

ARCHIVES

Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

February 2020; Volume XXXI, Number 2



P.H.S. Luncheon – Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Indigenous Participation – Or Not – In the Petroleum Industry

by John Snow, First Nations Leader and Educator

Some of Canada's First Nations have been involved in petroleum exploration and production in one way or another for many years. Although surface issues were handled directly by them, the Federal Government granted and administered subsurface rights on their behalf up until only a few decades ago. More recently many First Nations have become more proactive in such negotiations. Avenues for involvement have also been a common element of land claims settlements and cover aspects like employment, contracting, regulation and revenue sharing. Most recently, efforts have been made to involve First Nations in the direct ownership of major projects, potentially including pipelines like TransMountain. The wisdom in such a step has been debated. John will provide an historical retrospective and will address these issues.

Please see page 4 for John's bio.

Time:	12 noon, Wednesday, February 26, 2020
Place:	Calgary Petroleum Club 319 - 5 Avenue SW, Calgary; Cadium Room (but check marquee).
Cost:	P.H.S. Members and Student Members \$35 and Guests \$40 (most welcome). Only cash or cheque at the door. Payment can be made in advance by credit card or by e-mail. Please advise payment method with reply.
Lunch:	Soup, sandwiches and cookies. Gluten-free? Vegan? Advise with reply.

NOTE: Instructions for registering for the Luncheon:

Reply, if you wish to attend, to: Micky Gulless at 403-283-9268 or
micky@petroleumhistory.ca by noon, Monday, February 24, if not sooner.

Those who register but do not come, or cancel after the deadline, will be invoiced.

Those who do not register by the deadline may not get a seat.

The Bull Wheel



Call for contributions and speakers: The Petroleum History Society values your input. If you have an article that you'd like to see in *Archives* or if you have a talk that you'd like to give, please get a hold of us. Contact President Clint Tippet at the address indicated on page 3.

Annual Meeting Presentation: This meeting will occur on March 25. We have been fortunate enough to have arranged for our speaker to be Dr. Sabrina Peric, Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Archeology at the University of Calgary. Sabrina has been conducting research on Dr. Ted Link, one of the giants of Canadian petroleum history. Link is credited with the discovery of the Norman Wells Field in the Northwest Territories in 1920 (so this will mark its centennial) and was Imperial Oil's Chief Geologist when Leduc was discovered in 1947. Between those dates, Link was very active in trying to pull together the geological history of Western Canada, for example trying to figure out how the structure creating the Turner Valley Field evolved. This promises to be an excellent talk!

Election: The election of the P.H.S. Executive and Board takes place at our Annual Meeting. This year it will be held, as mentioned above, on March 25 at the Petroleum Club. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, please let us know.

P.H.S. Awards: We have initiated the process of selecting our 2019 winners with the ceremony to be held in conjunction with our Annual Meeting on March 25. The categories are Book of the Year, Article of the Year, Multimedia, Preservation and Lifetime Achievement. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. The awards committee consists of P.H.S. Directors Doug Cass and Ian Kirkland together with President Clint Tippet.

Passing: WELLS, Gordon Clare. Born January 29, 1927 in Wetaskiwin, Alberta and passed away February 2, 2020. Gordon moved to Calgary with his family during his first years. He always considered himself a Calgarian. He grew up in Sunnyside, graduated from Crescent Heights High School and obtained an Honours Degree in Geology from the University of Alberta. Gord worked for thirty-eight years in Imperial Oil's exploration department, mostly in Calgary, but also in Peace River, Edmonton, Regina, Toronto and Bogota, Colombia before he retired in 1986. Gord met his wife, Helen, while on an assignment in Toronto in 1951 and they were married in 1952. Gord was an avid sportsman and loved curling and golfing. He skipped his various rinks to many curling championships, including at the University of Alberta, Glencoe Club, Alberta Oilmen's Bonspiels and Ontario Petroleum Bonspiels as well as skipping his rink to a coveted Canadian Curling Association recognized "8 Ender" on January 4, 2000. Gord was a member of the Canyon Meadows Golf Club for many years. Gord and Helen travelled

extensively, particularly after Gordon's retirement. Gord and Helen were avid hikers and hiked the Chilkoot Trail, West Coast Trail, Mount Snowdon, Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Kenya as well as extensively in the Rocky Mountains. There was also their epic canoe trip down the Nahanni River, N.W.T. Gord enjoyed spending time at his cabin on Lake Edith, Jasper with his family and friends and a game of golf at the Jasper Park Lodge Golf Course. He was also a member of the Opimian Society for many years enjoying wine excursions to many wine producing locations in Portugal, Spain, Italy, France, Chile and Argentina. *Gordon was a P.H.S. Member for many years and frequently attended our luncheons.*

