

# CANADA CANNOT AFFORD SLOW INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTION ANYMORE



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF LAND AND  
ENERGY PROFESSIONALS

# THE NEGOTIATOR

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JUNE 2026

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# CANADA CANNOT AFFORD SLOW INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTION ANYMORE

*Gabrielle Leakey, Vice President, AiM Land & Environmental*

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## **Why Streamlined Project Delivery Will Define the Next Era of Canadian Infrastructure**

Canada is entering a defining period for infrastructure development.

Across the country, there is a growing urgency to expand and modernize energy systems, utilities, transportation networks, renewable energy developments, and community infrastructure. Governments and industry alike recognize that building more infrastructure is critical to economic growth, energy security, trade, and long-term competitiveness.

But while the conversation often focuses on what Canada needs to build, a more important question is emerging:

### **How do we build major projects more efficiently?**

One of the biggest lessons learned across large infrastructure developments is that delays rarely stem from a single issue. More often, projects slow down because of fragmented execution, disconnected communication, and reactive planning.

In today's environment, streamlined execution is no longer a competitive advantage. It is becoming a necessity.

### **Infrastructure Projects Have Become Significantly More Complex**

Modern infrastructure development involves far more than engineering and construction.

Projects today must navigate Indigenous engagement and consultation, environmental assessments, municipal and regulatory approvals, third-party coordination, land access, supply chain pressures, public expectations, and increasingly compressed schedules.

Individually, each of these requirements is manageable. The challenge arises when they operate independently rather than collaboratively.

One of the most common causes of delay on major projects is not a lack of technical capability, but a lack of alignment between disciplines.

### **Streamlined Execution Begins Earlier Than Most People Think**

There is often a misconception that project execution begins once construction starts.

In reality, successful execution begins long before equipment reaches the field.

Projects that maintain a schedule and reduce cost pressure typically share several characteristics:

- Early identification of risks and constraints
- Strong coordination between disciplines
- Clear communication pathways
- Integrated planning processes
- Visibility into project status
- Fast escalation and decision-making structures

The earlier risks are identified, the easier they are to manage. Each of these areas involves separate teams, timelines, stakeholders, and decision-making processes.

A delayed permit, an unresolved stakeholder concern, an environmental constraint, or a third-party conflict may appear small in isolation, but collectively these issues can become major schedule drivers if not addressed early.

### **A Practical Example of Streamlined Delivery**

The scale of Canada's utility infrastructure highlights why streamlined execution has become so important. The most successful projects are often the ones that reduce friction before it impacts execution.

Canada's electricity system is supported by more than 180,000 kilometres of high-voltage transmission infrastructure, connecting generation facilities, communities, industries, and critical services across one of the largest geographic areas in the world. Beyond transmission, hundreds of thousands of additional kilometres of distribution infrastructure are required to deliver reliable power to homes, businesses, and communities every day.

Maintaining, upgrading, and expanding infrastructure at this scale requires far more than engineering and construction expertise. It demands coordination between utilities, regulators, Indigenous communities, municipalities, landowners, environmental specialists, engineers, contractors, and countless other stakeholders.

Every maintenance program, system upgrade, reliability initiative, and new transmission project

relies on effective planning, permitting, stakeholder engagement, environmental review, land access, and construction coordination. When any one of these elements falls out of alignment, schedules can slip, costs can increase, and project risks can escalate.

Infrastructure projects will always encounter changing conditions, competing priorities, and unforeseen obstacles. However, organizations that establish alignment early are often better positioned to respond effectively, maintain momentum, and reduce the schedule and cost impacts that can arise when issues are addressed too late.

The lesson is simple: project success is rarely driven by a single milestone or technical innovation. More often, it is achieved through hundreds of coordinated decisions made consistently throughout the project lifecycle.

### **Operational Visibility Is Becoming Essential**

As projects become larger and more data-driven, visibility is becoming one of the most valuable tools available to leadership teams.

Decision-makers increasingly need immediate answers to questions such as:

- What activities are ready for construction?
- What approvals remain outstanding?
- Where are emerging bottlenecks developing?
- Which areas present the highest risk?
- What requires immediate escalation?

Historically, many organizations relied heavily on spreadsheets, static reports, and disconnected tracking systems. While those tools may have worked on smaller projects, today's infrastructure environment demands faster and more integrated information flow.

Real-time reporting, GIS integration, centralized project tracking, and data-driven decision making

are becoming increasingly important for maintaining alignment across large multidisciplinary teams.

More importantly, these tools allow organizations to shift from reactive management to proactive execution.

