

CANADIAN Pipeliner

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PIPE LINE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



JUNE 2024 Vol. 39 #2



2024 Annual Convention

The PLCAC's 70th Annual General Meeting & Convention was held in Niagara Falls, ON from May 12 to 16, 2024. Over 330 delegates assembled for this memorable, informative and exciting reunion in Niagara Falls. The convention was held in the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel.

The PLCAC staff and Board of Directors welcomed members of PLCAC Regular and Associate companies, the four craft pipeline unions, and sister associations. The delegates exchanged ideas, best practices, latest innovations, and expanded their contacts while attending many events and business sessions.

The PLCAC organized numerous networking opportunities for delegates and their families. The business sessions were held in the morning and featured an outstanding lineup of speakers which included Cynthia Hansen, Enbridge Executive Vice President & President, Gas Transmission & Midstream, and Stephen Harper, Former Prime Minister of Canada. Additionally, this year's motivational speaker was Ron DiFrancesco, a 9/11 survivor, who discussed the importance of mental health, awareness and support.

The annual Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Legends on the Niagara Golf Course, where an inaugural friendly competition raised \$2,000.00 for Native Women Inc. Niagara Chapter. Other activities included Ziplining to the Falls, Helicopter ride with Niagara Helicopters, Wine Tasting at Two Sisters Vineyard, and Afternoon Tea at the beautiful Prince of Wales Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Flashback to the 70's costume party was a fantastic way to embrace the vibrant and eclectic spirit of the decade.

In honour of our guest speakers the PLCAC made financial donations to the Soup Kitchen of Niagara Falls and Project Share, Niagara Falls.

A sincere thank you to all the delegates who attended and to all the sponsors for making the 70th "Platinum" Annual General Meeting and Convention an unforgettable event!



PLCAC Officers and Directors 2024-2025



*Back row (left to right): Paul Schultz, Nick de Koning, Colin Schmidt, Blake Shultis, Michael Prior, and Russell Keller
Front row (left to right): Kevin O'Donnell, Mark Scherer, Neil Waugh, Wesley Waschuk, David Johnstone, and Lyall Nash*

OFFICERS

Mark Scherer, President

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Toronto, ON

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Senior Vice President, Premay Pipeline Hauling L.P.
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Vaughan, ON

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Nisku, AB

Kevin O'Donnell, Executive Director

Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada
Oakville, ON

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Wesley Waschuk, Immediate Past President

President, Waschuk Pipe Line Construction Ltd.
Red Deer, AB

Nick de Koning

Executive Chairman, Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited
King City, ON

David Johnstone

President, T.W. Johnstone Company Limited
London, ON

Lyall Nash

President, TESTCO Western Ltd.
Calgary, AB

Michael Prior

Senior Strategic Advisor, Michels Canada Co.
Nisku, AB

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Blake Shultis

Account Manager – Canada/Alaska, PipeLine Machinery International, Acheson, AB

Colin Schmidt

Chief Executive Officer and President – TerraPro Inc. Sherwood Park, AB

Outgoing President's Address



President Waschuk welcomed the delegates at the 70th Annual General Meeting and Convention on Monday, May 13, 2024 at the Kick-Off Party. He thanked the delegates for attending and assured them that the upcoming week would be filled with a variety of occasions to foster networking opportunities, provide valuable and insightful information and ensure plenty of entertaining experiences.

President Waschuk encouraged everyone to explore Niagara Falls and immerse in the charm of the region, "let the beauty and history of this place inspire you as you collaborate, learn, and forge new connections within our industry."

President Waschuk was "Ready to Rock" and hoped that the attendees were too!

Mark Scherer Appointed 2024-2025 PLCAC President at Annual Convention

On May 16, 2024, Mark Scherer, Executive Vice President & Chief Safety Officer of Aecon, was appointed President of the PLCAC for the 2024-2025 term.

Mark has over 35 years of experience in the industry. He has worked in all aspects of the trade from front line to management and has been an integral part in Aecon's world-class safety performance and culture over the years. He is also responsible for Aecon's Environment, Health and Safety (EHS).

Mark has been a Director at the Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada since 2011. Moreover, he is a member of the Canadian Pipeline Advisory Council (CPAC). He also serves on the Safety Committee, Negotiating Committee and Executive Committee.



