



*April 16, 2010*

## 2010 APEGGA Summit Awards® Recipients

### **Centennial Leadership Award • Mr. E. Alan Taylor, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for highest distinction as an executive or director of a continuing enterprise***

Mr. Alan Taylor, P.Eng., is recognized in the natural gas industry as one of the top authorities in gas compression. Over the past 38 years, he has worked to diagnose compressor problems. Initially working with standard formulae, Dr. Taylor realized that the formulae were too simplistic and eventually began writing computer programs to test his equations. In the 1990s, he formed a compressor optimization and fleet management company, Detechtion Technologies, and the concept of managing and diagnosing compressor problems over the internet was underway. Detechtion is now one of the fastest growing companies in Canada, according to *Profit 100*, and Mr. Taylor's leadership has resulted in the expansion of the company worldwide.

### **The Outstanding Mentor • Mr. Shane D. Stark, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for exceptional achievement as a mentor***

Mr. Shane Stark, P.Eng., has worked hard to foster an environment at Imperial Oil that motivates and inspires employees to grow both technically and professionally. Those fortunate enough to be mentored by Mr. Stark have learned a valuable lesson – it is the people and the development of individuals within an organization that make a difference. He has a keen interest in the success of every person he mentors, routinely following up to ensure they are on track. Over the course of his 25-year career, he has dedicated countless hours to mentoring a range of engineers-in-training, reservoir engineers, subsurface and facility engineers, geoscientists and operations personnel.

### **The Frank Spragins Technical Award • Dr. R. Gordon Moore, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for recognized integrity, expertise and outstanding accomplishments***

Internationally recognized for his research and technical expertise, Dr. Gordon Moore, P.Eng., has helped to establish 19 international research and educational partnerships that benefit the University of Calgary and the Canadian oil industry in the area of improved oil recovery and safety. He is co-founder of Hycal Energy Research Laboratories, a successful Alberta-based research and service laboratory and has provided consulting services globally for over 75 energy companies and government agencies. He was Head of the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at the U of C for over 10 years and is the U of C's representative on the Canadian National Committee of the World Petroleum Congresses. His research contributions have earned him many international honours.

### **The Early Accomplishment Award • Dr. André G. McDonald, P.Eng. (Edmonton)**

- ***for exceptional achievement in the early years of a professional career***

Considered a rising star at the University of Alberta, Dr. André McDonald, P.Eng., started as a design engineer working on the fabrication of protective surface coatings that protect machine parts against surface degradation. He is currently developing new coating systems for use in the oil and gas industry and has acquired nearly \$500,000 in external research funding from government agencies and industrial partners, which has enabled him to initiate the installation of a fully-equipped thermal spraying infrastructure. He has written a textbook for use in his undergraduate course on the practical design of thermo-fluids systems, and has developed his own formal training program designed to produce mechanical engineers that have both technical knowledge and practical research experience.



## **The Environment and Sustainability Award • The Northwest Stoney Trail Expansion Project (Calgary)**

- ***towards preserving the environment and sustainable development through the application of engineering and geoscience***

The Northwest Stoney Trail Expansion Project forms the northwest quadrant of the Calgary ring road. The design team for this project successfully incorporated design and best practices that take into consideration both the sensitive ecology of the location and the historical significance of the site. The end result is a reduced-impact, sustainable transportation solution that includes 15 kilometres of four-lane freeway, four interchanges, as well as four bridges.

## **Honorary Membership • Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour, C.M. (Edmonton)**

- ***for service by a non-member in the development of new material, equipment, techniques, philosophy or management related to engineering, geology or geophysics***

Known to many as Canada's premier ambassador of science, Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour is a distinguished scientist and educator who has been a champion for encouraging engineering and technology career choices for women. She is considered the very soul and essence of the Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology (WISEST) group. For her work and advocacy in improving the situation of Canadian women in science and technology, Dr. Armour was named to the Order of Canada in 2006.

## **Honorary Life Membership • Mr. W. James Beckett, P.Eng. (Edmonton)**

- ***for eminent service and leadership as president of the association***

Employed by the ATCO Group of Companies for almost 37 years, Mr. Jim Beckett, P.Eng., has held a number of management positions within ATCO Electric and its predecessor, Alberta Power. Over the years, he was involved in ensuring that the requirements of ATCO's permit to practice were met, and mentoring engineers within the organization. He has been an APEGGA councillor since 2005, served as president of the association in 2009-2010, and is the past chair of several high-profile council committees. In addition to his work with ATCO and APEGGA, he is an ardent supporter and past member of the Board of Governors and Senate of the University of Alberta.

## **The Research Excellence Award • Dr. Leo A. Behie, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for innovative research used to improve economic and social well-being***

A researcher and professor, Dr. Leo Behie, P.Eng., has pioneered a new area of biomedical engineering that will ultimately result in successful stem cell treatment of diseases such as Parkinson's, diabetes, Huntington's, multiple sclerosis, brain and spinal cord injuries and some cancers. The implications of stem cell research are staggering and could truly revolutionize modern medicine. He is the Canada Research Chair in Biomedical Engineering and is the founding director of the Pharmaceutical Production Research Facility. This state-of-the-art tissue culture facility is unique in that there is no other facility like it in North America working on bioengineering procedures to bring stem cells into a clinical setting.

## **The L.C. Charlesworth Professional Service Award • Mr. Darrel J. Danyluk, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for diligent service to the professions and the association***

Mr. Darrel Danyluk, P.Eng., has been a strong and consistent voice of the engineering profession in Alberta, across Canada and internationally. He has served as president of Consulting Engineers of Alberta, APEGGA and the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers, and in 2007 he became a World Federation of Engineering Organizations Vice-President. In this capacity, he has been a driving force at



the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Through his ongoing leadership as project director, the University of Calgary / City of Calgary Urban Alliance initiative has become a model for universities to connect with local communities and to leverage expertise to the benefit of society.

### **The Excellence in Education Award • Dr. Edwin P. Nowicki, P.Eng. (Calgary)**

- ***for exemplary contributions to teaching and learning***

As an Associate Professor in the Schulich School of Engineering's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Calgary, Dr. Ed Nowicki, P.Eng., always goes that extra mile for his students. He is extraordinarily patient and emphasizes critical thinking rather than memorization. Dr. Nowicki's teaching excellence has been recognized with several awards from various organizations representing both peers and students. Beyond the classroom, Dr. Nowicki acts as a mentor for students and volunteers with several organizations including the Calgary Youth Science Fair and the Calgary student chapter of Engineers Without Borders

### **The Community Service Award • Mr. Ross J. Plecash, P.Eng. (Edmonton)**

- ***for outstanding contributions to society***

Mr. Ross Plecash, P.Eng., is an example of how the simple gift of time and experience can improve the lives of people throughout Alberta. He was named Alberta Computers for Schools Volunteer of the Year in 2007, having served as the chair of the Board of Directors since 2004, and as vice-chair from 2002-2004. Mr. Plecash served a three-year term on the Alberta Government's Council on Alberta Teaching Standards as the Minister-appointed Public Member where he assisted in establishing quality teacher standards and certification. He has also volunteered with APEGGA, the Alberta Government's Board Development Program and has been accepted as a Math and Science Mentor for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Africa Centre in Edmonton.

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Note: photos of Summit Awards® recipients are available.

### **For more information, contact:**

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