### **Relationships Remain the Foundation of Infrastructure Development**

Despite advances in technology and reporting systems, infrastructure projects remain deeply relationship-driven.

The success of a project still depends heavily on trust and communication between Indigenous communities, landowners, regulators, municipalities, utility operators, contractors, and project teams.

Projects move more efficiently when engagement is proactive, transparent, and solutions-oriented.

In many cases, the ability to build alignment and maintain strong working relationships has a greater impact on schedule certainty than any individual technical solution.

As Canada moves toward larger and more ambitious infrastructure development, relationship management will remain one of the industry's most important skills.

### **Canada's Next Challenge Is Execution**

Canada has no shortage of infrastructure ambition.

The country has the expertise, workforce, resources, and innovation required to deliver major projects successfully. However, achieving national infrastructure goals will depend on improving how projects are coordinated and executed.

The organizations that will lead the next era of development will likely be those that:

- Break down operational silos
- Improve communication between disciplines

- Invest in integrated planning tools
- Prioritize early risk identification
- Enable faster decision-making
- Build trust with stakeholders early and consistently

The conversation around infrastructure in Canada can no longer focus solely on approval versus opposition or growth versus delay.

Increasingly, the real conversation is about execution.

Because in today's environment, the ability to streamline complex projects may ultimately become one of Canada's greatest infrastructure advantages.

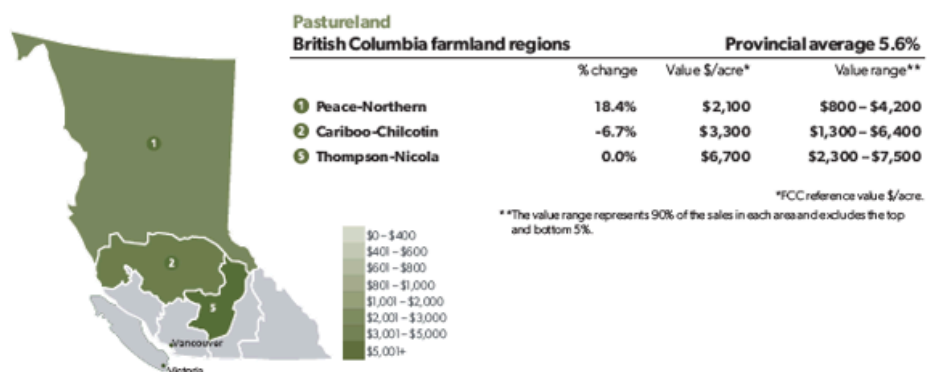
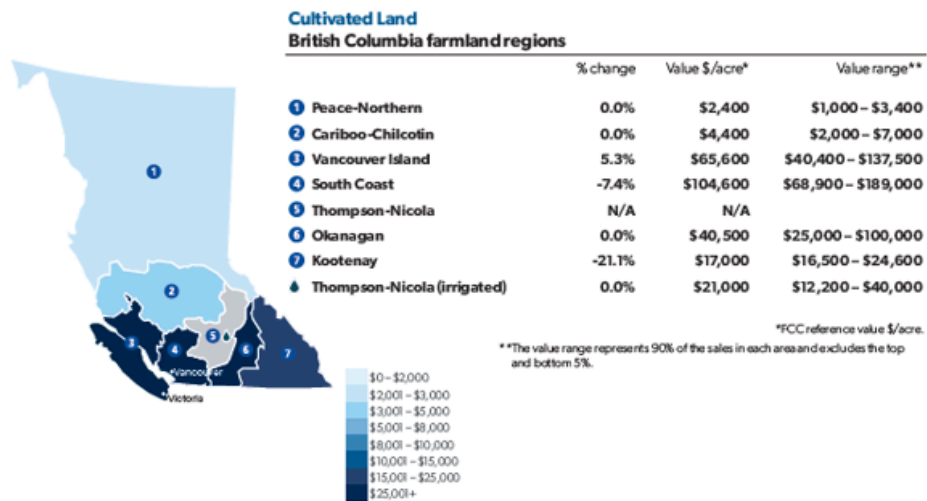


# WESTERN CANADA AGRICULTURAL LAND VALUES

**Darren Clarke & Trevor Sheehan | Telford Land & Valuation Inc.**

Agricultural land values continue to rise across Western Canada as demand remains elevated. A tool utilized by appraisers is the Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Farmland Values Report[1] that is published annually. FCC established a system to track cultivated land and pastureland values across Canada, utilizing benchmark farm properties. These benchmark parcels are representative of each area of the country. FCC appraisers estimate market value using recent comparable land sales; these sales must be arm's-

-length transactions (unrelated parties). Once sales are selected, they are reviewed, analyzed, and adjusted to the benchmark farm properties. This analysis is supplemented by trends in overall farmland sales collected across each region. The reference values published by FCC are derived from the average value of these benchmark properties and the average sales price in each region. We will review the trends of land prices from January 1 to December 31, 2025, in Western Canada.