Witness Protection Program: You have all heard about Encana's latest moves – a change of name (to Orintiv – sounds like a drink your mother would give you) and a move to a new city (Denver). Almost like they are hiding in shame for leaving Canada. Many people have expressed remorse that this "first of" Canadian company from back in the 1880's would have done such a thing but what are the facts? In reality, Encana spun off its vast freehold land holdings into still-Calgary-based Prairie Sky Royalty Ltd. a number of years ago. These are the real legacy of the Canadian Pacific railroad building era.

Integrated Circuits – a foundation of today's civilization: P.H.S. Director Penny Colton has been investigating this interesting aspect of geophysical innovation. It seems that Geophysical Services Inc. founded Texas Instruments where transistors and microchips were first brought into production. These are critical components of transistor radios, integrated circuits, cell phones and computers – all of which are essential in the petroleum industry. Cecil Howard Green, a founder of both G.S.I. and T.I., grew up in British Columbia and graduated from U.B.C. Jack Kilby won the 2000 Nobel Prize in Physics for the invention of the integrated circuit/microchip while he was at T.I. in 1958 (better late than never I guess). An interesting overview is available at <https://www.pbs.org/video/the-chip-that-jack-built-t401cq/> Please contact Penny for details.

Books of Note: I received from John Lake of Saskatchewan a set of 5 booklets related to the early days of the petroleum industry in the eastern United States, specifically "*Echoes from the Oil Country – W. Osborne's Experiences repairing machinery in western Pennsylvania in the late 1800's*". These were reprinted from the columns "*American Machinist Memories*" in "*American Machinist Magazine*", Lindsay Publications Inc.

Editorial Comment: Please note that unless otherwise indicated, all contents of this newsletter have been created or assembled by P.H.S. President and *Archives* Editor Clinton Tippet.

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Speaker Biography for February 26, 2020 – John Snow

John Snow is the eldest son of the late Alva and Reverend Dr. Chief John Snow and a member of the Stoney Tribe in Morley, Alberta. He has retained his spirituality and is a pipe holder and follows his cultural practices and traditional ceremonies: he is a Nakoda traditional grass dancer, drummer and singer. He is also an accomplished Ballroom and Country Dance Champion, he has Six World titles and Two National Championships.

John is a residential day school survivor. He was educated in Canada, United States and England. He completed his B.Sc. at Arizona State University in 1986 and completed his Petroleum Mineral Land Management Program in 1988. Shortly thereafter he joined Shell Canada Ltd. While at Shell, John completed his Master of Political Science Degree in Public Policy, Law and Administration at the University of Calgary in 1996. He is currently working on his Master of Divinity (M.Div., 2021) at U.B.C.'s Vancouver School of Theology.

John has an extensive background in Indigenous resource development. As a member of the Stoney Tribe, John is a royalty owner in Jumping Pound Unit, Jumping Pound West #1, Jumping Pound West #2 and the Wildcat Hills Unit. Over the years he has been sharing his expertise in hearings, committees and commissions for Indigenous issues, acting as a global resource and equity advisor on reconciliation issues and business concerns to clients and industries, as well as the Provincial and Federal Governments.

- John received the 2008-2009 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (I.N.A.C.) Deputy Ministers' Pride and Recognition Award for Interdepartmental Collaboration Working Relationships, in recognition of his important contribution as a member of the Amendments to the Indian Oil and Gas Act Bill Team for Legislative Changes to the Indian Oil and Gas Act.
- In 2016-18, John was instrumental in setting up the N.E.B./N.R.Can. Indigenous Advisory Monitoring Committee (I.A.M.C.) for Enbridge Line 3 which contributed to the smooth and successful completion of L3RP.
- John was part of the Innotech Alberta team which received an honourable mention in the category of Indigenous Excellence at the Global Petroleum Show in 2019.

