Western Canadian Spill Services Ltd.

OIL SPILL COOPERATIVE

Member Newsletter

AUGUST 2018

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WCSS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

WCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following WCSS Board of Directors members were identified from May 31st, 2018 to on or about the same date, 2019:

Lois Garrett, Husky Energy (Chair)	CAPP
Mark Pickering, Pembina Pipeline Corp.	CAPP
Lorne Schmidt, Tidewater Corporation	Oil Spill Cooperatives
Michael Rakus, Cequence Energy	Independent
Jamie Kereliuk, Kinder Morgan	Pipelines
Greg Carter, Enbridge Inc.	Pipelines
Scott Dionne, WCSS President & COO	WCSS

WCSS EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE (ESC)

The ESC welcomed new committee member Stephen Michalsky (Bonavista Energy) to its Q2 meeting and strategic planning session on May 31st, 2018.

WCSS OIL SPILL COOPERATIVE VOLUNTEERS

WCSS' success can largely be attributed to the many volunteers over the years that have contributed their time and energy to ensure that their companies and the upstream petroleum industry maintain a high level of oil spill preparedness; current volunteer companies include:

1687833 Alberta Ltd
A & K Well Operators
Absolute Safety
Access Pipeline Inc
Alberta Energy Regulator
Baytex Energy Ltd
Big Lake Contracting Ltd
Bonavista Energy Corp
British Columbia Ministry of Environment
British Columbia Oil & Gas Commission
Cabot Energy Inc
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd
CanLin Energy Corporation
Cardinal Energy Ltd
Cenovus Energy Inc
Cequence Energy Ltd
Challand's Excavating
Clean Harbors
Crescent Point Energy Corp
Dejour Energy (Alberta) Ltd
Devon Canada Corp
Ember Resources Inc
Enbridge Pipelines Inc
Enerplus Corporation
Gibson Energy ULC
Hammerhead Resources
Husky Oil Operations Ltd
High Level Fire Department
Imperial Oil Resources Limited
Inter Pipeline Ltd
Journey Energy Inc
Karibu
Kinder Morgan Canada Inc
M & M Oilfield
MEG Energy Corp
NAL Resources Ltd
Newalta Corporation
Obsidian Energy Ltd
Paramount Resources Ltd
Pembina Pipeline Corp
Perpetual Energy Inc
Plains Midstream Canada ULC
Progress Energy Canada Ltd
Repsol Oil & Gas Canada Inc
Ridgeback Resources Inc
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
Serafina Energy Ltd
SemCAMS ULC
Slave Lake Fire Department
Slave Safety
Suncor Energy Inc
Tamarack Acquisition Corp
TAQA North Ltd
Tidewater Midstream & Infrastructure Ltd
Tervita Corporation
Torxen Resources Ltd

WCSS Western Canadian Spill Services Ltd.

OIL SPILL COOPERATIVE
MEMBER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

MESSAGE FROM AL MCFADYEN (former President & COO, retired)

My first involvement with the Western Canadian Oil Spill cooperatives came a full decade after its humble beginnings in 1972; hard to believe but that was 36 years ago.

What impressed me the most and was one of the main drivers for me to go the distance was the enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication of the literally hundreds of volunteers that were involved with the industry's spill preparedness program over the years. That combined with the challenges, advancements and pure joy of the initiative was the hook, line and sinker.

I have also been very fortunate that the small WCSS management team have demonstrated commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to provide excellent service to the WCSS membership and towards continuous improvement. We worked well together and although we are not family it sure feels like it.

I stand firm in my belief that the upstream petroleum industry in WCSS' jurisdictional area is a leader in oil spill preparedness and response; stay tuned for more good things to come.

Al McFadyen, enjoying retirement at its finest

The WCSS team would like to express our gratitude for Al's many years of solid leadership and genuine commitment to something much bigger than all of us.

It was often his steady encouragement to invest in doing one's best to leave a positive impact no matter what the task, that influenced the many individuals that have benefited from and brought incredible work ethic to WCSS. You will be missed Al, and we wish you all the happiness possible in your retirement.