## British Columbia – Peace Region

In the Peace-Northern region, there was a high volume of cultivated land sales, yet no change in the average value of \$2,400/ac for the area from 2024 values. Pasture land sales in this region increased dramatically in 2025 by 18.4% with an average of \$2,100/ac. This was supported by consistent agricultural use and limited differentiation between pasture and wooded lands, with per-acre values closely matched across both land types.

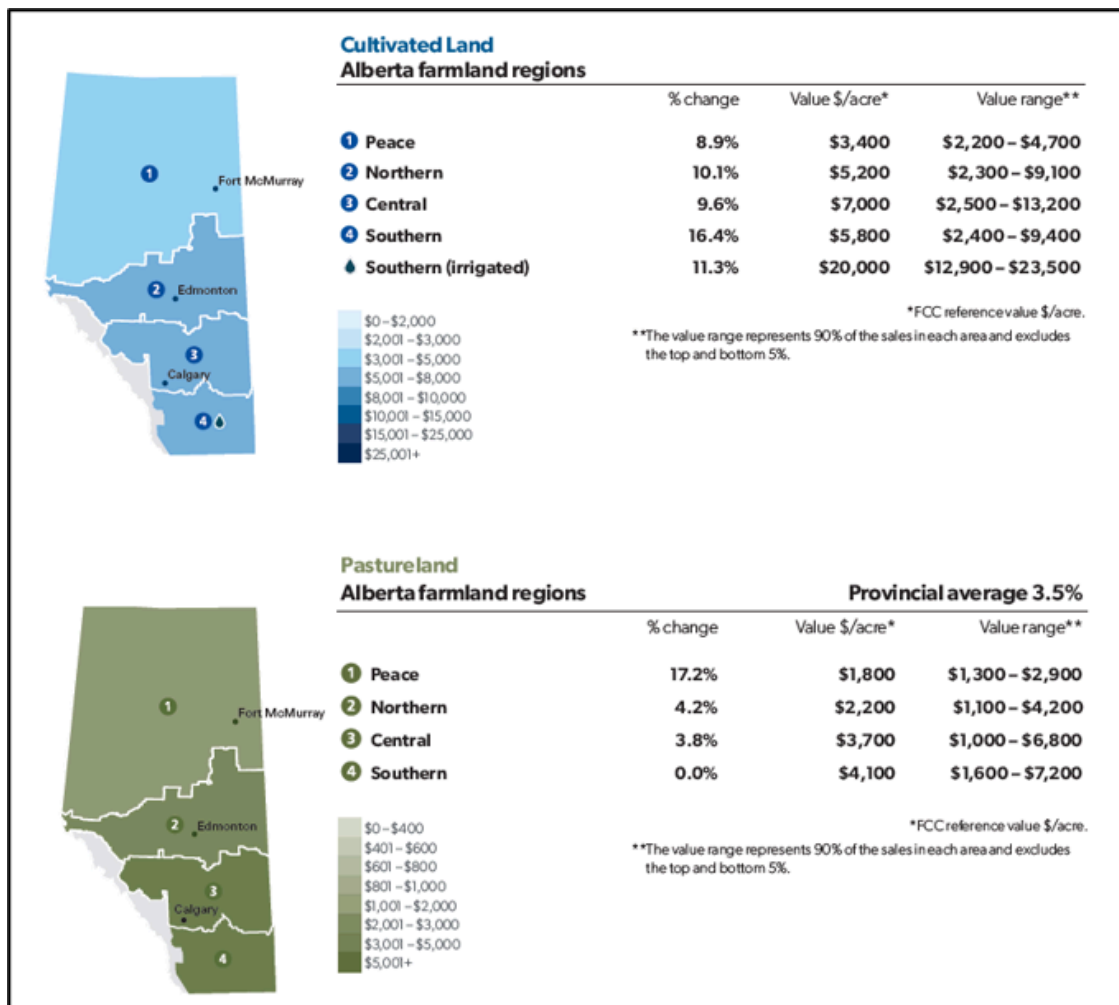
## Alberta

Farmland values across Alberta continued to strengthen in 2025, driven by strong agricultural commodity prices, limited land availability, and ongoing demand from expanding farm operations. Cultivated land posted gains in every region of the

province, while pastureland values increased more moderately overall.