John is well versed in Indigenous history and consults, teaches and lectures on a wide scope of Indigenous issues. He has been giving ecumenical and denominational organization guidance on reconciliation – through Treaties, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and implementing articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He is a Governor Emeritus of the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity and a guest lecturer in the prestigious Indigenous Leadership program. He is also a guest lecturer at the University of Calgary and Brandon University as well as a consultant to Olds College.

John believes in sharpening the saw - he is both a student and adjunct instructor at S.A.I.T.'s Indigenous Pipeline Monitoring program. He is an instructor for Indigenous Visions and Eco Canada's Indigenous Environmental Monitoring Program and is completing their Building Environmental Aboriginal Human Resources (B.E.A.H.R.) certification. He is a negotiating mineral specialist and holds memberships in C.A.P.L. and C.A.P.L.A.

NATTALIA LEA – JANUARY 29, 2020 PRESENTATION



Nattalia Lea (R) and P.H.S. Member Alice Payne (L) with a copy of Nattalia's book "Lady with the Iron Ring", the subject of Nattalia's talk. Photos courtesy of P.H.S. Director Penny Colton.



Some of the members in attendance including (L-R) Alice, Lynn Woolston, Wayne Dwyer and Gerry Maier with Nattalia. Undoubtedly listening with rapt attention to President Tippet.

For any of our readers who didn't have a chance to attend this talk or would like to pick up a few extra copies of Nattalia's book, she will be holding book signings in Calgary as follows:

Saturday, February 29, 2020
Friday, March 6, 2020
Saturday, March 14, 2020

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Chapters in Shawnessy
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Indigo in TD Square
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Indigo South Trail

PAR FOR THE COURSE



This undated golf course picture includes a number of legendary Canadian petroleum industry veterans. It was probably taken at one of the annual Oilman's Tournaments.

Golf was and is a central pursuit of many industry players with such gatherings being important in establishing networks and in cementing personal and business relationships.

Many of these folks are in the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame to which you are referred. Interviews with some of them are part of the P.H.S. Petroleum Industry Oral History Project.

The picture itself was provided to us from the home of Eddie Laborde's widow via P.H.S. Member Tom Field (thanks!).

