



EPEX 2026

ENERGY PROSPECTORS' EXPO

OPI 63rd Conference and Trade Show



June 2nd to 4th Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre, London,
Ontario

June 3rd to June 4th
Best Western Lamplighter Inn &
Conference Centre, London, Ontario



WHAT IS EPEX?

EPEX showcases the multifaceted strengths of Ontario's oil, natural gas, and salt industries-and how they contribute to the province's broader energy landscape.

These evolving uses and targets have renewed interest in key formations and reinvigorated exploration in the province. After all, we are often working with the same subsurface foundations from different perspectives.

ENERGY PROSPECTORS' EXPO

Each one of you is an important collaborator in this conference and your participation highlights the multidimensionality of our energy sector in Ontario.

The EPEX logo is a tesseract, a four-dimensional shape with 24 faces, chosen to represent the complexities and multiple layers of energy production in Ontario.

EPEX is about more than prospects - it is about exploring and building a strong energy future.

Join us in the sessions, trade show, and networking events and let's start generating collaborative energy.

EPEX is built on core strengths: oil, gas, salt, storage, service, science, and history.

What role should Ontario's subsurface resources play in Canada's energy future?

Ask a colleague. Compare perspectives. Let's build energy together.

Help us improve the conference for 2027 by filling out an in-person survey.

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, June 2nd

Golf and Dinner

Length	Time	Event	
6 hrs	10:30 AM	Golf, 18 Holes	Echo Valley Golf Club, 2738 Brigham Rd., London, ON.
~3 hrs	After golf	Lagasco Dinner	2807 Woodhull Rd., London, ON.

Wednesday, June 3rd

Live at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre, London, Ontario

Length	Time	Event	Presenters
		BLOCK 1 - DECARBONIZATION	
20 min	1:00 PM	<i>Carbon Storage Implementation in Ontario</i>	Mark Emery, Manager, Regional Operations Division, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
40 min	1:20 PM	<i>Mapping Sarnia-Lambton's Salina Salt Geology for Design of H2 Storage Galleries</i>	Ian Colquhoun, PhD, P.Geo.; Jordan Clark, OGS Library
Length	Time	Event	Presenters
30 min	2:00 PM	Networking Break	Conference Attendees
		BLOCK 2 - SALT + HYDROGEN + GEOLOGY	
20 min	2:30 PM	<i>Canadian Modern (Heavy) Oil Exploration: Making Money without the Hot Air</i>	Blair Rogers, P.Eng., PMP, Rogers Eastern Oilfield Consulting Ltd.
20 min	2:50 PM	<i>Compass Minerals in Goderich Ontario</i>	Wayne McConnell, Plant Manager, Compass Minerals
20 min	3:10 PM	<i>The Search for the Upper Kellwasser Event in the Chatham Sag: Geochemical Constraints from the Appalachian Basin Point Gratiot Bed</i>	D. Randy Blood, Principal, DRB Geological Consulting/DRB Mudstone Research Lab
30 min	3:30 PM	Trade Show Spotlight & Networking	Trade Show Exhibitors and Conference Attendees
90 min	5:00 PM	Conference Dinner	Conference Attendees

Thursday, June 4th

Live at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre, London, Ontario

Length	Time	Event	Presenters
60 min	8:00 AM	Breakfast	Conference Attendees
		BLOCK 3 - GEOLOGICAL STORAGE	
20 min	9:00 AM	<i>Underground Natural Gas Storage in Ontario</i>	Steven Pardy, Manager Underground Storage and Transmission Planning, Enbridge Gas Inc.
20 min	9:20 AM	<i>Hydrostor: Long Duration Energy Storage Utilizing Underground Rock Caverns</i>	Rhonda Ovenden, P.Eng., Director of Operations, Hydrostor Inc.
20 min	9:40 AM	<i>Storage of Hydrogen in Depleted Natural Gas Reservoirs</i>	David Thompson, President, Northern Cross Energy Limited
60 min	10:00 AM	Trade Show & Networking	Trade Show Exhibitors and Conference Attendees
		BLOCK 4 - WELL SERVICE AND PLUGGING	
20 min	11:00 AM	<i>Downhole Wireline Logging Diagnostics for Gas and Fluid Migration</i>	Doug Kozak, Technical Sales Representative, Weatherford Wireline
20 min	11:20 AM	<i>Novel technologies for multi-string well integrity evaluation: New Physics for Old Challenges</i>	Chris Morgan, VP Business Development, GOWell
20 min	11:40 AM	<i>A Century of Offshore Drilling in Lake Erie</i>	Frank Kuri, P. Eng., Lagasco Inc.
45 min	12:00 PM	Networking Lunch	Conference Attendees
45 min	12:45 PM	Luncheon Keynote Address	Dawn Gallagher Murphy, Member of the Ontario Provincial Parliament for Newmarket-Aurora
		CORE WORKSHOP - SILURIAN PINNACLE REEFS OF SW ONTARIO	
45 min	1:30 PM	<i>Using the Matt Rine Pinnacle Reef Model to better understand the Petrolia East Oil Reef</i>	Ian Colquhoun, PhD, P.Geo.
30 min	2:15 PM	Trade Show & Networking	Trade Show Exhibitors and Conference Attendees
		BLOCK 5 - HISTORY AND LEGACY	
20 min	2:45 PM	<i>Educating the next generation: Lessons from the Oil Museum of Canada</i>	Christina Sydorko, Educational Programs Coordinator, Oil Museum of Canada