WCSS Western Canadian Spill Services Ltd.

OIL SPILL COOPERATIVE
MEMBER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

NEW WHIRLING DISEASE DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURE FOR WCSS EQUIPMENT

Brown Trout with black, deformed tail.

Were you aware that Whirling Disease is becoming a big issue in Alberta? Whirling Disease is caused by a microscopic parasite that affects salmonid fish such as trout, salmon and whitefish. Young fish are most vulnerable, with mortality rates reaching up to 90%. Fish infected with whirling disease typically show signs such as a "whirling" swimming behavior (caused by physical deformities) or discoloration of the tail area due to nerve compression.

To date, Whirling disease has been detected in numerous waterbodies within 4 major watersheds in central and southern Alberta, including:

- Bow River
- North Saskatchewan River
- Oldman River
- Red Deer River

In order to stop the spread of the disease, it is important for boaters and other water users to understand the risk level of the waterbody they are in, and then to ensure that their equipment is properly decontaminated prior to moving it to other waterbodies. WCSS has proactively adopted Alberta Environment and Park's recommended decontamination procedures (https://www.alberta.ca/stop-whirling-disease.aspx) for our equipment – the level of decontamination required depends on the identified risk level of each waterbody:

1. **White Zone water bodies** – clean, drain and dry equipment prior to moving
2. **Yellow Zone water bodies** – clean, drain and dry equipment, followed by on-site disinfection with a commercial disinfectant (QUAT PLUS) prior to moving
3. **Red Zone water bodies** – clean, drain and dry equipment, followed by on-site disinfection with a commercial disinfectant (QUAT PLUS) prior to moving. The final steps involve hot water (at least 90°C) wash and a final QUAT PLUS disinfection at the equipment storage site.

WCSS equipment users will be expected to follow decontamination and documentation procedures. All Regional OSCARs, Initial Spill Response Units, Boats and Training Trailers will have copies of the decontamination supplies and procedures. WCSS is happy to help with questions or logistics around this new procedure.

2018 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

In May 2018, members of WCSS' Board of Directors, the Executive Sub-committee and WCSS management participated in a planning session to determine the organization's strategic priorities for 2018/19. While the session resulted in numerous potential areas of focus, the group determined that the following five initiatives would best serve WCSS' Mandate:

1. ***Education & Communication*** – Explore additional opportunities (e.g. webinars, lunch and learns, etc.) for communicating with our membership;
2. ***Funding/Grants for Field Improvement Program*** - Explore available funding opportunities for spill preparedness and response research & development to support WCSS' field improvement program;
3. ***Training Locations*** - Review alternate training locations for open registration courses to make them more accessible for members;
4. ***Mutual Aid Alignment*** - Explore synergies to align with existing emergency response/mutual aid organizations; and,
5. ***WCSS Jurisdictional Coverage*** - Ensure WCSS members operating in areas outside of our current jurisdictional boundaries are satisfied with current level of preparedness planning, training and equipment access.

We will be working diligently on these initiatives throughout the remainder of 2018 and will provide updates to our members accordingly. Please feel free to reach out to a WCSS representative if you would like more info on any of these initiatives, would like to assist, or perhaps know of resources to share with us.

EQUIPMENT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In an effort to maintain a consistent set of standards by which we manage the use of WCSS spill response equipment, we recently drafted a set of *Equipment Guiding Principles* to be referenced by both WCSS members and staff. The *Guiding Principles* can be found on our website under Equipment, and some of the more salient points are summarized below:

1. Commitment to WCSS Members

- WCSS will ensure that members have ready access to initial spill response equipment in their geographic area and that specialized equipment can be cascaded from regional locations as needed.
- In the event of an emergency, members can access up to 25% of WCSS specialized equipment at any given time.

- WCSS will strive to assist its members in acquiring additional equipment as required.
- WCSS will continue with a capital equipment purchases and will maintain an equipment reserve fund for emergencies.

