

# THE GROUNDBIRCH GAZETTE



SHELL'S NEWSLETTER FOR NORTHEAST B.C.

ISSUE 16 WINTER 2019

## VP UPDATE

INTRODUCING KIM CODE



This past summer I embarked on a new journey in the role of VP for our Canadian Unconventionals business leading our operations in Alberta and B.C. Taking the reins from Rej Tetrault on the Groundbirch side has been an interesting and exciting transition!

Over the past few months I've been able to learn a lot about Groundbirch by connecting with new colleagues and spending time in the field. After visiting the area for the first time in the summer, my first impression was a sense of awe over the immense size and scale of our operations and the incredibly beautiful area surrounding it all - I was lucky enough to be there when the canola fields were in bloom! I have since come to view the Groundbirch team as having an incredibly

strong safety culture with impressive talent and capability. Our business in northeast B.C. is a phenomenal growth opportunity for Shell that underpins our LNG Canada joint venture project. And it is an operation that has longevity. I intend to focus my time and energy on further developing our upstream operations as a world class business through collaboration and innovation. I'm excited for what the future has in store.



## KEEPING THE FIGHT IN FLIGHT

**When life hangs in the balance, having the most reliable air ambulances available can mean the difference between life and death. While the current STARS BK117 helicopters have long been a part of their fight for life, they are reaching the end of their lifespan. STARS' ambitious Keep the Fight in Flight campaign aims to replace the aging helicopters to ensure critical care across western Canada.**

"Shell is stepping up to support the communities where we live and work," says Michael Crothers, Shell Canada President. "Shell has made an anchor donation of \$500,000 to STARS to replace helicopters and serve the region of Fox Creek and

Grande Prairie in Alberta through to Fort St. John in B.C."

Cory Hagen works in the Gold Creek area just south of Grande Prairie, AB as a Shell field supervisor. Much like our Groundbirch staff, a large part of the workday for Hagen and his operations teams involves travelling between well sites and field facilities. They are no strangers to the potential hazards of remote working, including road exposure, wildlife encounters and inclement weather.

"In western Canada, both Shell staff and local community members regularly drive longer distances on remote roads in variable weather conditions," says Hagen. "Access to critical health care with this airlift medical service can

make an incredible difference in the event of an emergency. I'm proud to work for a company that puts safety first and supports STARS."

Shell's social investment support for the Keep the Fight in Flight campaign will assist the purchase of nine new aircraft for STARS Air Ambulance. It will help STARS remain on the cutting-edge of emergency medical care.

Shell has supported STARS since its creation with just over \$1 million in donations.

STARS offers hands-on training to rural medical practitioners and provides rapid emergency medical transportation for the critically ill and injured from bases in Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Regina, Saskatoon and Winnipeg.



## OPERATIONS UPDATE

SHAWN BAXTER, OPERATIONS MANAGER



I'm now closing in on just over half a year living in beautiful Fort St. John. My wife and I, along with our now 10-month old baby, Emma, are really enjoying the North and getting to know the community. We've been thrilled to learn about and utilize the community support groups and activities for new families.

My team and I enjoyed participating in many events this year including the annual United Way golf tournament and our local Fort St. John Pride Parade. It has been incredible to learn how closely knit and supportive this wonderful community is.

Our operations this year have been focused on our core business of keeping the gas flowing in light of a very tough external environment.

Our main job each and every day is safe production, which means both personal safety and process safety. While doing this we have been able to continuously maintain high plant and well availability, with a steady eye to market conditions.

I'd like to take the opportunity to share LNG Canada (LNGC) updates with you here. In the past year alone, LNGC launched Your Place; an attraction, recruitment, training and employment program designed to encourage more women to enter the construction trades and work on the LNGC project; sponsored the Outland Youth Employment Program; announced a contribution of \$750,000 towards the building and development of Kitimat's first dementia home and care aid training program; sponsored the OceanWise Aquavan bringing ecosystem education to kids in northwest B.C.; provided scholarships for high school graduates; and much more.

Looking ahead, we are planning for another great year in 2020. Next year, the Shell Groundbirch team will be focused on developing our people, safe production, and looking at ways to continuously improve our business.

Stay warm and safe this winter.

## MOOSE HIDE CAMPAIGN

### STANDING UP AGAINST VIOLENCE

Our Groundbirch External Relations Advisor, Mindy Henry had the honour to attend the 2019 Moose Hide Campaign Day in Victoria this year.

It is an incredible event that creates space for men and boys to stand up and speak out against violence towards women and children. Mindy worked with the City to create the inaugural Moose Hide Campaign Day in Fort St. John. You can find out more about the Moose Hide campaign by going to [www.mooshidecampaign.ca](http://www.mooshidecampaign.ca).



## ANNOUNCING THE 2019 SHELL COMMUNITY GRANTS RECIPIENTS

Through our social investment initiative called the Community Grants Program, Shell Canada has contributed \$60,000 among 13 local organizations this year.

The annual program uniquely puts the decision-making in the hands of our community, giving a panel of local representatives the opportunity to decide which organizations and projects receive the Grants funding.

Over the past 10 years, Shell has invested over \$5 million in NEBC through social investment activities. The Community Grants Program provides an opportunity for organizations that may not meet the qualifying criteria for traditional social investment funding, for example, due to geographic location or program structure.