June 3rd to June 4th

Best Western Lamplighter Inn &
Conference Centre, London, Ontario

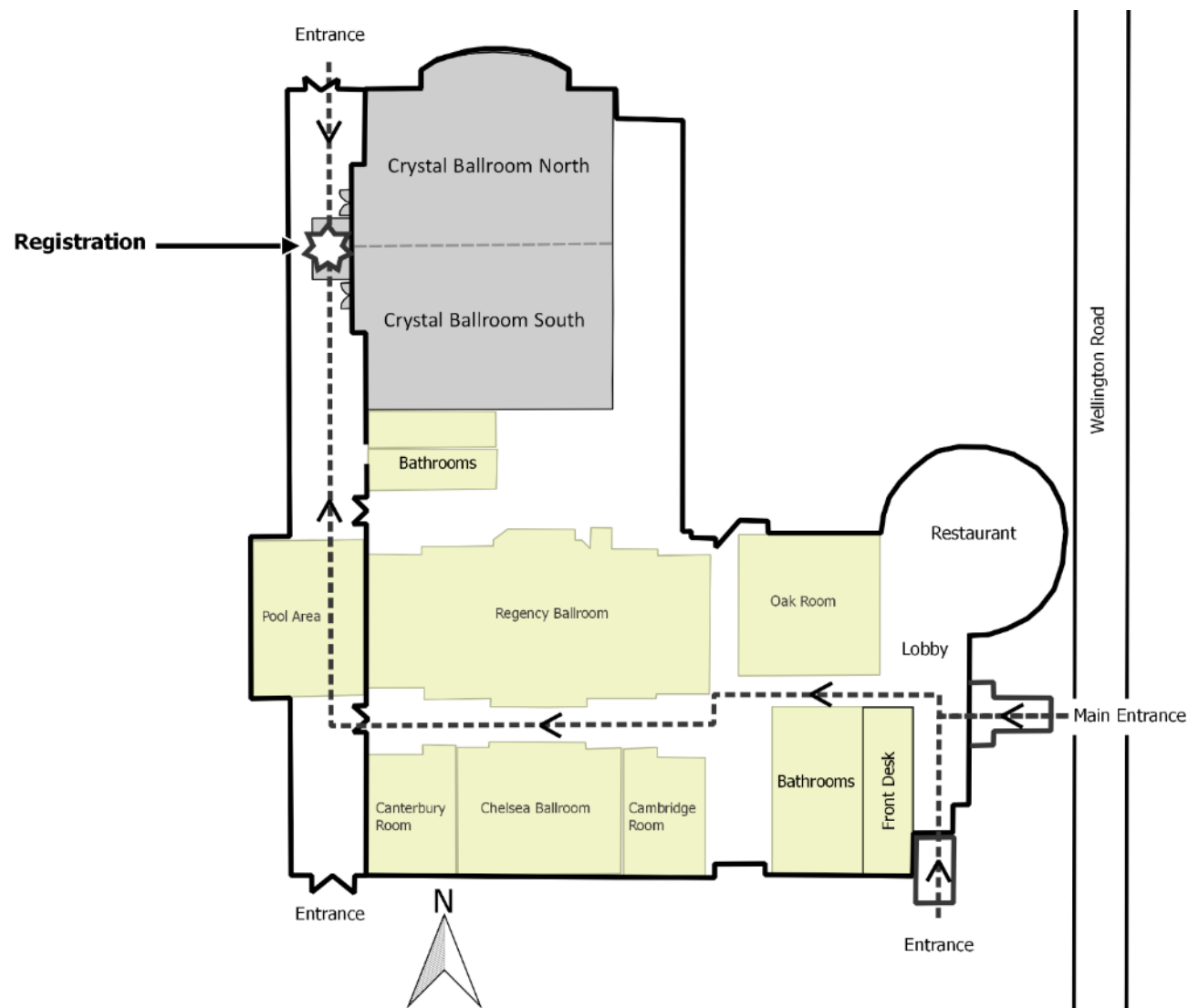
20 min	3:05 PM	<i>The Early Years of Oil and Gas Extraction in the Great Lakes</i>	Mary Baxter, PhD Candidate, Western University History Department
10 min	3:25 PM	<i>Unplugged Well Abandonments in Ontario – Sharing Lessons Learned</i>	Jug Manocha, P.Eng., Special Projects Engineer
10 min	3:35 PM	<i>Entering Unknown, Unplugged Oil and Gas Wells in Ontario</i>	Ben Barnes, President, Double B Well Services
20 min	3:45 PM	<i>Ontario's Abandoned Works Program (AWP)</i>	Danielle Douglas, Ministry of Natural Resources; Robert Shaw, Ministry of Natural Resources
30 min	4:05 PM	Legacy Wells Panel	Jug Manocha, Ben Barnes, Scott Lewis, Mike Dorland.
Schedule subject to change.			

Venue Map

Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre

Crystal Ballroom North - Speaker sessions, keynote, workshop space, and conference activities.

Crystal Ballroom South - Trade show and networking.



Thank You Sponsors!

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Thank You Exhibitors!

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Welcome Messages

OPI Chairman's Welcome

It's a pleasure to welcome back committed colleagues and friends attending this year's conference. Can we believe the OPI has been Ontario's leading subsurface industry voice for 63 years? Welcome back to those who have been here before, and a special welcome to any new attendees, who are stepping into an exciting, dynamic and rapidly evolving industry.

This year, our conference has a terrific assembly of talented, knowledgeable speakers, ready to share important industry and regulatory updates and engage in networking. An extra special thank you to our Conference Committee Chair, Jenna Richardson, and her dedicated team for their creativity and wisdom in organizing a variety of contemporary and visionary topics for our engagement over the next several hours.

The theme of our 2026 EPEX conference is not by accident. Nor does the conference come at some boring time in our industry's evolution; precisely the opposite! There is more opportunity now than in any recent period I can think of.

Ontario is well known for its early leadership in the industry pioneering oil and gas exploration and development, and its export of knowledge and technologies around the world. One looking at the Coruna industrial complex and tracing that successful history to the amalgamation of producers into Union Gas' consolidation of the gas industry, to the development of the essential and efficient gas storage upon which Ontarians have come to rely, to providing landowners with seed capital to make the Leamington area the second largest greenhouse complex in the world... the only conclusion is that our industry has provided opportunity, security and prosperity to southwestern Ontario and parts of the world beyond.

Now we continue this proud tradition with continued opportunities in oil and gas extraction with local support to our growing power generation supply mix – all happening in a net importing region when world events are highlighting the need for stable energy security.

Significant growth opportunities exist within Ontario's Paleozoic strata including, carbon sequestration to enable Ontario's industrial base to remain competitive in a growing carbon sensitive world, opportunities for reservoirs for hydrogen storage and compressed air energy storage.

Significant reserves of conventional oil and gas also remain to be extracted.

The opi can be proud of its long standing tradition within the upstream energy space. Formed by producers, it fosters broader knowledge sharing through its administration of the OGSR library, a key repository of records, data, and rock for the province, and through conferences like this one.