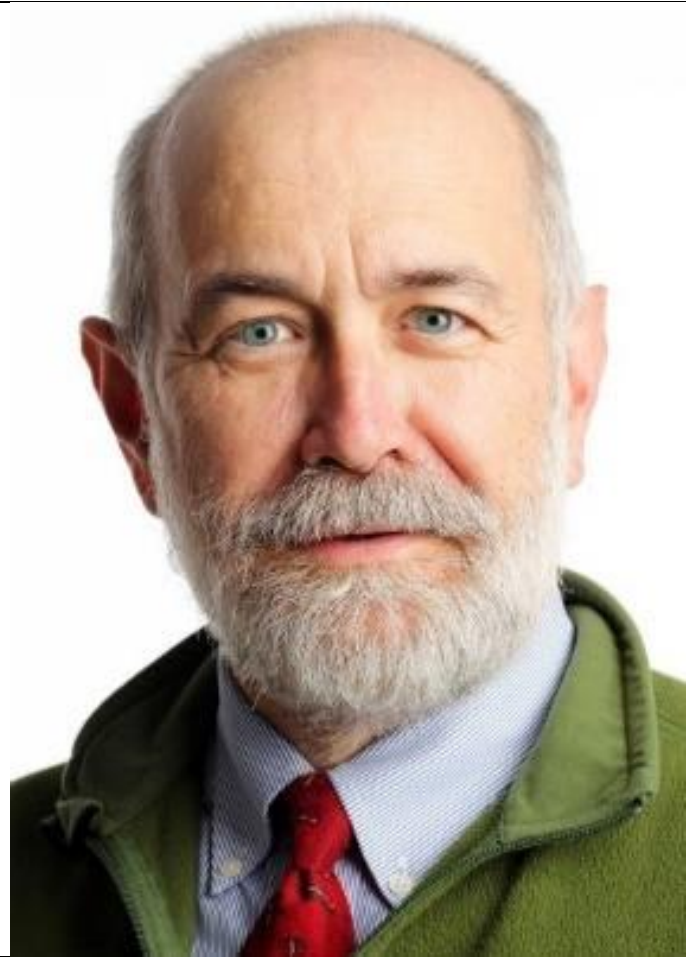
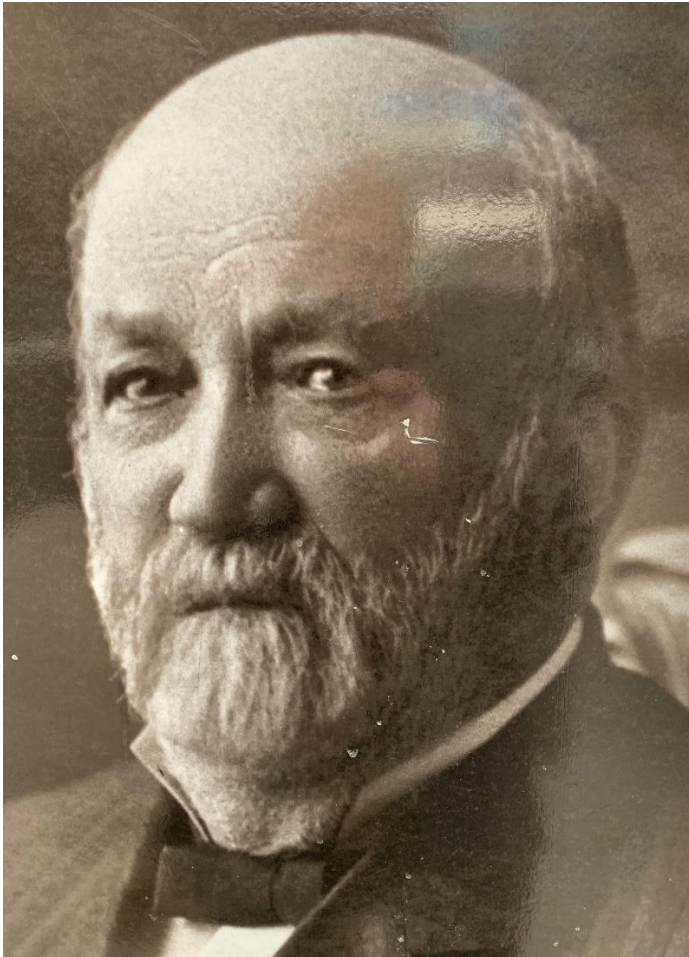
Caption:

Back Row (L-R): Dave Chalmers, Doug Baldwin, Bob Welty, Art Dumont, Bob MacLeod, Scotty Cameron, Roy Gillespie, Pat Shouldice, Al Schreiner, Tommy Hewitt, Clem Dumett and Bob Laidlaw.

Middle Row (L-R): Jack Williams, Joe Guyer, Don Barkwell, Art Smith, Dennis Flanagan, Ed Galvin, Bill Mooney, Rogers Lehew, Smiley Raborn and Barry Stewart.

Front Row (L-R): Eddie Laborde and George Dunlap.

REINCARNATION?



On the left is Peter Anthony Prince, born June 29, 1836 in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec and passed away January 13, 1925 in Calgary Alberta. In 1886 Prince moved to Calgary and built the Eau Claire Lumber Company, serving as its General Manager until 1916. During this time Calgary became the lumber capital of western Canada and Peter Prince was known as a lumber baron. Prince deepened a channel in the Bow River in order to float logs directly into the sawmill that he was building and in the process created a small island in the river. In 1947 this 20 ha parcel was donated by his family to the City of Calgary and is now the popular Prince's Island Park.

On the right is well-known author, historian and P.H.S. Director David Finch. David was born in Cuba in an as yet undisclosed year and has thrived in Calgary since the 1970's. His passion, other than family, research and writing, is canoeing and he takes every opportunity to launch a buoyant vessel into any body of water that he can find, even in the middle of winter.