The successful 2019 projects included:

- Alwin Holland PAC  
Playground Equipment
- B.C. Peace Country River Rats  
Peace Island Park Inclusive Playground
- Charlie Lake School PAC  
Kitchen Renovations
- Chetwynd Child Care Society  
Little Lights Playground Initiative
- D.A.R.E 2019 and 2020 Programs
- Dawson Creek Literacy Society  
Adult Literacy Program
- Dawson Creek Municipal Public Library  
Summer Reading Club
- Dawson Creek Wildcats Basketball Club  
Capacity Improvement Project



- Dawson Creek Youth Centre Society  
Outdoor Basketball Improvements
- Ecole Central PAC  
Basketball Project
- Little Prairie Elementary School PAC  
High Jump and Gym Equipment
- Networks Ministries  
We Need More Space Campaign
- Vertical Slam Ultimate Challenge Society  
School Lunch Programs

Shell strives to be a good neighbour, and social investment is one way we can help support the well-being and sustainability of our local communities. Our Community Grants Program and selection process helps highlight the initiatives and areas of need that are most important to NEBC.

## FORT ST. JOHN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

The Fort St. John Association for Community Living (ACL) celebrated another successful wine tasting fundraiser at Off the Vine on Saturday, October 19.

The final numbers from the Gala are still being tallied, but the ACL did pop the cork and celebrate a \$10,000 donation from Shell Groundbirch as part of the evening.

The funds will help the ACL buy a wheelchair accessible minivan and a pickup truck for its programs sooner than anticipated.

"The current minivan is aging and is in need of replacement and a truck will enable individuals to acquire job readiness skills through small delivery, landscaping and recycling contracts," says Executive Director Renée LaBoucane.

"The \$10,000 is significant and will help us to ensure our clients have accessible transportation which enables them to actively participate in our community."

The ACL started in 1960 to provide services to adults with developmental disabilities. The organization applied for the funding through Shell's social investment program.



"As part of our commitment to be a good neighbour and partner in the areas we live and operate, Shell found a great opportunity to connect the Fort St. John ACL with our social investment program," says Mindy Henry, External Relations Advisor. "We understand that building a diverse and inclusive environment only adds to the social well-being and richness of a community."



## WATER TREATMENT

There are times during field development, when there is an increased need to dispose of excess water volumes responsibly.

As part of our long-term water strategy we believe NEBC region has limited disposal capacity. Over the past few years, Shell has been evaluating an opportunity to return treated produced water back to the hydrologic cycle while still managing our produced water volumes to enable recycling for our operations.

We are continuing discussion with Government, Indigenous communities stakeholders and the

Oil and Gas Commission to progress permitting of this project.

Long-term, this project will treat produced water to a quality that is acceptable and safe for discharge into a surface water body in B.C. and is still subject to stakeholder engagement, regulatory approvals and a final investment decision.

As part of our stakeholder engagement, we will be hosting a series of open house events dedicated to water treatment. The invitation is open, and we hope to see you there for more information and to raise important questions. Open Houses will be scheduled for 2020.

## ON THE RADAR

Traffic is slowing down around the children that attend Ma Murray School in Fort St. John thanks to a new radar-triggered speed sign.

Installed this past May, the sign will improve the road safety for kids and community members crossing nearby.

"Keeping our kids safe is of utmost importance for our school; thank you Shell in supporting this," says Christine Kraleman, Principal.

**"WE WORK HARD TO KEEP OUR STAFF SAFE SO THEY CAN GO HOME TO THEIR LOVED ONES AT THE END OF EACH DAY AND IT ONLY MAKES SENSE WE'D LOOK TO DO THE SAME IN OUR COMMUNITY."**

School zones can sometimes be difficult to see and unfamiliar to visitors or those passing through the city.

"We work hard to keep our staff safe so they can go home to their loved ones at the end of each day and it only makes sense we'd look to do the same in our community," says Jason Stockall, HSE Manager.

"Hopefully this sign will help draw attention to the reduced speed limit in the area and keep our young ones safe on their way to and from school."

Speed reductions to 30 km per hour in Fort St. John school zones are enforced between 8am and 5pm on school days.





## FUELLING KINDNESS IN THE COMMUNITY



Shell believes in giving back to the communities where we live and work – with kindness. These small acts can have big impacts on our health, relationships and society. Kindness is contagious, and Fuelling Kindness aims to spread positivity to build a healthier and happier Canada.

**Read how Shell Groundbirch staff have been Fuelling Kindness near you.**



### BACK 2 SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

In early September the Groundbirch Women's Network held a backpack drive for NENAN, a group focused on strengthening healthy Indigenous families. Fifty backpacks were filled with school supplies and snacks for local families.



### IPADS FOR MCLEOD SCHOOL

This year we handed out 18 iPads to teachers at the McLeod School to enhance the classroom learning environment.

### CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE

This holiday season the Groundbirch Women's Network is supporting our Peace Region communities of Fort St. John, Chetwynd and Dawson Creek with a hamper drive to collect food, toys and personal items for families in need.

We are partnering with the Fort St. John Women's Resource Society, the Bethel Outreach in Dawson Creek and Tansi Friendship Centre in Chetwynd. We are hoping to gather items throughout the next few weeks and deliver in early December.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Using local plant species, we work to reclaim land back to its original use whether that is pastureland or natural woodland. Part of the process involves interim reclamation which replaces some of the land around a wellpad during the years it's producing. This reduces surface land disturbance and minimizes soil erosion until final reclamation can be completed.



**148 ACRES** RE-VEGETATED WITH NATIVE PLANTS SINCE **2014**



### THE GROUNDHIRCH GAZETTE – SHELL'S NEWSLETTER FOR NORTHEAST B.C.

THE GROUNDHIRCH GAZETTE IS A BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER FEATURING SHELL STORIES FROM THE GROUNDHIRCH AREA. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND/OR IDEAS FOR STORIES, PLEASE CONTACT US AT **1-888-384-6465**