Looking more broadly, the confluence of our traditional oil and gas focus, along with our evolution into subsurface renewable uses for new energy sources and emissions handling, is gaining momentum. Ontario is among the recognized birthplaces of the global fossil industry, and with that heritage, we have a certain deep acquired knowledge of the potential of our industry and an acumen to predict where the future lies. It is precisely that future where we must be focussed with the limited resources we have to deliver the

optimal outcomes we envisage. Let me provide you with a contemporary clear example of where our leadership and experience will really matter.

In industrialized Ontario, large emitting industries are being compelled to comply with global expectations on reducing emissions, storing their emissions, and proving that they are achieving pre-set targets in some sustainable economic manner. The threat is clear that for those which export their products: either comply with international standards, or market opportunities will close.

With that paradigm on the horizon, at the request of those heavy emitters, the Ontario government wisely charted the process of instituting a strong emissions framework. That regulatory construct, primarily promulgated through the 2025 Geologic Carbon Storage Act, includes poignant, dependent emphasis on Ontario's subsurface industry to deliver clear and reliable results for the surface emitters.

It will be OPI's call to arms to meet these joint expectations of government and secure a healthy operating environment for our necessary industries. We have the geological expertise, engineering skills and insightful professional approach to deliver what Ontarians need.

Looking around the world, the global fossil industry is facing unprecedented commodity production and market stresses due to conflict and tariffs affecting everyone and everything. With this ongoing uncertainty, we have adjustments that must be made in Ontario too. Whether these adjustments come easily is another matter, but I am confident we have the capacity and tenacity to overcome and surpass the challenges we will continue to face.

Let's hear from our conference attendees and our regulators at the Ministry of Natural Resources what ideas and advice they have for us.

Thank you all for joining us this year as we collaborate on our collective future interests and chart our direction.

Scott Lewis, P.Geo MBA

OPI Chair

Conference Committee Chair Message

I feel very honoured to welcome all the attendees to EPEX 2026. Thank you all for joining us. Whether you have been here many times prior, or, if this is your first time attending, welcome.

Our conference this year includes some very exciting focal points. I am pleased that we were able to include speakers that will enhance our knowledge on some very relevant topics in our industry today. From newer technologies like carbon and hydrogen storage to historical wells and abandonment procedures, this year's conference is sure to be a great learning experience for all in attendance.

Not only do we have an impressive agenda of subjects, but we also have an excellent keynote speaker to enhance the overall value of this conference. We would like you to both welcome and thank Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP. Ms. Gallagher Murphy currently serves as Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources and will be able to share her perspective on current issues and topics in our industry.

The members of the conference committee have worked hard this year to ensure EPEX 2026 is a valuable and enjoyable time for all attendees. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

May everyone enjoy the EPEX 2026 conference.

Thank you very much for coming.

Jenna Richardson

Keynote Speaker

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE | Thursday, June 4, 12:45 PM

Dawn Gallagher Murphy

Member of Provincial Parliament for Newmarket-Aurora

Luncheon Keynote Address

Dawn Gallagher Murphy is the Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Newmarket-Aurora, re-elected in the 2025 provincial election. She currently serves as Parliamentary Assistant to both the Minister of Natural Resources and the Minister of Long-Term Care. She is also President of the Ontario section of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF), a member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, and a member of the Standing Committee on the Interior.

Appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources in June 2024, she is actively involved in one of Ontario's most promising environmental initiatives-geological carbon storage-as the province advances clean and innovative climate solutions.

First elected in 2022, Gallagher Murphy previously served as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health until March 2024. During that time, she led province-wide consultations with healthcare providers and advocated for seniors' well-being and the responsible adoption of emerging technologies. Her Private Member's Bill proclaiming June as Seniors Month received Royal Assent in December 2024. She also introduced two Private Member's Motions: one to ensure the transparent and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in government, and another to modernize wastewater solutions for small and rural communities-both passed with unanimous support.

Before entering politics, Gallagher Murphy built a distinguished career in the secure payment industry, leading digital transitions for major banking institutions across Canada and the U.S. She later founded her own consulting firm, spearheading innovations in microchip, contactless, mobile, and online payments. In 2018, she left the private sector to serve as constituency office manager for then-Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott, gaining valuable experience in provincial health policy. Now, as MPP for Newmarket-Aurora, she continues to champion innovation, transparency, and community-driven solutions in her public service.

Speaker Biographies and Abstracts

BLOCK 1 - DECARBONIZATION

BLOCK 1 - DECARBONIZATION | Wednesday, June 3, 1:00 PM

Mark Emery

Manager, Regional Operations Division, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Mark Emery has been employed by the Ministry of Natural Resources for 35 years and has worked in a range of renewable and non-renewable resource programs across province. This includes fish and wildlife, lands, forestry, aggregates and stewardship. In 2015, he joined the Petroleum Operations Section as the compliance supervisor and worked for a year in the manager role. Since 2025, Mark has been building a new team to lead the program development work and implementation of the newly proclaimed Geologic Carbon Storage Act. Mark lives in London with his wife and two girls, Amanda and Alyson.

Mark Emery - Abstract

Carbon Storage Implementation in Ontario

Since 2022, the Ministry of Natural Resources has taken a phased approach to create a comprehensive framework to regulate geologic carbon storage in Ontario and help ensure it is safely and responsibly managed. Throughout each phase, the Ministry has invited input from Indigenous communities and organizations, industry, agricultural associations, municipalities, non-government organizations, subject matter experts, farmers and the public.

The Geologic Carbon Storage Act, 2025 (GCSA) and supporting regulations, detailing requirements for the authorization of research and evaluation activities and carbon storage activities in Ontario, are now in effect. The Ministry is now accepting permit applications for commercial-scale geologic carbon storage projects or research and evaluation projects on private land.

This presentation shares information on the steps the ministry is taking to support industry in understanding the GCSA and its regulations, providing an overview of MNR's regulatory role in geologic carbon storage, providing an update on program development and implementation, and in planning for next steps.