In the Peace region, cultivated land values rose 8.9% over the past year. Much of the growth occurred in lower-value parcels, while prices for premium-quality lands remained relatively stable. Producers looking to expand were increasingly willing to purchase land farther from their existing operations, even crossing natural geographic boundaries when local opportunities were limited.

Pastureland values in the Peace region saw one of the strongest increases in the province, climbing 17.2%. Unlike other regions where recreational or residential pressures influence pasture markets, demand in the Peace region remained largely tied to agricultural use. Alberta’s Northern region also recorded strong gains, with cultivated land values increasing by an average of



10.1% in 2025. In contrast to the Peace region, higher-quality farmland experienced the strongest appreciation, supported by its agricultural productivity and long-term potential.

Strong cattle prices continued to influence purchasing activity throughout the Northern region, increasing demand for mixed-use and lower-quality lands suitable for livestock operations.

Pastureland values rose 4.2%, although plentiful, grass availability and relatively smaller herd sizes helped moderate competition for grazing land.

In Central Alberta, farmland demand remained robust as producers competed for a limited supply of available land for sale. Cultivated land values increased 9.6%, particularly for high-quality parcels located near major transportation routes such as the Highway 2 corridor.

Competition among crop producers, livestock operators, and supply-managed farms contributed to upward pressure on prices throughout the region. Pastureland values in Central Alberta rose 3.8%, although market activity was also shaped by changing land use patterns.

Several former grazing leases transitioned into deeded ownership, reducing the amount of land available under long-term lease arrangements. At the same time, portions of Southwestern and Central Alberta experienced growing interest from residential and recreational buyers, further tightening the supply of true agricultural pastureland.

Southern Alberta continued to experience strong growth in both irrigated and dryland farmland values. The region's diverse agricultural landscape supports a mix of dryland and irrigated farming, with irrigation playing a critical role in the production of high-value specialty crops such as potatoes, onions, carrots, sugar beets, and corn silage.

Irrigated land values increased 11.3% in 2025 as irrigation districts operated at or near capacity. Limited expansion opportunities made water rights increasingly scarce and expensive, adding additional value to irrigated acres.

Meanwhile, cultivated dryland values in Southern Alberta rose 16.4%, one of the largest increases recorded in the province. Demand from both dryland and irrigated farming operations, combined with limited availability of cultivated acres, contributed to the sharp increase. As irrigation districts expanded outward, the value gap between irrigated and nearby dryland parcels continued to narrow.

Across Alberta, generational succession also played an important role in shaping market activity, with more farmland entering the market as ownership transitioned between generations.

## **Saskatchewan**

Growing conditions differed widely across the province during the 2025 growing season. Some regions experienced strong crop quality but disappointing yields, while others produced high volumes with lower-than-average grain quality. These mixed production outcomes contributed to softer overall growth in farmland values compared to the rapid appreciation seen in previous years.

The North Western, North Eastern and East Central regions once again led the province in farmland value growth, each posting average increases of approximately 12%. These areas benefited from more favourable moisture conditions and are increasingly recognized for containing some of Saskatchewan's highest-quality farmland. Producers continued to show strong interest in land capable of delivering more reliable performance during periods of weather volatility, helping drive demand and price appreciation.