2. *Access to Spill Response Equipment*

- Members do not pay for the use of WCSS equipment within current WCSS jurisdictional boundaries
- Members pay 1/3 the standard rental rate should they require equipment outside of the current jurisdiction.
- Member companies can utilize WCSS equipment for in-house training purposes upon approval of the equipment by WCSS management.

3. *Equipment Positioning*

- WCSS will ensure that equipment is positioned geographically such that member access is efficient and transportation time is minimized.

4. *Equipment Condition*

- Equipment maintenance and reliability is a high priority and WCSS will strive to ensure all equipment is in a ready state.
- Spill response equipment that has been contaminated with liquid hydrocarbon will not be put back into service until it has been cleaned and approved for use by WCSS management.

5. *Equipment Tracking and Reporting*

- WCSS will track equipment usage and post a live report on its website: WCSS Home Page

6. *Member Responsibility*

- Members will sign-off on the equipment use agreement prior to usage, or as quickly as possible in the event of an emergency. Note that WCSS will not withhold the deployment of equipment to its members in an emergency situation but will hold members accountable to the terms of the equipment use agreement.

- Members will utilize only WCSS-certified boat operators when WCSS boats are used.
- Members will repair or replace damaged equipment and re-stock consumables as soon as possible.

7. Non-member Equipment Usage

- Non-members may access equipment at the discretion of WCSS Management, following execution of the equipment use agreement.
- Full rental rates will apply for all use of equipment by non-members.
- Non-member use of equipment will not compromise member access to the equipment in the case of an emergency.

2018 FIELD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Our 2018 field improvement program is going to tackle a couple of key issues, where traditional spill response equipment and techniques may not be suitable. The first initiative will attempt to further our ability to detect and/or recover sunken/submerged oil through the use of a sea anchor lined with specialized (CEREX) filter material towed behind a boat.

Sea Anchor

Personal Watercraft with Tow Post

The second will test the towing ability and safe working capacity of a personal watercraft (e.g. Sea-Doo) to address the difficulty in responding to spills in watercourses where boat access may not be readily available (e.g. high steep banks, etc.).

EQUIPMENT UPDATE

New 16' Aqua-Dek Workboat

In order to maintain a capable fleet of modern work boats, WCSS is planning to purchase six new boats over the next 5 years. The first of these boats, a 16' Aqua-Dek workboat, is nearing completion and is scheduled for testing in the coming weeks.

Muskrat Boat Teflon Bottom

While conducting annual equipment testing of the Muskrat boats in Area C this spring, a significant piece of the Teflon bottom lining came off one of our Muskrat workboats (B01), likely due to over-winter freeze/thaw action of a stress crack. All repairs are complete, and the boat will be put back into service soon.

Vessel Debris Push

One of the issues noted during the response to the 2012 spill that affected Gleniffer Lake was the amount of natural debris in the lake. The debris not only had the potential to interfere with spill recovery equipment but also became a source of additional material that could become contaminated and, subsequently, would have to be managed. As a result, WCSS built the first Vessel Debris Pusher (VDP), which mounts to the front of a workboat (specifically, boat B28 has been modified to mount the VDP) and allows the boat to effectively move debris out of the impacted area. Now that we've fabricated and tested a quick release safety mechanism, the VDP is complete and ready to go!

New Airboat Trailer

We have taken delivery of the first new trailer for our airboats. This is the first of three planned to replace all the current airboat trailers. The hydraulic tilting deck, heavier axles, bigger wheels and heavy-duty winch enable the airboats to be easily and safely loaded and unloaded, something that was a challenge with the old trailers.

New Training Trailer

Acheson's newest 24' training trailer is now complete and has been used several times already. Here it is complete and decaled with our deployment banners for quick reference – very helpful at exercises!