BLOCK 1 - DECARBONIZATION | Wednesday, June 3, 1:20 PM

Ian Colquhoun and Jordan Clark

Ian Colquhoun, PhD, P.Geo.; Jordan Clark, OGSRL Library

Ian began his career in SW Ontario working as a well-site geologist for Pembina Exploration as part of their onshore and offshore exploration and development programs. He has worked for ~30 years as an exploration and development geologist for both private and public companies, spent time in the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and Texas, and in Michigan assessing the economic viability of the potash deposits in the Michigan Basin. Ian is currently working as a prospect generator and wellsite geologist for ALPX Energy Canada ULC.

Ian has authored papers published in the OPI Gold Volumes and has presented core workshops on the Trenton-Black River Group hydrothermal dolomite oil play in SW Ontario for the OPI, AAPG and PTTC. Most recently, Ian has produced a core workshop on the Cambrian sediments in SW Ontario and at this year's conference he is presenting a core workshop entitled 'Using the Matt Rine depositional model to better understand the Petrolia East oil reef'.

Jordan Clark manages the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library, the public access point for data and rock samples from wells licensed under Ontario's Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act. He assists in matching explorers and educators with well records, subsurface data, and rock samples to support public access, research, mapping, and industry use of Ontario's petroleum, salt, and subsurface resources.

Ian and Jordan Clark, manager of the OGSRL, have worked together on the urgent need to produce a geological study of the Salina salt deposits in SW Ontario to identify the optimal area for the creation of horizontal galleries in salt for the storage of hydrogen.

Ian Colquhoun and Jordan Clark - Abstract

Mapping Sarnia-Lambton's Salina Salt Geology for Design of H₂ Storage Galleries

Mapping Sarnia-Lambton's Salina salt geology for the design of H₂ storage galleries is a proposal by the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library and Ian Colquhoun, the principal geoscientist who will lead and manage the study.

Large-scale underground storage of hydrogen gas requires a natural container that is very tight and with little to no potential for leakage. The best suited rocks in SW Ontario for storage of gaseous materials under pressure are the thick salt deposits of the B-unit and A-2 unit, which are up to 90 and 45 metres thick respectively.

The main advantage of horizontal galleries is that they can replace many vertical caverns as far as storage of gaseous material is concerned. If we create salt galleries within relatively homogeneous salt deposits, then this minimizes the chance of cavern development through different lithological materials, i.e., carbonates, evaporates and shale, which can represent areas of weakness and potential leakage.

Horizontal drilling of salt galleries can easily reach 1 km in length and several of them can be created within a 1 km square area. If we create 8 horizontal galleries within a 1 km² area, then we can store up to 7.5 million cubic meters of working hydrogen storage capacity, including volume loss to irretrievable brine at the bottom of the cavern. The resulting horizontal gallery will also have a shorter roof span, which mitigates against roof fall or collapse.

BLOCK 2 - SALT + HYDROGEN + GEOLOGY

BLOCK 2 - SALT + HYDROGEN + GEOLOGY | Wednesday, June 3, 2:30 PM

Blair Rogers

Rogers Eastern Oilfield Consulting Ltd.

Blair A. Rogers | P.Eng. | PMP

Over his 17-year career in oil and gas, Blair has been involved in both upstream and downstream operations for major oil companies including Imperial Oil, Shell, Repsol/Talisman, Twin Butte, WestLake Energy, and Core Laboratories.

His career started in well completions during the early years of North America's unconventional resource boom where he managed a variety of well interventions from large fracture treatments in excess of \$20 MM to pump changes less than \$10 K.

His career progressed into the reservoir/exploitation function, and he quickly became an asset manager for over 12,000 boepd of production across 3,000 wellbores - working on field development, reserves evaluation, reservoir management and asset optimization.

Just before he joined Core Laboratories in May 2023, Blair worked in acquisitions and corporate strategy - building out a carbon capture and blue ammonia hub in North America, which was sold to private equity, as well as spinning off a junior exploration company focused on ultra-heavy, cold-flow production via multileg horizontals, which was sold to a public company.

Blair's career went international with Core Laboratories where he was based out of Abu Dhabi. For the past 3 years, Blair has managed the engineering and operations for the well diagnostics division covering the Eastern Hemisphere from Portugal to New Zealand and everything in between.

Blair Rogers - Abstract

Canadian Modern (Heavy) Oil Exploration: Making Money without the Hot Air

Western Canada has had a storied history with heavy oil exploration starting over 100 years ago in the early 1920s with wells into the Silverdale pool, east of Lloydminster, and Wainwright, north of its namesake.

In the early days, vertical wellbores were the norm and lower completions were designed for sand exclusion using screens, gravel or frac packs. The target sands were clean, high k-h with oil qualities ranging from 12 to 20 API. These targets flowed naturally without thermal methods.

Over time, cleaner sands were targeted with low compressive strength and high viscosity. These wells produced with sand and the technology advancement that allowed their exploitation involved more robust progressive cavity pumps (PCPs) designed to lift a slurry of sand/heavy oil. These wells were CHOPS (Cold Heavy Oil Production with Sand) and were economically limited on OPEX - often over \$50/bbl.

Starting in the 1990s, a technology shift in drilling allowed horizontal, single-leg wellbores to be drilled economically. These wells were targeted at thinner, tighter sands uneconomic to produce vertically and were lined with slotted liner or fractured for both sand exclusion and productivity. The economics on these wells traded high OPEX (CHOPS) for high CAPEX (horizontals).

In the early 2010s, a new multileg well architecture has been developed using TAML 1 junctions. This presentation will focus on the current use of this modern architecture providing examples, economics and understanding of how and when it can be deployed. The hope is that it might find application in Ontario as a development methodology for marginal oil fairways.

BLOCK 2 - SALT + HYDROGEN + GEOLOGY | Wednesday, June 3, 2:50 PM

Wayne McConnell**Compass Minerals**

Wayne McConnell, CD is the Plant Manager at Compass Minerals' salt evaporation plant in Goderich, Ontario (since 2025). He previously held plant leadership roles in Nappan, Nova Scotia, and Goderich, and earlier served as Underground Mining Manager at the Goderich mine.

Wayne began his career with Compass Minerals in 1991 in materials management and progressed into operational leadership, playing a key role in implementing lean manufacturing, continuous improvement, and continuous mining operations. He became Underground Mine Superintendent in 2013 and Mining Manager in 2018.

