

Walk a mile in our boots

2018 hopefully marks a turnaround from the downturn that the Oil industry and seismic in general has experienced since 2014. The World Bank and the IMF both forecast modest rises in gas prices through to 2025 and oil prices may follow suit as, according to the OPEC Monthly Oil Market Report, world oil demand will increase by 1.3 million barrels per day in 2018, which is 0.1 mb/d more than the increase expected from non-OPEC oil supply, including US shale supply.

Any time demand exceeds supply usually signals that prices will also rise, notwithstanding political and other unforeseeable events.

The good news is that our industry and our Association has survived, it is definitely leaner and maybe a little meaner too. We are pleased we still have support for our Alberta Geophysical Seminar and our premier event, Seismic in Motion (SIM). Both will again be held in September.

The Annual Geophysical Seminar held in Red Deer will be on Sept 12th and 13th – a fully packed agenda including AER, E&P and ACO; presentations on the general state of the upstream Oil and Gas Industry in Canada; and featuring our Keynote Speaker Dave Yager. See our website www.cagc.ca for further information and the full agenda.

The Seismic in Motion (SIM) daily field trips will be held on September 25th & 26th.

Participants spend the day in the field observing the various phases and aspects of seismic exploration and have the opportunity to hear and see contractors performing seismic work, using the latest techniques & equipment, in a typical seismic setting located within an hour's bus ride, west of Calgary, AB

The Cost: \$300 (includes GST) per participant. Pick-up: Westin Hotel, downtown Calgary - 7:00 to 7:30 am. The day finishes at approximately 6:00 pm in the same spot. A hot lunch is provided. Good walking gear is required as there is some uphill and downhill walking required. The CAGC provides safety equipment, a safety coordinator and a tour guide for each group. This event fills up quickly so book spots early. It is open to Industry, Government and members of the public.

Once again for SIM we have teamed up with the CSEG Outreach Committee, CAPP and Energy Safety Canada (previously Enform) to host 150 students from the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) system. We have broadened this to include students from SAIT, NAIT, MRU and from U of C. This is an exciting partnership that produces an excellent opportunity for youth to see something of the Energy business and understand some of its intricacies. In addition we have hosted Industry folks, Oil Company staff, Regulators (AER), Interested Stakeholders, and the Media.

The reviews have continued through the years to be outstanding. For our efforts, we have seen the Partnership win the Mayor's Award for Excellence for Educational Partnerships and CBE's highest honour "The Lighthouse Award".

This year marks our fifteenth (15th) year. The event has been hosted in Alberta from 2004 through 2017 with the 2005 event held in BC. It features all aspects of seismic – from surveying to line cutting, drilling to recording, and features special demonstrations of seismic explosive shooting, mulching and observing a helicopter long line rescue operation. This event is put on by over a dozen geophysical contractors and is supported by the Oil Companies in a truly cooperative manner. Such an event takes a great deal of time, dedicated effort and resources to bring it all together.

Over the years we have produced videos of the event running about 15 minutes. One was fashioned after a Seismic 101, while another was set up to highlight our various occupations and training through Energy Safety Canada. Another was geared towards the youth attending the event, while another focused on our environmental practices. They are available on YouTube (connect via our website) and also offered free of charge through the CAGC in case you might have interest in previewing the event activities. We have distributed this product to the Industry, the Regulators and also to many Educational outlets. A number of our members have used this footage in their public stakeholder engagements.

The event is characterized as a day out in the field. Seismic has become increasingly linear with various aspects separated by time and distance. Gone are the days when the office staff and/or even the geophysicists manage to get out to the field to spend time observing operations.

Walk a mile in our boots. This opportunity presents itself as a benign version of seismic bringing all aspects to one location. In a safe and organized manner, individuals are able to spend the day on the ground viewing demonstrations, presentations and interacting with contractors who do the work and have the specialized field expertise. At the end of the day a valuable understanding of the operational and environmental challenges involved in seismic operations will have been experienced.

It is the type of field trip that holds interest for many personality types. The demonstrations are quick and move along seamlessly, ensuring to keep the participant's attention and interest. The flavour of the day is variety. Whether the individual's interest is piqued by hands on learning, by visual learning or by listening to presenters, this field trip has it all.

We limit the number of participants on each day for reasons of transportation and safety and it is generally fully subscribed, so if you have interest we encourage you to register early. Information and registration is available on our website – www.cagc.ca

Hope to see you out there.

"Before you judge a man, walk a mile in his boots. After that, who cares? ...He's a mile away and you've got his boots." Based loosely on a quote by Billy Connolly