WCSS RECOGNITION SERIES

Name: Lorne Schmidt
Companies Represented: Chevron, Enerplus, Tidewater Midstream
Number of Years Volunteer Service: 32
Positions Held: Alternate Chairman, Chairman, Boat Operator, ESC Member, Coop Provincial Chairman
Areas Represented: G, S, now all coops as the Provincial Chair
Reason for Volunteering: Originally was voluntold (looks like we grew on you, Lorne!)

Name: Marvin St Louis
Companies Represented: Home Oil Company, Anderson Exploration Ltd, Fairborne Energy Ltd, apache Canada, Ember Resources
Number of Years Volunteer Service: 23
Positions Held: Initial Spill Response Team member, Equipment Coordinator, Steering Committee Member, Alternate Chairman, Chairman, Executive Sub Committee Member (Zone 2 Rep)
Areas Represented: N & K
Reason for Volunteering: There are such great teams in Edmonton and Calgary to work with!

SPILL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Each year WCSS sponsors participation of our volunteers at oil spill conferences to expand awareness and identify potential areas of improvement. Conference attendees prepare and deliver overview presentations to be discussed at the Annual Chairmen's Meeting; while many of the features of the conferences echo the familiarity around oil spill preparedness and response that already exists within industry, WCSS sees these as an opportunity to ensure that we are keeping our member companies ahead of the curve in terms of preparedness and response support.

- Clean Waterways in St Louis, MO (April 4 – 5)
- Clean Pacific in Portland, OR (June 19 – 21)
- AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response in Victoria BC (October 2 – 4)
- Clean Gulf in New Orleans, LA (November 13 – 15)

This year WCSS was invited to present an overview of our preparedness and numerous field improvement initiatives at the 6th ECRC~SIMEC (Eastern Canada Response Corp.) Oil Spill Conference in June. In total, 73 industry leaders attended the 2-day conference, including 12 presenters which offered a dynamic agenda complemented by a static equipment display and several poster presentations. In addition to WCSS, 28 organizations from Canada and USA were represented.

After lunch on the second day of the conference, attendees were taken to the shore of the St Clair River to view a collection and recovery strategy, Shoreline Treatment Site and Tour of the 48ft Recovery Trailer.

ECRC owns specialized equipment and maintains contracts with spill response contractors, consultants and specialists in the six Response Centres. ECRC has also established mutual aid agreements with the three other Response Organizations in Canada: one in British Columbia on the west coast and two in the Maritime Provinces on the east coast of Canada.

WCSS is excited to exchange ideas with ECRC~SIMEC and looks forward to building a positive relationship in the years to come.

POLICY – BOAT HANDLING RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Are you aware that you can recertify your boat operators outside our current open registration courses? This policy was developed to simplify scheduling for our member companies. We welcome your feedback on this initiative and encourage our members to ensure that all boat handlers listed as part of your response resources are up to date.

June 1, 2016

The following criteria must be met in order for this course to be considered equivalent to the 1-day course presently offered by WCSS.

NOTE: This equivalent course assumes that the company taking the course will provide their own boats and equipment. WCSS will charge $100 for each student to cover the cost of reviewing the checklist, issuing a certificate, student tracking and program auditing.

If the WCSS member company wishes to use WCSS equipment, they must be a member in good standing and complete an Equipment Lease Agreement. There may be additional charges for WCSS to inspect the equipment, conduct an inventory and for any repairs or replacement required.

1. Only WCSS certified boat instructors can act as instructors. As of June 1st 2016, the following individuals are WCSS certified instructors:

    a. Ian Tarr: ITE Consulting Inc.
    b. Lee Tarr: ITE Consulting Inc.
    c. Trever Miller: SWAT Consulting Inc.
    d. Kale Haupt: Proactive Environmental Rentals Inc.
    e. Doug Gibson: Western Canadian Spill Services Ltd.
    f. Mike Locke: OMT Training & Consulting
    g. Ken Bolan: Eagle Safety Training & Consulting Inc.
    h. Todd Whitby: Big Lake Contracting Ltd.

2. Students must provide proof that they have successfully completed the WCSS boat handling course as well as MEDA3 (or MEDA4) and the Transport Canada Pleasure Craft Operators Certificate.