He is a Certified Purchasing Manager and has served in the Canadian Forces Reserves since 1991, currently as an Air Force Captain supporting youth training through the Air Cadet program. Wayne also serves as Unit Commander of the Huron County OPP Auxiliary and Chair of the Huron and Area Search and Rescue Board.

He lives in Goderich with his wife Marion and their son, Lucas.

Wayne McConnell - Abstract

Compass Minerals in Goderich Ontario

Goderich Mining Operations:

- World's largest salt mine,
- Solution mine / Evaporation plant.
- The mine sits on the eastern edge of the Michigan Basin, a salt deposit which extends under most of Lake Huron.
- The beds are uniform, well-bedded and dip slightly to the west.
- The single mining horizon is at the 1,800-foot level.
- The mine itself goes out approximately eight km under the lake at the moment and is 2 ½ times the size of the town of Goderich.

BLOCK 2 - SALT + HYDROGEN + GEOLOGY | Wednesday, June 3, 3:10 PM

D. Randy Blood

DRB Geological Consulting/DRB Mudstone Research Lab, Principal

D. Randy Blood is a geologist and petrophysicist based in the greater Pittsburgh, PA area working on various aspects of Paleozoic strata in the Appalachian Basin. He is the founder of DRB Geological Consulting, established in 2019 and now in its seventh year of operation. For over 20 years, he has worked on unconventional organic-rich mudstone and tight gas sand reservoirs. Much of his work focuses on building gas-in-place models, understanding hydrocarbon storage mechanisms, and developing holistic geological models to explain the accumulation and distribution of reservoir facies. Over the past three years, he has expanded into evaluating subsurface carbon storage targets and critical mineral accumulations across a variety of rock types.

Randy has also dedicated significant effort to understanding Devonian stratigraphy and the extinction events that shaped these ancient ecosystems. His research has taken him from local Appalachian outcrops to the remote Devonian reefs of southern Mongolia, including an Explorers Club-funded expedition to study previously undocumented formations. To advance this work, he established the DRB Mudstone Research Laboratory in 2025, which focuses on his ongoing Devonian research across North America, Europe, and Mongolia.

Randy has delivered over 75 talks and posters, published full-length journal articles in several special publications, led multiple core workshops, and conducted numerous field trips focusing on the geology of organic-rich mudstones.

D. Randy Blood - Abstract

The Search for the Upper Kellwasser Event in the Chatham Sag: Geochemical Constraints from the Appalachian Basin Point Gratiot Bed

The Upper Kellwasser Event (UKE), one of the 'Big Five' mass extinctions of the Phanerozoic, eliminated ~50% of marine genera at the end of the Frasnian Stage of the Upper Devonian. In the Appalachian Basin, the UKE is represented by the Point Gratiot Bed (PGB), which shows an upward decrease in Mo and U enrichment, paradoxically coinciding with increasing TOC, pyrite abundance, and smaller framboid diameters. This is interpreted to reflect a global drawdown of redox-sensitive trace metals in the oceans due to widespread anoxia. The overlying gray shale of the Beaver Meadow Member contains dysoxic organic-rich hyperpycnites and anoxic/euxinic transgressive black shales, recording fluctuating redox conditions in the immediate aftermath. The highest metal enrichments coincident with small framboid sizes in the basal Dunkirk Shale indicate a return to persistent anoxia and replenishment of the oceanic metal reservoir. While these deposits were accumulating in the Appalachian basin, sediments of the Kettle Point Shale were accumulating in the Chatham Sag. To date, the UKE has not been identified in the Kettle Point Shale. Conodont biostratigraphy work by others on the Gore of Chatham (GoC) core constrains the end Frasnian Stage to a 30 cm interval of interbedded gray mudstone, and pyritic black shale near the base of the informal Unit 2. Powder and billets were collected through this interval in the GoC, OGS-KP-16, and OGS-KP-17 core. Samples were analyzed to determine if the geochemical fingerprints of the PGB may be used to positively identify the UKE in the Kettle Point Shale.

BLOCK 3 - GEOLOGICAL STORAGE

BLOCK 3 - GEOLOGICAL STORAGE | Thursday, June 4, 9:00 AM

Steven Pardy

Enbridge Gas Inc., Manager Underground Storage and Transmission Planning

Manager of Underground Storage and Transmission planning at Enbridge Gas located in Chatham, Ontario. Graduated from the University of Windsor in 1993 with a engineering degree. Is a registered Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario. 32 years of experience at Enbridge focused on underground storage development, maintenance, integrity and operations.

Steven Pardy - Abstract

Underground Natural Gas Storage in Ontario

Underground natural gas storage plays a critical role in ensuring the reliability, flexibility, and affordability of Ontario's energy system. This presentation provides an overview of Enbridge Gas' storage assets, their operational characteristics, and their strategic importance within the broader natural gas and energy markets. The Dawn storage hub helps balance seasonal demand fluctuations, manage peak winter requirements, and support system resiliency during extreme weather events. This presentation will provide an overview of the Dawn storage hub including current storage capacity, deliverability, and utilization trends.

BLOCK 3 - GEOLOGICAL STORAGE | Thursday, June 4, 9:20 AM

Rhonda Ovenden

Hydrostor Inc., Director of Operations

Rhonda Ovenden, P.Eng., Director of Operations at Hydrostor Inc., is a professional engineer with over 20 years of experience leading complex projects across operations, detailed design, engineering, and commissioning in the energy and resource sectors. She plays a central role in advancing long-duration energy storage technologies to support a more reliable and decarbonized grid. Rhonda oversees the world's first Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES) facility and contributes to the development of full-scale projects internationally. Her career spans mineral processing sites across Canada and abroad to the forefront of energy innovation, where she is recognized for her technical depth, operational insight, and commitment to safety, quality, and team development. She is also a strong advocate for inclusive leadership and resilient, high-performing teams.

Rhonda Ovenden - Abstract

Hydrostor: Long Duration Energy Storage Utilizing Underground Rock Caverns

As grids face increasing pressure from rising demand, aging infrastructure, and variable renewable generation, long-duration energy storage is becoming essential for maintaining reliability, flexibility, and system performance. This session provides a focused look at Hydrostor's Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES) technology, which uses purpose-built underground rock caverns to deliver 8–24+ hours of emissions-free, utility-scale storage. Rhonda Ovenden will outline how the A-CAES process works, share lessons learned from operating the world's first commercial A-CAES facility in Goderich, Ontario, and highlight Hydrostor's expanding 7-GW global development pipeline. The session will also examine why hard-rock caverns offer a scalable, cost-effective pathway for long-duration storage deployment and how A-CAES enhances system reliability and operational resilience.