PLCAC hosts the World Federation of Pipeline Industry Associations Meeting



(left to right): Elizabeth Worrell, Adam Wynne Hughes, Kevin O’Donnell, Rob Darden, Wesley Waschuk, Mark Albert, Roberto Castelli and Georges Hage

On Sunday, May 12, 2024 PLCAC President, Wes Waschuk and PLCAC Executive Director, Kevin O’Donnell, hosted the members of the World Federation of Pipeline Industry Associations (WFPIA) meeting at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls, ON.

The PLCAC welcomed delegates from sister organization including: Distribution Contractors Association – US (DCA), International Pipe Line & Offshore Contractors Association (IPLOCA), Pipe Line Contractors Association (PLCA), and the Pipeline Industries Guild – UK (PIG-UK).

Topics addressed in the meeting included: industry inclusive leadership development programs, safety best practices and continued information sharing, the various challenges in global markets, and the benefits of continued networking accross associations.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 2024 in Sorrento, Italy at the IPLOCA convention.

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PLCAC New Associate Director



Colin Schmidt – TerraPro – President, CEO & Director

Colin comes to the PLCAC Board of Directors board with 15 years’ experience in oil and gas industry and over 35 years of sales experience. He is the co-founder of TerraPro and is heavily involved in the growth and business development activities in the company.

Colin is dedicated to environmental sustainability and his leadership has made TerraPro a leader in the environmental solutions in the industry and making significant impact on the planet and sustainable future.

The PLCAC would like to welcome Colin to our Board of Directors team.

Cynthia Hansen – Affordable, Reliable, And Secure Energy

On May 15, 2024, the keynote speaker was Cynthia Hansen, Enbridge Executive Vice President and President, Gas Transmission and Midstream. Cynthia stated that the pipeline industry “plays a critical role in enabling the economic and social well-being of people around the world by providing access to affordable, reliable, and secure energy.”

Canada has the opportunity to provide a global solution to the world’s energy situation. We have the resources, the people and expertise to do so. As a country and industry, we need to think practically about the energy transition because it is estimated that by 2050, when the world is aiming to be net zero, but one-third of cars on the road will still be gas powered. Therefore, building energy infrastructure in Canada is a beneficial initiative. Enbridge currently has \$10 billion of gas projects on the go right now in Canada, and \$18 billion in development across Gas Transmission, and \$3 billion annually within utilities.

After the keynote address, Cynthia conversed with Kevin O’Donnell, PLCAC Executive Director and took questions from the attendees. The message was positive and optimistic for the future of energy in Canada and the pipeline industry.



Cynthia Hansen, Enbridge Executive Vice President and President, Gas Transmission and Midstream

Ron DiFrancesco – Be Kind



Ron DiFrancesco, last man to make it out of the South tower alive on September 11, 2001

On May 15, 2024, the inspirational speaker was Ron DiFrancesco. Ron was the last documented person to make it out of the South tower alive on September 11, 2001. He talked to the PLCAC convention delegates about his personal experience in fighting for his survival, dealing with pain and PTSD after his ordeal on that historic day. Ron described how he recovered and flourished since the ordeal.

The delegates listened attentively as Ron talked about the importance of human resiliency. He spoke passionately about how we can face challenges and struggles daily. It is in the way we deal with them that will make us more resilient. Ron emphasized the importance of being kind to one another and the power of talking to people when you are facing mental health challenges.

Canada's Trifecta – Canada As An “Energy Superpower”



Kevin O'Donnell, PLCAC Executive Director, hosted a round table with Stephen Harper, former Prime Minister of Canada, Joseph Mancinelli, LiUNA International Vice President, Canadian Director & Regional Manager for Central and Eastern Canada, and Victor Swishchuk, Senior Portfolio Manager and Partner at Letko Brosseau.



On May 16, 2024, Stephen Harper, former Prime Minister of Canada, joined Joseph Mancinelli, LiUNA International Vice President, Canadian Director & Regional Manager for Central and Eastern Canada, Victor Swishchuk, Senior Portfolio Manager and Partner at Letko Brosseau, joined Kevin O'Donnell, PLCAC Executive Director, for a panel discussion regarding the Energy sector in Canada.



Stephen Harper emphasized that Canada has all the resources needed to be a global “energy superpower”. He mentioned the strength of the country and the resiliency of the oil industry. The democracy in Canada will allow times to change and for the oil industry to recover. Victor Swishchuk also echoed on Canada’s bright future. Victor spoke passionately about the investment opportunity in Canada and how an “invest in Canada” approach will benefit all stakeholders. Joseph Mancinelli emphasized the need for continuous training of our labour force. As well as an inclusive approach to attracting under represented segments into the trades.