Through this correlation in the Prince-Finch world of rivers, we have deduced that these two gentlemen are indeed related through reincarnation. The logical conclusion is that David was born in 1925 and is now 95 years old. Congratulations! This provides some insight into David's interest in history and his vast knowledge of the early days of Turner Valley.

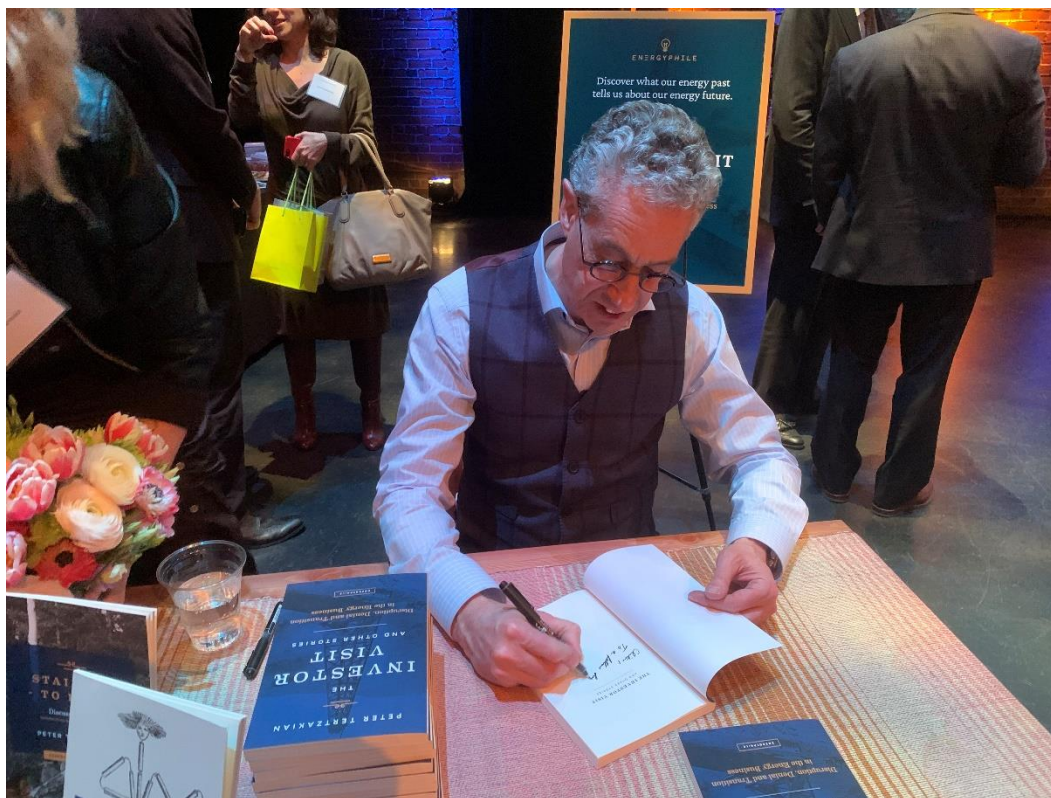
EAU CLAIRE AREA, DOWNTOWN CALGARY – 40 YEARS AGO



This picture of downtown Calgary helps to illustrate the profound effect that the petroleum industry has had on this city. The year is 1980. The vantage point is from the Calgary Inn (now the Westin Hotel) looking northwest. 3rd Avenue SW is in the left foreground with its intersection with 4th Street SW in the lower left corner. The SE corner of the Shell Centre, built in 1978, is visible in the extreme lower left corner. The parking lot in the immediate foreground eventually became the site of the Canterra Towers. The lot encompassed by the green fence with one giant tree standing was being used as the layout and stone cutting yard for the Bank of Montreal Tower then being constructed by Olympia and York on 7th Avenue SW. That lot remained as parking area until the relatively recent construction of the Centennial Place, now home to the Alberta Energy Regulator and many companies. In the far upper left corner is where Shell Court was built in the 1990's. It became Shaw Court after a pulse of Shell Canada downsizing. The heavily treed far western end of Prince's Island Park is visible in the middle distance.