BLOCK 3 - GEOLOGICAL STORAGE | Thursday, June 4, 9:40 AM

David Thompson

Northern Cross Energy Limited

David Thompson is President of Northern Cross Energy Limited, a company he founded in 1984. The company is a fully integrated natural gas company which owns and operates 5 producing pinnacles reefs along with associated production, processing, pipelines and distribution facilities located in northern Huron County, Ontario. He is also President and CEO of Eavor Yukon Inc., a Yukon Company founded to develop large scale geothermal power and thermal energy projects in the Yukon, Canada. David has broad experience in clean and renewable power projects, including high efficiency gas fired generation, wind and solar power. He was a founder and CEO of Port Albert Wind Farms and also a founder and past Chairman of Next Hydrogen Corporation, which has researched, developed and now commercialized grid scale electrolyzers for the production of green hydrogen from surplus renewable power.

David graduated in engineering from Queen's University and has more than 40 years of experience in the broader energy industry in Canada and internationally. Mr Thompson received the ICD.D professional designation from the Institute of Corporate Directors in 2014.

David has served on the board of many business and community organizations, including the Ontario Petroleum Institute. He is currently serves as an associate with Creative Destruction Labs, mentoring start up companies from across North America in the Energy stream.

David Thompson - Abstract

Storage of Hydrogen in Depleted Natural Gas Reservoirs

Depleted Silurian pinnacle reefs in Ontario present a unique opportunity for seasonal storage of surplus electric power as well as surplus natural gas.

Grid scale water electrolyzers made in Ontario are proven to be able to dynamically respond to short term or seasonal power surpluses and convert them to hydrogen.

That hydrogen can be mixed with natural gas already in the reservoir or received from the existing natural gas system for storage.

The hydrogen content in the hydrogen enriched natural gas (HENG) can be controlled so as effective 2 way interface is created with existing system systems with no modifications required.

The HENG can be put back on the electric power grid as required, or put back on the gas system, closing the loop on a unique energy trading hub.

Also discussed will be a novel system for recovering the CO₂ from the HENG fired power generation engines and injecting it back into the reservoir.

BLOCK 4 - WELL SERVICE AND PLUGGING

BLOCK 4 - WELL SERVICE AND PLUGGING | Thursday, June 4, 11:00 AM

Doug Kozak

Weatherford Wireline

Doug Kozak is a Technical Sales Representative for Weatherford Wireline, based in Calgary, Alberta. With a career that spans the full lifecycle of wellsite operations-from his beginnings as a Wireline Field Engineer to leadership roles in management and technical sales-Doug brings a unique, "boots-on-the-ground" perspective to complex geological challenges. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Geology from the University of Alberta and is dedicated to bridging the gap between sophisticated wireline technology and actionable reservoir insights for operators across Canada.

Doug Kozak - Abstract

Downhole Wireline Logging Diagnostics for Gas and Fluid Migration

Uncontrolled gas and fluid migration in the surface-to-production casing annulus demands rapid, accurate identification. Downhole wireline logging provides the specialized diagnostics necessary to map these subsurface flow paths. This technical session details the operational principles and data outputs of primary SCVF identification tools.

A brief overview of the common measurements will be presented.

- * Noise Logging Tool: Detects the sound of gas or liquid moving behind the casing.
- * Temperature Logging Tool: Identifies temperature anomalies caused by gas expansion (cooling) or fluid movement.
- * Cement Bond Log (CBL) / Variable Density Log (VDL): Evaluates the quality of the cement sheath to find paths for flow.
- * Casing Inspection Tools (e.g., Casing Inspection Tool): Detects casing anomalies, corrosion, or leaks.

These basics will provide actionable workflows to optimize tool selection, interpret concurrent data anomalies, and improve the success rate of subsequent remedial cement operations.

BLOCK 4 - WELL SERVICE AND PLUGGING | Thursday, June 4, 11:20 AM

Chris Morgan

GOWell/VP Business Development

Chris has over 30 years of industry experience across multiple geographies. Starting in field operations, he has also worked in sales, product development and leadership positions and today he is responsible for new product commercializations at GOWell. Originally from Wales, Chris now lives in Texas and is a graduate of the Universities of Manchester and Aberdeen in the UK.

Chris Morgan - Abstract

Novel technologies for multi-string well integrity evaluation: New Physics for Old Challenges

While technologies for the detailed evaluation of single wellbore tubulars and their surrounding cement sheaths have been available for decades, the assessment of concentric pipe systems, particularly the detailed condition of secondary casing strings and their associated cement sheaths, remains a challenge. GOWell is introducing two new technologies for the thru-tubing evaluation of cement integrity and the azimuthal assessment of second casings. These innovations address critical gaps in well integrity diagnostics.

GOWell has developed a novel approach to second annulus cement evaluation. Utilizing the principle of Forced Acoustic Resonance, their Thru-Tubing Cement Evaluation service features a 3D array of piezoelectric transducers, to excite the entire wellbore system into a selective non-harmonic resonance. The energy, phase, and frequency required to sustain this resonance are measured within the tool itself, thereby sidestepping a key technical challenge with alternative approaches, namely the high attenuation seen in wave propagation methods. In this approach of wellbore excitation, the conditions present in the second tubular annulus, whether free pipe or fully cemented, become a primary determinant of the resonance characteristics, enabling cement integrity to be measured.

A second and complimentary technology, allows the radial evaluation of concentric wellbore tubulars, using a unique magnetic flux density method. The Multi Pipe Azimuthal Corrosion service uses a focused static magnetic field and densely packed arrays of co-located Hall effect sensors, to make detailed thickness maps of first and second tubulars, together with inner pipe eccentricity and outer pipe ovality measurements.

These technologies have wide stand-alone applications, but their integration into robust well integrity answer products is a tantalizing opportunity.

