Director of Nova Scotia Youth Experiences in Science. “Our hope is that we’ll have more young people develop an interest in earth science and develop an appreciation for their local environment.”

The kits were distributed to nearly 350 schools throughout Nova Scotia, and the Grade 4 students and teachers are excited about the unique addition to their Earth and Space science unit: *Rocks, Minerals and Erosion*. The kits also include samples that support the Grade 7 science unit, *Earth Crust*, where students investigate how various types of rocks are formed and how the Earth's crust moves. As an integral part of the curriculum, the kits help youth explore and understand the relationships between science, technology and the environment.

These kits are a product of the collaboration between ExxonMobil Canada, Nova Scotia Youth Experiences in Science, and the Department of Education. This October, the group will host a session with teachers to design learning experiences with the kits at the Association of Science Teachers conference in Halifax.

TECHSPLOURATION

SUPPORTS NOVA SCOTIA'S INNOVATIVE YOUNG WOMEN

Nova Scotia's growing economy depends on our ability to grow and develop our workforce, particularly in science, trades, and technology. For over 15 years, ExxonMobil Canada has supported **Techsploration**, an organization dedicated to increasing the number of women working in these areas by giving young women from diverse backgrounds a chance to explore a wide range of career options.

This unique program has provided mentoring across Nova Scotia to thousands of young women in high school. Students from many diverse urban and rural communities, including First Nations and African Nova Scotians, have had opportunities to explore occupations that they may not have considered. The program not only highlights career exploration, but also reinforces the critical role math and science plays in building a future. Students also hone their public speaking and report-writing skills, and increase their communication, leadership, teamwork and career research abilities.

Barbara Welsh, Gas Plant Superintendent in Gold-

boro, knows the impact Techsploration makes. In 2012, Barbara volunteered as a role model to the Techsploration team from **Dr. JH Gillis Regional High School** in Antigonish. Following a day with Barbara, her team had this to say to her:

Thank you so much!!! What an awesome day! Thank you Barb, for giving our students, Danielle and I the opportunity to meet you and learn about your job. You are a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful role model. We truly appreciate the time you gave up for us. The girls just got more and more excited about their upcoming presentation all the way home. Thank you for demystifying the Goldboro Gas Plant for us.*

The Techsploration experience is so positive—it's hard not to sound so sappy! We really just want you to know how important today was for the Dr. JH Gillis team!

*Danielle Boyd and Janie Lumsden, team teachers



Barbara Welsh and her Techsploration team in 2012.

Recently, Techsploration has introduced the Women in Action web video series. The series features women sharing their experience working in science, trades and technology occupations and includes ExxonMobil Canada's Meg O'Neill, our past president.

Techsploration is always looking for new ways to reach partners, sponsors, participants and other stakeholders, and recently released the inaugural Techsploration Annual Community Report. It highlights the program's vision, goals and accomplishments, and focuses on recent and ongoing projects, including their latest initiative, **Techsploration Goes Global**.

To learn more about Techsploration, visit their website: www.techsploration.ca.

EXXONMOBIL & SABLE CO-VENTURERS SUPPORT PETROLEUM RESEARCH AT DALHOUSIE

GEOLOGISTS WILL BENEFIT FROM AN INITIATIVE COMMITTING \$1.125 MILLION IN FUNDING & ACCESS TO 3D SEISMIC DATA

Petroleum geologists at **Dalhousie University** will get to delve into reams of offshore seismic data as part of a research and development initiative supported by ExxonMobil Canada and co-venturers in the Sable Offshore Energy Project.

"This is an investment in the petroleum industry labour force of tomorrow," says Andrew Barry, President of ExxonMobil Canada Ltd. "The R&D funding and licensing of seismic data will provide practical tools and opportunities not often available to student researchers."

ExxonMobil and Sable project co-venturers have committed an initial \$1.125 million in funding to support the initiative, and also includes permission to use a large volume of 3D seismic data known as the **Sable mega-merge**. The agreement also provides rights to publish results of research work using the seismic data, and access to the mega-merge has also been extended to collaborative researchers from other institutions.