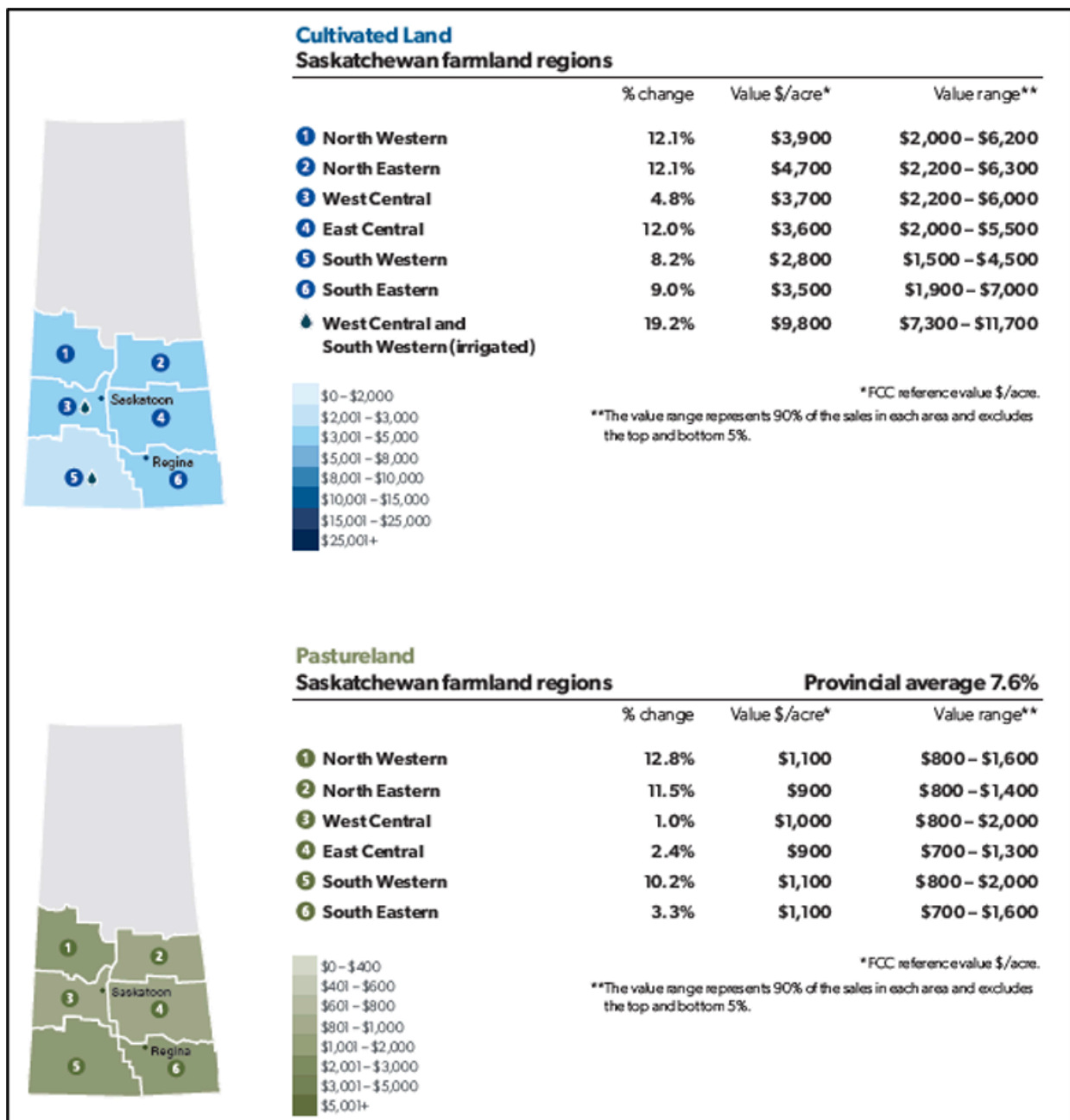
More moderate gains were recorded in other parts of

the province. Cultivated land values increased 4.8% in the West Central region, 8.2% in the South Western region, and 9.0% in the South Eastern region. In these areas, demand remained heavily focused on premium-quality lands with stronger drought resilience and proven crop performance.

Across Saskatchewan, producers continued to make strategic land purchases aimed at improving operational efficiency and long-term stability. Many

acquisitions involved land previously rented from landlords, while other transactions were connected to succession planning and ownership transitions between generations. These structural market factors helped sustain sales activity even in regions where production conditions were less favourable.

Irrigated land sales remained relatively limited throughout 2025, largely because many producers were completing projects funded under the final



final rounds of government irrigation development programs. However, notable development activity occurred along the South Saskatchewan River, where several irrigation projects moved forward during the year.