The panel also discussed Canada’s role in solving the global Energy Trilemma: Energy Security, Uninterrupted accessibility to clean affordable energy, while achieving Environmental Sustainability.





2023 James L. Abraham Safety Performance Awards of Excellence

Annually, the PLCAC recognizes member companies who have distinguished themselves with exemplary safety performance and safety records over the past year through the James L. Abraham Safety Performance Awards of Excellence Program. These awards are based on lowest lost time incidents (LTI) frequency rates. The winners for 2023 are:



MAINLINE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION:

Michels Canada Co.

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): Aecon, SA Energy Group



DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION:

NPL Canada Ltd.

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): Aecon, Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited and T.W. Johnstone Company Limited.



PIPELINE MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE:

Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): Aecon, Michels Canada Co., NPL Canada Ltd. and Summit Pipeline Services ULC.



SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR TRANSPORTATION

Premay Pipeline Hauling L.P.

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): 2XL Transport Ltd.



SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR (HDD) PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION (over 20,000 hours)

Michels Canada Co.

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): Aecon, Glacier Blasting, Lonestar Vacuum Inc., Marathon Underground Constructors Corporation, M-Roc Ltd., McCaw's Drilling & Blasting Ltd., Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited, TESTCO Western Ltd. and The Tunneling Company.



SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR (HYDROVAC) – PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

(under 20,000 hours)

Platinum Hydrovac And HDD.

The following companies also had zero Lost Time Incidents (LTIs) in this category (but worked less hours): Allstream Waste Solutions Inc. and Badger Daylighting Limited Partnership

**Caleb Trumble, Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited,
Receives 2024 Jack Cressey Future Leader Award**

The Jack Cressey Future Leader Award was established in 1995 in memory of Jack Cressey, board member and past president of the PLCAC, who was known as a strong leader with vision, integrity and drive.

At the 2024 Annual General Meeting & Convention in Niagara Falls, Ontario, the Jack Cressey Future Leader Award was presented to Caleb Trumble, of Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited.



Caleb Trumble started working at Robert B. Somerville Co. Limited in 2015 as a Project Coordinator in the Pipeline Division. He quickly proved he was a competent and valuable member of the team and demonstrated leadership qualities. He was promoted to Project Manager in 2018. Since then, he has worked on numerous large and small pipeline projects across Canada. Caleb has successfully executed several challenging projects due to his dedication and perseverance. He is well respected by field personnel, management and executives within the organization, as well as all the clients he works with.

The PLCAC would like to congratulate Caleb Trumble on this monumental career achievement!

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PLCAC Welcomes Three New Members

PLCAC Board of Directors have recently approved membership applications from three Regular Members. We welcome these new members to the PLCAC!



Landshark Group, located in Brantford, ON, provides geotechnical drilling, environmental drilling, Hydrovac locates, traffic and waste hauling in all of Ontario.
For more information, contact Trevor Kolybaba, Operations Manager, at 1-905-979-5607 or visit www.landsharkgroup.ca.



Mammoet Canada Western Ltd., located in Edmonton, AB, specializes in crane and transport services.
For more information, contact Bryce Petersen, Operations Manager, at 1-250-639-0223 or visit www.mammoet.com.



Wright Traffic Control, located in Beaver, PA, USA, provides traffic control services designated to ensure safety and efficiency across the United States and Canada.
For more information, contact Sean Sauve, National Sales Manager, at 1-416-731-2755 or visit www.wrighttrafficcontrol.com.



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IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER





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A Path Forward



LIUNA has been working with Indigenous communities for almost two decades through our National Indigenous Affairs Department. LIUNA has a steadfast and continued commitment to advocating for our Indigenous members; supporting philanthropic partnerships; as well as engaging and partnering with Indigenous owned and managed companies. Our goal is to secure lucrative employment opportunities that will provide economic stability and growth for our Indigenous members and the communities they are part of.

Almost twenty years ago, LIUNA signed a Statement of Partnership with the Assembly of First Nations and over a decade ago, LIUNA signed a partnership with The First Nations Summit. These both confirm our mutual agreement on the importance of developing a sustainable approach to enhance Indigenous economic development and infrastructure, particularly in the areas of access to employment opportunities both within and outside of Indigenous communities and territories.