The grant helps establish Dalhousie as a regional centre of excellence in the field of petro-



From left: Professor Grant Wach, reservoir geophysicist Evan Bianco, and research student Dawn Tobey examine the Sable mega-merge seismic data in the Basin and Reservoir Lab at Dalhousie University.

leum geoscience research, says lead researcher Grant Wach. He is enthusiastic about the opportunities this award provides for student research. "The Sable mega-merge volume is large as the name suggests," Wach says, "and comprises seven regular 3D surveys that have been merged. If we want to develop top petroleum geoscientists, the students need to work on relevant data. This initiative supplies them with it."

ExxonMobil Canada has a well-established relationship with Dalhousie to help develop the technical skills to prepare students for careers in the energy industry, and this includes opportunities for industry internships. This most recent initiative is another link that helps bridge the gap between students and the energy industry in our province.

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PAYING IT FORWARD

Sable's offshore workforce marks safety milestone by giving to community organizations

Recently, the Sable offshore workforce reached an enviable milestone: They celebrated **three years without a recordable safety incident**.

When we asked how they'd like to mark the occasion, workforce representatives said they wanted any funds set aside for the milestone to be donated to local charitable organizations.

Working with **\$10,000** in funds, the Thebaud Wellness Committee decided to split the donation between four worthy causes. Feed Nova Scotia, the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia,

Big Brothers Big Sisters Nova Scotia Foundation, and the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund: Clementsport each received a cheque for \$2,500.

"This safety performance is an outstanding achievement," said Sable Operations Superintendent David Acker. "And these donations are a wonderful gesture to our community."

Three of the organizations recently visited Founders Square in Halifax and accepted cheques for their respective organizations.

Pictured on the left are (L-R): Dianne Swinemar (Feed Nova Scotia); Joyce Diamond (Big Brothers Big Sisters Nova Scotia Foundation); David Acker (ExxonMobil); Jason George (Sable Offshore Installation Manager); Alicia MacDonald (Chair, Thebaud Wellness Committee); and Alison Davidson (Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia).



Congratulations on a remarkable milestone!

SABLE WIND:

LEVERAGING THE BENEFITS OF THE SABLE OFFSHORE ENERGY PROJECT

"SABLE WIND IS ABOUT PROVIDING HOPE TO OUR RURAL COMMUNITY."

Municipal officials in Guysborough say that the region's entry into the market for wind has been made possible by the **Sable Offshore Energy Project**.

The Municipality of the District of Guysborough, in partnership with Nova Scotia Power, will develop a 13.8 MW wind farm near the communities of Canso and Hazel Hill. **It's the first large scale wind farm to be developed by a Municipality in Nova Scotia.**

"Sable Wind is about providing hope to our rural community," says Warden Lloyd Hines. "It's about taking revenues that the Municipality has earned from the Sable Offshore Energy Project and reinvesting them into a renewable energy project that will generate revenues for the next 20 to 30 years."

Plans for the development of the wind farm are progressing, and could be set to begin in



2014. The project is expected to produce enough energy to serve approximately **4,600 homes**.

The Nova Scotia Department of Energy has set a renewable energy target that 25% of Nova Scotia Power's generation must come from renewable energy sources by 2015.

PETROLEUM RESEARCH AT DALHOUSIE

(continued from page 3) Over the life of the Sable project, Sable co-venturers have spent **\$28.7 million** on Nova Scotia research and development in addition to **\$48.4 million** on education and training.

“This is an investment in the petroleum industry labour force of tomorrow.”

The other Sable Project owners include **Shell Canada, Imperial Oil Resources, Mosbacher Operating Ltd., and Pengrowth Energy Corporation**. Each of these organizations is a strong supporter of developing students for careers in the petroleum industry.

Shell, through its **Campus Ambassador Program (CAP)** has provided nearly \$600,000 to the Earth Science program at Dalhousie. The Shell CAP program provides opportunities at the undergraduate level for field courses and undergraduate research. Shell provides guest lecturers and actively participates in the field courses. Pengrowth has contributed to undergraduate and graduate scholarships for energy studies in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Department of Energy.