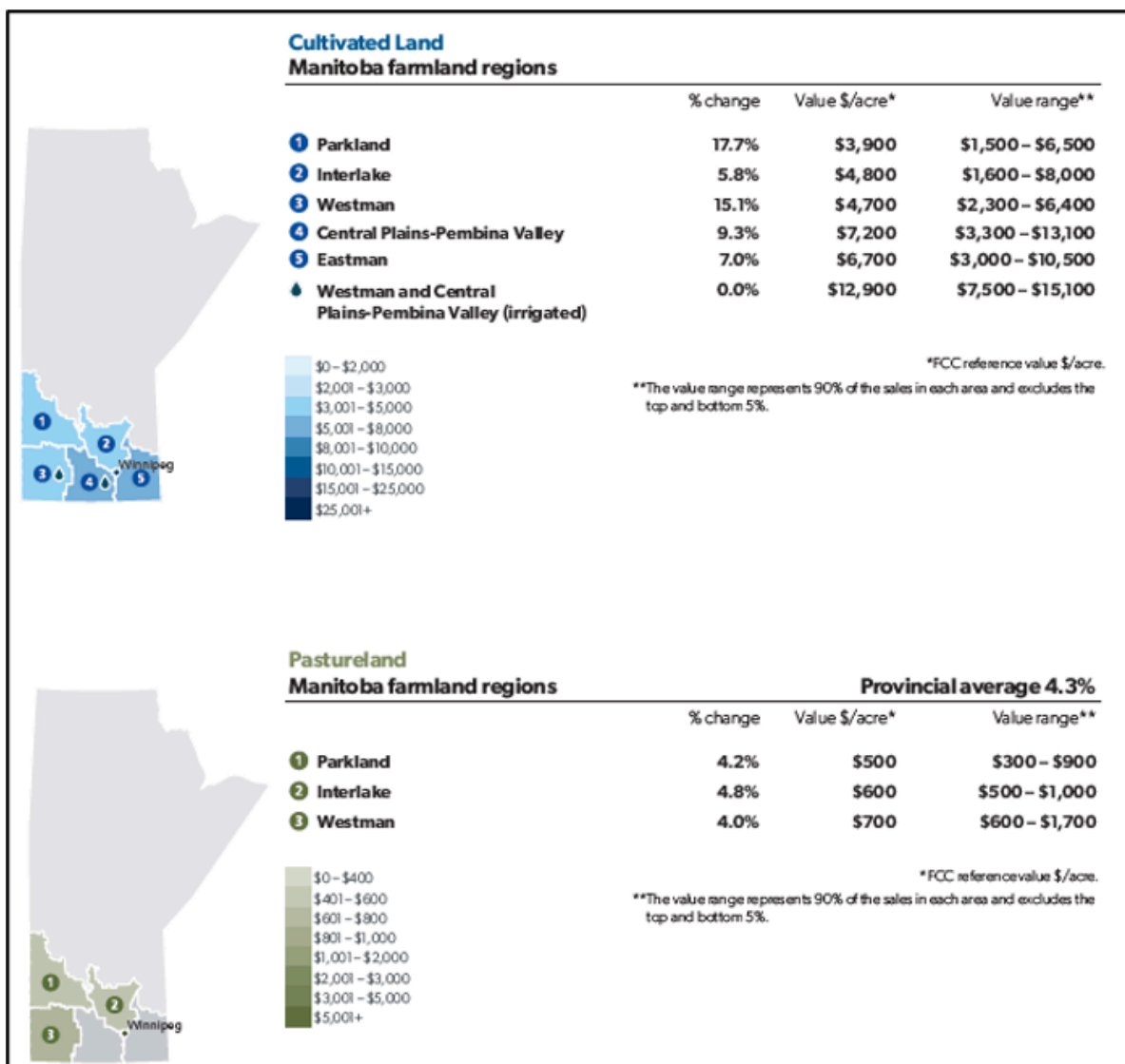
Demand for irrigated land remained especially strong in areas supporting high-value crop rotations. Irrigated grain-producing regions also experienced rising land prices as drought concerns and limited supply intensified competition among buyers.

As a result, average irrigated land values in Saskatchewan’s West Central and South Western regions increased by 19.2%, representing some of the strongest gains in the province.

Pastureland values also continued to strengthen, increasing an average of 7.6% province-wide. Most of the appreciation occurred in lower-priced pastureland, while higher-end values generally remained stable compared to 2024.

Strong cattle prices played a significant role in supporting demand for pastureland and overall land values across Saskatchewan. In some cases, producers who reduced herd sizes chose to retain ownership of their land, either renting it out as a source of stable income or holding it for tax and long-term investment purposes.

This limited supply of available pastureland helped maintain upward pressure on prices despite softer



activity in certain areas.

### **Manitoba – Westman Area**

Manitoba recorded the strongest farmland value growth in Canada in 2025, with average cultivated farmland values increasing by 12.2% across the province. Strong demand combined with limited land availability remained the primary drivers behind rising values. Large grain operations and supply management producers continued to compete aggressively for available farmland, helping sustain active market conditions throughout the province.

The largest increases were recorded in the Parkland and Westman regions, where cultivated land values rose 17.7% and 15.1%, respectively. The Westman region also experienced significant appreciation, supported by strong demand for productive farmland and ongoing expansion among larger farming operations.

Irrigated land values remained relatively stable in 2025, largely due to limited transaction activity and the tendency for irrigated properties to remain tightly held by existing owners.

Pastureland values across Manitoba increased by an average of 4.3% during the year, supported by limited supply and steady localized demand. Sales activity remained consistent, although market conditions varied considerably by region. Pastureland values in the Westman region rose 4.0%.