3. The maximum student : instructor ratio will be 4 : 1 and there must be a minimum of 6 students and 2 boats.

4. There must be a minimum of 3 students in each boat in order to safely conduct all mandatory activities.

5. A safety plan must be developed to allow work boats to act as safety boats for each other, or there must be a designated safety boat with at least 2 personnel on board.

6. The boat recertification checklist must be completed and signed off by one of the instructors as well as the student.

7. There should be at least the following equipment available for the training:

    a. 400ft of boom for towing, attaching boom to existing boom strings, and working with handlines.
    b. 2 handline bridles to practice ferrying to shore.
    c. Adequate length and strength of ropes with lanyard hooks on both ends.
    d. Anchors, chain, and marker buoys
    e. Bridge pier bridles (if a bridge pier is available for training purposes).

8. Instructors must initially be in the boats with the students until all students have demonstrated sufficient competency to operate safely.

9. The student must attain the minimum mark identified on the checklist. Contact information for unsuccessful students must be provided to WCSS as soon as possible upon completion of the course.

10. All of the documents in the Boat Handling Recertification handout must be reviewed by the instructors prior to the on water portion of the course:

    a. Boat Crew passenger briefing
    b. Boat handling policy
    c. Water safety guidelines
    d. Equipment service checklist
    e. Boat trip plan

11. The recertification must take place on a river.

12. Instructors will provide WCSS with documentation linked to the course outline and time spent linked to the recertification.

13. WCSS will approve all documentation prior to the issuance of a certificate.

WCSS maintains the right to audit the course at any time.

TRAINING COMPLETED TO DATE

8 Coop Exercises
- 3 Oil Spill Containment & Recovery in a Water Body with an Ice Sheet
- 2 Awareness
- 3 Small Water Deployments

11 Open Registration
- Spill Responder 300
- Air Boat Training (2)
- Boat Handling Recertification (2)
- Marine Emergency Duties (MED) A3
- Boat Handling (2)
- Spill Responder 200 (2)
- Spill Responder 400

7 Contract
- Dryland Workshop
- Winter Response
- Marine Emergency Duties (MED) A3
- Oil Spill Containment & Recovery in Small and Large Water Bodies (2)
- Culvert Spill Response Awareness
- Boat Handling Recertification

We still have many training opportunities available; please refer to the schedule below to see what remains for 2018:

COOP Exercise 2018 Schedule		
Zone 1	**Type of Exercise**	**Date**
Q	Small Water Deployment	September 26
S	Small Water Deployment	August 22
Zone 2	**Type of Exercise**	**Date**
O	Lake Deployment	September 26
Zone 4	**Type of Exercise**	**Date**
D	Small Water Deployment	September 19
W	Small Water Deployment	September 11
Zone 5	**Type of Exercise**	**Date**
VR-1	Small Water Deployment	September 12
Y	Large River Deployment	August 22
Zone 6	**Type of Exercise**	**Date**
C (FSJ)	Small Water Deployment	September 19
E (Fox Creek)	Awareness	October 16
T	Awareness	October 23

WCSS Open Registration Courses 2018	
Course Name	**Date(s)**
Spill Responder 100	October 2
Spill Responder 500	October 3 – 4

Online Registration for Coop Exercises is always open: Coop Exercise Schedule.

Please contact Shannon Jarrell at (587)393-9622 / shannon.jarrell@wcss.ab.ca for information regarding customized in-house contract training.

WCSS MEMBER SURVEY

We would like to invite all WCSS member companies to participate in a survey developed to help us assess awareness levels of spill preparedness and WCSS in general. This will help to identify any areas where we can improve our services for our members. It takes approximately 3 minutes to complete, and your responses are very much appreciated.

WCSS Member Survey

Alternatively, if there is something on your mind and you'd like to let us know how we're doing, we'd love to hear from you! Please send any comments, questions, critiques or compliments to info@wcss.ab.ca.