BLOCK 4 - WELL SERVICE AND PLUGGING | Thursday, June 4, 11:40 AM

Frank Kuri

Professional Engineer

Frank has many years of experience in the Ontario oil and gas industry. Experienced in drilling, completions, compression, facilities, gas storage and pipelines. Frank graduated from the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology with a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering.

Frank Kuri - Abstract

A Century of Offshore Drilling in Lake Erie

- First offshore well located 100m from the bluffs of Port Alma
- Drilled in May 1913 as extension of the onshore Tilbury Gas field
- Water depth limited to ~ 10m
- 2-3 months to drill a gas well
- Slow, only 2 or 3 wells per season
- Platform dismantled prior to winter freeze
- Only 37 wells drilled between 1913-1954
- The industry had to find a way to reduce costs and speed things up...

CORE WORKSHOP - SILURIAN PINNACLE REEFS OF SW ONTARIO

CORE WORKSHOP - SILURIAN PINNACLE REEFS OF SW ONTARIO | Thursday, June 4, 1:30 PM

Ian Colquhoun

PhD, P.Geo.

Ian began his career in SW Ontario working as a well-site geologist for Pembina Exploration as part of their onshore and offshore exploration and development programs. He has worked for ~30 years as an exploration and development geologist for both private and public companies, spent time in the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and Texas, and in Michigan assessing the economic viability of the potash deposits in the Michigan Basin. Ian is currently working as a prospect generator and wellsite geologist for ALPX Energy Canada ULC. Ian has authored papers published in the OPI Gold Volumes and has presented core workshops on the Trenton-Black River Group hydrothermal dolomite oil play in SW Ontario for the OPI, AAPG and PTTC. Most recently, Ian has produced a core workshop on the Cambrian sediments in SW Ontario and at this year's conference he is presenting a core workshop entitled 'Using the Matt Rine depositional model to better understand the Petrolia East oil reef'. Ian and Jordan Clark, manager of the OGSRL, have worked together on the urgent need to produce a geological study of the Salina salt deposits in SW Ontario to identify the optimal area for the creation of horizontal galleries in salt for the storage of hydrogen.

Ian Colquhoun - Abstract

Using the Matt Rine Pinnacle Reef Model to better understand the Petrolia East Oil Reef

This year's core workshop will display the cores of Core #1050 from the Petrolia East Oil Pool. I will present to you an interpretation of the reservoir development of the Guelph Formation using my understanding of the Matt Rine pinnacle reef depositional facies model (2019). A thorough review of the geology and reservoir data from several oil wells suggests that the reservoir at Petrolia East is highly variable and occurs within a variety of facies in the Guelph. The most important take away for future explorers is that vertical wells drilled into pinnacle reefs need to be drilled completely through the Guelph to fully understand porosity development, identification of reef facies, the degree and number of karst events, the presence and absence of salt plugging, fluid saturation, and most importantly to confirm lithology, dolomite vs limestone. Porosity and permeability of the different reef facies and producible oil, gas or water reservoirs are, for the most part, not repeatable/predictable from reef to reef or well to well.

BLOCK 5 - HISTORY AND LEGACY

BLOCK 5 - HISTORY AND LEGACY | Thursday, June 4, 2:45 PM

Christina Sydorko

Educational Program Coordinator, Oil Museum of Canada

Christina is a dedicated educator who strives to create exciting and informative educational experiences. She has an Honour's Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Education from Windsor University with subject specialization in History and Geography. Christina spent 15 years teaching in the Lambton Kent District School Board before moving to be the full time Educational Programs Coordinator at the Oil Museum of Canada, National Historic Site in 2017. She has spearheaded the creation of the virtual education programs at the museum with a focus on fact-based education. Christina is also the recipient of the 2021 Award of Excellence in Programming from the Ontario Museum Association for virtual programs and the Lambton County Innovation Award for 2021. Christina was also the co-chair of Digital Advisory Committee for the Ontario Museum Association from 2022-2024.

Christina Sydorko - Abstract

Educating the next generation: Lessons from the Oil Museum of Canada

The story of petroleum resources is shaped by the media, misinformation, or simply not told for fear of unwanted attention or criticism. This exists because there is a vacuum of knowledge, and a lack of education with properly sourced content. The Oil Museum has boldly entered the schools to deliver well researched programs about the development of the oil and gas industry in Ontario. Additionally, the museum has been using 3D models to help students visualize the geologic environment beneath our feet. We challenge students to make the connections between themselves, their environment, local economies, and a resource that factors into daily life.

BLOCK 5 - HISTORY AND LEGACY | Thursday, June 4, 3:05 PM

Mary Baxter

PhD Candidate, Western University History Department

Mary Baxter, B.A. (Honours), M.Phil, M.A., is an award-winning historian, journalist and editor specializing in the transnational history of the Great Lakes, as well as in agricultural, environmental and rural issues. She is a third-year PhD Candidate in History at Western University where she is researching the history of offshore drilling in the Great Lakes and working with Dr. Alan MacEachern on a history of the Meteorological Survey of Canada. She is also an editor for the website Network in Canadian History and Environment. In 2024, her thesis on the history of waterbed aggregate extraction in the western Lake Erie basin was awarded the Best MA (or Equivalent) Thesis in Canadian Studies<<https://csn-rec.ca/prizes-awards/csn-rec-prizes-and-awards/18903-best-ma-or-equivalent-thesis-or-major-research-paper-in-canadian-studies>> from Canadian Studies Network. Her journalism has earned several national and international awards, including, in 2007, from the Canadian Association of Journalists (as a member of a team), the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists (2012) and the Canadian Online Publishing Awards (2023, 2024). In April 2026, her article about the early years of natural gas development in Ontario published in the peer-reviewed journal, American Review of Canadian Studies Enders Special Issue on Canada-US Relations.

Mary Baxter - Abstract

Divided Waters: The Early Years of Oil and Gas Extraction in the Great Lakes

When southwestern Ontario's natural gas and oil reserves dwindled in the early twentieth century, the industry took to the beds of the Great Lakes. From the start, the offshore expansion triggered court cases, economic enthusiasm and ecological fear. This presentation looks at what empowered Ontario's fossil fuel industry to operate in one of the world's most vital freshwater systems, the impact of local resistance on its activity, and, ultimately, how this niche practice transformed perceptions of the Great Lakes in ways that are still in effect today.