**TELFORD**  
LAND & VALUATION INC.





# SURFACE RIGHTS & REGULATORY REVIEW (JUNE 2026)

*Erin Allison, Daron Naffin, and Tim Myers – Bennett Jones LLP*

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## **Court Denies Application for Public Road Declaration and Easement of Necessity over Grassy Mountain Road**

**Decision: Emard v Young, 2026 ABKB 174**

**Date: March 10, 2026**

In this decision, the Alberta Court of King's Bench (the "**Court**") considered an application by Mr. Vern Emard, a landowner on Grassy Mountain near Blairmore in southwest Alberta, seeking (a) a declaration that the Grassy Mountain Road (the "**Road**") is public; alternatively, (b) a declaration that a common law easement of necessity runs over the lands on which the Road is situated; or (c) a direction that the matter proceed to trial. The Court dismissed the application.

The Road starts north of Blairmore and runs into Grassy Mountain, providing access for activities related to the Grassy Mountain Coal Project and property access for a small number of adjacent landowners. The respondent, known as Northback (formerly operating as Riversdale Resources), owns the majority of the lands over which the Road runs. Northback's predecessor began purchasing land on Grassy Mountain in 2013 and, in 2015, it installed a locked gate along the Road. Northback or its predecessor had also erected private property and trespass warning signs, and Northback had entered into road use agreements ("**RUAs**") with some adjacent landowners, providing them with keys for the gate in order to access the Road. Mr. Emard, who has owned his property on Grassy

Mountain since 1993, refused to enter into any RUA. On the question of whether the Road was public, the Court applied the common law test requiring an applicant to establish, on a balance of probabilities, both an intention by the owner to dedicate it to public use and acceptance of that dedication by the public. Importantly, the test requires more than mere acquiescence to public use. The Court considered whether there were agreements governing road use, evidence regarding public use, maintenance, and control of the Road, and the presence of signs, gates, and other assertions of privacy.

The Court found that Devon Canada ("**Devon**"), the previous owner of the majority of the Road lands, did not intend to dedicate the Road for public use. In particular, the existence of multiple written and unwritten road use agreements between Devon and adjacent landowners demonstrated that Devon treated the Road as private property. There was no reliable evidence on public use of the Road before 1993, but from 1993 to 2015, the Road was primarily used by commercial operators, local landowners, and occasional hikers and campers. Those uses were "purpose-specific" and more consistent with tolerance of private road use rather than a dedication for public use. The Court further noted that the Road does not function as part of a broader public road network, does not connect public roads or communities, leads to no public facilities, and is surrounded by privately owned lands. The Court considered Northback's signs and gates to be strong indicators that the Road was private and not public.

On the alternative claim for an easement of necessity, the Court applied the strict test requiring prior common ownership of both the dominant and servient tenements (the property that benefits from the easement and the property on which the easement is located), a severance of that common ownership, and that, as a result of the severance, one of the properties (the dominant tenement) becomes "absolutely inaccessible" without traversing the other property. The Court emphasized that Alberta courts have consistently held that mere inconvenience or increased difficulty is insufficient. An easement of necessity will only be implied in exceptional circumstances.

The Court rejected Mr. Emard's arguments regarding prior common ownership, finding no evidence to support the creation of an easement of necessity over the course of prior land uses and transfers. In addition, Mr. Emard acknowledged that there was at least one alternate route to his property, although with significant unmaintained or impassable areas. The Court accepted that the alternate route involved inconvenience and difficulty, but concluded that Mr. Emard did not prove he had no legally available alternative such that his land was unusable without access to the Road.

This decision is relevant to practitioners in the energy and natural resources sector as it addresses the intersection of private land rights and road access for resource extraction activities. It confirms the high evidentiary bar for establishing public road dedication under Alberta law and the strict requirements for easements of necessity.

**Tribunal Applies Sabo to Award Annual Compensation for Transmission Line Structures Located Outside Right of Entry Lands**

**Decision: AltaLink Management Ltd. v Duffy, 2026 ABLPRT 234**

**Date: April 1, 2026**

This decision by the Land and Property Rights Tribunal

("Tribunal") concerned applications under section 23 of the Surface Rights Act (the "Act") for the determination of compensation payable under right of entry ("ROE") Orders granted to AltaLink Management Ltd. ("AltaLink") in connection with the Central East Transfer Out Project ("CETO"), a 240-kilovolt transmission line running from the Gaetz 87S Substation near Red Deer to AltaLink's service territory boundary east of Lacombe. The ROEs were granted on lands owned by various members of the Duffy family (collectively, the "Duffys"), who operate a multi-generational farming operation in Lacombe County, including the seeding of annual crops on the six subject quarter sections.

The CETO transmission line required the construction of steel monopole and angle structures on the Duffy lands and in the road allowance immediately adjacent to the Duffy lands. The Duffys have historically farmed within the road allowance area.

At issue before the Tribunal was the determination of both initial and annual compensation payable under each of the ROE orders.