These photos are courtesy of Elizabeth LaBorde, Eddie's widow. They were sent to us by P.H.S. Member Tom Field (thanks again). Annotation of the photos indicate that Eddie LaBorde was involved in the group that originally pulled the Eau Claire development together.

ENERGYPHILE



ARC Financial strategist, author and P.H.S. Member Peter Tertzakian autographs a copy of his new book entitled “*The Investor Visit and other Stories – Disruption, Denial and Transition in the Energy Business*” at his book launch held at the Grand Theatre in Calgary on February 5, 2020.

Peter’s publication is one aspect of his Energyphile initiative that is intended to provide new perspectives on the evolution of the energy industries as well as an opportunity to reflect on how change occurs and is handled by society. Readers are referred to the Energyphile site at <https://energyphile.org/> for, a P.H.S. Member Bob Bott phrased it, “a cornucopia of energy history and information”. Peter’s relatively unique approach is to feature historical items from his collection including postcards that capture the way industrial activities were viewed “back in the day”. In other words many things that we take as negative today (like billowing smokestacks) were then celebrated as proof of the advancement and accomplishments of our civilization. These are presented in short snippets to counteract what Peter sees as the unfortunately short attention spans of many readers.

The launch itself was, pardon the pun, a grand affair featuring professionally-prepared audiovisuals. Several hundred invited guests listened as Peter spoke from the podium and from the floor before engaging in a roundtable discussion with several acquaintances. The logic of the last-mentioned is that each of the chapters in the book has a separate Discussion Guide. For example, for the chapter “*Stairway to Hell*” about the coal mining community of Bankhead, near Banff, the guide includes the story itself, a Q&A section and “facilitator’s tips”. The book and the individual guides are available for purchase on-line.

MAVERICK JR. RIDES AGAIN

Readers may recall that in December 2007 we published an article entitled “Maverick Jr.” in which we examined a story told about Bill Herron Jr. that claims that he personally had been lowered down a Turner Valley well to retrieve a lost drilling bit. To refresh your memory, please consult the issue via the P.H.S. website. The story had been recounted in Frank Dabb’s 2001 book about Bill Herron Jr. entitled “*Branded by the Wind – the Life and Times of Bill Herron*”. As told, the well involved was Okalta #7 drilled near the end of 1937. The Society was recently contacted by Dustin Brodner of Crescent Point Energy Corp., the primary current operator at Turner Valley. Dustin provided us with a copy of an article that was said to have been published in Oilweek in the mid-1970’s entitled “*Our Oil Heritage – 290 Feet Under*” written by Catherine Philip. The story in it was essentially the same as Frank’s although it added that Herron had entered a cave 14 feet across at a depth of 290 feet and had made the round trip down there twice. What was odd about the article, as Dustin pointed out having also read our coverage, was that the well was said to be Okalta #5 and not Okalta #7.

Of course this opened up an opportunity for some research. I dug out my copy of “*In the Light of the Flares – History of Turner Valley Oilfields*” that contains a comprehensive list (pp. 51-57) of all the wells drilled in Turner Valley up until its publication in 1979. I sorted through it and made a list of all the Okalta wells in the field, of which there were 22. These fell into three groups. The first is a single well (#1A) spudded in 1914 in the immediate aftermath of the Dingman discovery of that year. The second group is wells drilled between 1926 and 1929, of which there were five – numbers 1 through 5. These were all drilled southwest of the Dingman wells (see map below) but into the deeper carbonate reservoir. The last, and largest, group was drilled between 1937 and 1945 – numbers 6 through 22 – and all in the south end of the field. This is a logical pattern. Following each of the 1914, 1924 and 1936 discoveries, Herron Sr. and later Jr. rode waves of industry excitement into new phases of drilling and production. So where does this leave us with the #5 vs. #7 issue. It seems clear that it can’t be #5 as that well was drilled in 1929, at odds with all of the available information on timing. One additional point. The SE quarter of Section 1 in which #1-5 were drilled was a piece of acreage that Herron wisely kept out of his farmout to Calgary Petroleum Products in 1913 – and so was able to drill on it himself once the Dingman well came in and after the Royalite #4 discovery of 1924 to the north. These lands seem to have been purchased by Royalite later as per the annotation on this 1940 vintage map.