BLOCK 5 - HISTORY AND LEGACY | Thursday, June 4, 3:25 PM

Jug Manocha, P.Eng. , Special Projects Engineer, Ameta Projects Inc.

Experienced engineer from an operational and regulatory perspective for the oil and gas and hydrocarbons storage industry specializing in dealing with unplugged and abandoned wells and with storage of hydrocarbons in underground formations and petroleum well emergencies. Project Manager role for plugging of 250 wells under the Abandoned Works Program.

He was recognized with An Award of Merit for sharing his knowledge and the lessons learned and educational at many OPI conferences. He was a recipient of an Amethyst award from the Ontario government for plugging a hazardous well, and with an Award of Merit from Canadian Standards Association for being founding member of the CSA Z341 Storage of hydrocarbons in underground formations and a member of CSA Z624/625 Well design.

He continues to be involved as project manager for well plugging and with underground storage.

Jug Manocha - Abstract

Unplugged Well Abandonments in Ontario – Sharing Lessons Learned

This presentation shares practical experience and lessons learned from plugging and abandoning former oil and gas wells in Ontario. Since 1858, a wide range of wells have been drilled across the province, including oil and gas wells, solution mining wells, storage wells, disposal wells, and geological test wells. Ontario has records for approximately 27,000 oil and gas wells, many of them located on private land in southwestern Ontario.

Improperly constructed, maintained, or abandoned wells can pose significant risks to public safety and the environment, including groundwater resources. Effective plugging and abandonment practices are therefore essential to managing Ontario's legacy well inventory responsibly.

It is important to recognize that every well has its own history and that some wells pose greater risks than others. Former wells that have not been properly plugged and abandoned must be approached with knowledge, care, and caution because of the inherent safety concerns involved. Successful abandonment requires a clear understanding of subsurface geology and well construction details, as well as a properly designed and engineered plugging program that meets applicable requirements.

Sharing these lessons learned provides an opportunity to continuously improve well plugging and abandonment practices.

LEGACY WELLS PANEL

LEGACY WELLS PANEL | Thursday, June 4, 4:05 PM

Legacy Wells Panel

Jug Manocha, Ben Barnes, Scott Lewis, Mike Dorland.

Exhibitors

Baker Hughes

Baker Hughes is an energy technology company that provides solutions to energy and industrial customers worldwide. Conducting business in over 120 countries, Baker Hughes designs, manufactures, and delivers technology solutions for customers across the energy sector.

Big Guns Energy Services Inc.

BGES (Big Guns Energy Services Inc.) is a provider of specialized in-situ reservoir testing and subsurface containment evaluation. Since 1996, BGES has applied geoscience and engineering services across CCUS, energy storage, unconventional resources, and oilsands projects.

Double B Well Services

Double B Well Services Ltd. provides local expertise tailored to the underground hydrocarbon storage industry of Southern Ontario, including wellsite supervision, workover and testing program development, project management, equipment sourcing, and abandonment support.

Elexco Land Services, Ltd.

Elexco is a Full Service Land Company providing Land Consulting and Land Administration Services to the Oil and Gas, Utility, Renewable Energy, and Telecommunication Industries in North America. Services include Land and ROW Negotiation, Project Management, Title Abstracting, Due Diligence and Curative, GIS Mapping, In-House Legal Support, Full Service Administration and Records Management. Elexco will celebrate its 50th year in business this year.

GOWell Oilfield Technology Canada Ltd.

GOWell Technology Limited was founded in 2007 with a mission to deliver cutting-edge equipment, software, and data interpretation services to the oil and gas industry. Having maintained a leading market offering in well integrity diagnostics, GOWell has a broad technology and support portfolio that spans the full well lifecycle. With operations in 50+ countries, GOWell supports both traditional energy development and emerging applications such as geothermal and energy transition initiatives.

We aim to become your supplier of world-class wireline logging equipment. GOWell's integrated technology, engineering, manufacturing, and management capabilities uniquely position us to offer high-performing wireline logging solutions that support accurate formation evaluation and improved efficiencies for our customers.

Visit us at: <https://www.gowell.energy/>

LimeGREEN Equipment Inc.

LimeGREEN is one of Ontario's fastest growing tank rental companies, with equipment yards located across Ontario. LimeGREEN supports industrial, environmental, and energy-sector projects with rental equipment and service.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

The Ministry provides oversight and regulatory services for Ontario's oil, gas, salt, aggregate, forestry, lands, fish and wildlife, and related natural resource programs.

Oil Museum of Canada

The Oil Museum of Canada, National Historic Site is a non-profit museum owned and operated by the County of Lambton. It preserves the site of the first commercial oil well in North America and interprets the innovation and contributions of Canada's oil pioneers.

Oil, Gas & Salt Resources Library

The Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library is the public access point for Ontario petroleum well records, well data, cores, and samples. The Library supports industry, regulators, researchers, and the public through data access, digitization, mapping, and collection stewardship.

Ontario One Call

Ontario One Call is a public safety administrative authority that acts as a communications link between buried infrastructure owners and individuals who are planning to dig in the province of Ontario.

Stream-Flo Industries Ltd.

At Stream-Flo, we drive progress by delivering advanced, customized solutions for the energy industry. Our unwavering commitment to quality, innovation, and exceptional service means every project receives our full expertise and dedication to excellence.

Weatherford Canada Limited

Weatherford offers a portfolio of wireline solutions to gain insight into formations and wellbores. Its openhole and cased-hole technologies support reservoir intelligence, well integrity evaluation, diagnostics, and plug-and-abandonment workflows.

Wellmaster Pipe & Supply

Wellmaster is a trusted name in North American and global groundwater, energy, and horticultural sectors, delivering high-performance products and innovative solutions.

EPEX & OPI Gold Volume Archives

Now in its 63rd year, an extraordinary amount of valuable technical information has been presented at OPI conferences. Digitized volumes can be found online:

<http://www.ogsrlibrary.com/catalogue>

Presentations from EPEX 2018 - 2025 are available on the OGSR Library YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ogsrlibrary>

Acknowledgements

Conference Chair:

Jenna Richardson

OPI Chair:

Scott Lewis

OPI Office Manager:

Lorraine Fillmore

Conference Committee:

Scott Lewis

Jenna Richardson

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Jordan Clark

Matt Dupont

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