LIUNA remains committed to the support of UNDRIP across Western Canada along with the 94 Calls to Action. Specifically, we have taken affirmative action towards number 92, which is to ensure that; “Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector; and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects on their unceded territory.”

Through our association with the Pipeline Contractors Association of Canada (PLCAC) we continue to work closely with Union affiliates and contractors in the energy sector. This relationship has provided our Union a seat at the table to represent our members and to ensure that resource energy projects are constructed with hiring provisions ensuring equitable work opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, stringent workplace safety standards and mandatory skills training.

As Canada's renewable energy is transitioning, we know that it will take a concerted effort and we continue to support our signatory contractors such as Enbridge, as they progress towards a net-zero future. Although it will require a multi-faceted strategy, we know Enbridge and all of our energy contractors' commitment to Indigenous engagement and inclusion is the only way we can move forward to achieve our collective goals and ensure we continue on the path of reconciliation.

As a reconciliation initiative, LIUNA Western Canada published our first annual Indigenous magazine in 2023 to highlight and feature the actions of LIUNA, our Indigenous Liaison Department, our LIUNA Locals, LIUNA leadership, our Contractors, and the efforts we are collectively making towards reconciliation across Western Canada.

We invite you to scan the QR code below to read our publication and see all the inspiring stories and efforts that are being made across Western Canada.

LIUNA!



Scan the QR code to view “A Path Forward”

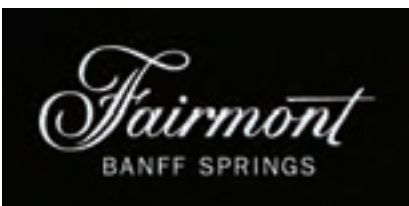
PLCAC - Board Member Departure



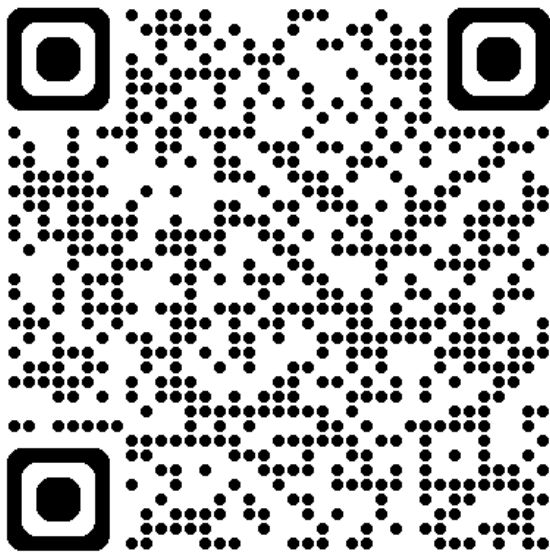
David Douglas, Manager, Canadian Pipeline Division, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (Canada) Ltd. has stepped down from PLCAC's Board of Directors effective May 16, 2024. David Douglas has been a vital part of the PLCAC team for 17 years, offering guidance and contributing significantly to the success of the PLCAC.

Mark Scherer, PLCAC President and Kevin O'Donnell, PLCAC Executive Director, along with the rest of the Board of Director members express deep appreciation and gratitude for David's dedication and leadership throughout his tenure at the PLCAC.

See You In Banff!



Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada (PLCAC)
71st Annual Convention
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel
Banff, Alberta
May 25 – 29, 2025



For more convention photos
please scan the Flickr QR code



Action Dates

2024

International Pipe Line & Offshore Contractors Association (IPLOCA)
56th Annual Convention
Sorrento, Italy
September 9 – 13, 2024
www.iploca.com

2025

Pipe Line Contractors Association (PLCA)
77th Annual Convention
JW Marriott Marco Island Beach Resort
Marco Island, Florida
February 5 – 9, 2025
www.plca.org

Distribution Contractors Association (DCA)

64th Annual Convention
The Fairmont Princess
Scottsdale, Arizona
February 24 – March 1, 2025
www.dcaweb.org

Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada (PLCAC)

71st Annual Convention
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel
Banff, Alberta
May 25 – 29, 2025

Canadian Pipeliner

The newsletter of the
Pipe Line Contractors
Association of Canada

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Please acknowledge the *Canadian Pipeliner*.

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