With respect to the land value component of initial compensation, AltaLink's expert prepared an empirical land value appraisal using comparable sales evidence from seven agricultural land sales in the County of Lacombe, adjusted for time, physical features, and location. He valued the Duffy lands at \$9,500 per acre, with the exception of one quarter valued at \$10,000 per acre based on its superior soils and topography. Mr. Gregory Duffy, appearing on behalf of the Duffys, stated that the land value proposed by AltaLink was not sufficient and noted that there is high demand for the Duffy land. He asserted that the Duffy lands were most similar to a parcel located north of the Duffy lands, owned by their grandfather, that sold for over \$11,000 per acre in 2024. That parcel was also one of the comparables relied on by AltaLink's expert. Neither party presented evidence of a pattern of dealings regarding land value.

The Tribunal considered the fact that the Duffy lands

were productive agricultural land, in an area of high demand for cultivated land, which would be a key factor in its assessment of land value. It excluded one of AltaLink's comparables on the basis that it was severed (farmed as two field units) and not sufficiently comparable to the Duffy lands. It also did not accept all adjustments made to the comparables by AltaLink's expert, nor did it indicate that there was a material value difference between the subject parcels due to soil quality. Ultimately, the Tribunal relied on the parties' shared comparable sale as the best indicator of value and assessed the value of the Duffy lands to be \$10,500 per acre.

AltaLink submitted that a pattern of dealings was established for the first year, adverse effect/general disturbance (\$1,000 per structure), and annual compensation (\$1,094 per structure on cultivated land within ROEs) based on nearby right-of-way agreements for the CETO transmission line. AltaLink did not file the comparable agreements. However, AltaLink's expert confirmed that AltaLink's proposed annual compensation rate was supported by seven signed agreements between AltaLink and other landowners. AltaLink gave evidence that approximately 85% of the roughly 90+ tracts required for the CETO project had been acquired consensually at that rate.

The Duffys did not take a position on whether there was a pattern of dealings or provide specific evidence on the first year adverse effect/general disturbance, or annual compensation payable. They submitted evidence regarding the impacts of the transmission line and suggested that compensation should be similar to annual compensation payable for their existing oil and gas leases.

On the issue of the pattern of dealings, the Tribunal determined that no pattern was established because AltaLink did not provide the underlying comparable agreements for the Tribunal's assessment.

With respect to initial compensation for the first-year adverse effect/general disturbance, the Tribunal found

that AltaLink's standard offer of \$1,000 per structure was reasonable to compensate for nuisance, inconvenience, and noise associated with construction activities for all of the subject lands, except for the home quarter, for which the Tribunal awarded \$1,500 per structure (a 50% premium) in recognition of higher intangible adverse effects.

In assessing annual compensation payable, the Tribunal accepted AltaLink's proposed annual rate of \$1,094 per structure for structures located within the ROEs. It also applied the Alberta Court of Appeal's decision in *Sabo v AltaLink Management Ltd.*, 2024 ABCA 179 ("**Sabo**"), to award annual compensation for structures located adjacent to the ROE area, rejecting AltaLink's position that compensation was payable only for structures within the ROEs.

In accordance with the Sabo decision, the Tribunal stated that it may award compensation under section 25(1)(d) of the Act for nuisance, inconvenience, and noise ("**NIN**"), or intangible impacts, arising in connection with operations on lands not subject to the ROE in question. The Tribunal cannot consider impacts from structures located outside of the ROE area in awarding compensation for loss of use under section 25(1)(c) of the Act, or in awarding compensation for tangible adverse effect under section 25(1)(d) of the Act.

The Tribunal determined that the Duffys would experience substantially the same NIN impacts from structures located within the road allowance as those located on the ROE lands, including visual impacts, stress and fear associated with perceived health effects, inconvenience from having to be careful with equipment when farming near the structures, noise from aerial inspections, and increased traffic. The Tribunal emphasized that the structures in the road allowance would be built immediately adjacent to the ROE areas, that the structures were large (and therefore visible from any part of the Duffy lands), that all structures would experience similar impact from monitoring and maintenance activities, that the Duffys farmed in the road allowance area, and that any

activities related to the CETO line would require contact with the relevant landowners. AltaLink's proposed annual rate of \$1,094 per structure did not specify what component of the rate was attributable to NIN, so the Tribunal relied on the breakdown of annual compensation in the empirical analysis provided by AltaLink's expert. In the empirical breakdown, NIN represented 22% of the total calculated compensation. The Tribunal therefore awarded \$241.00 per structure per year for structures in the road allowance (22% of AltaLink's \$1,094 per structure rate).

This decision confirms that Sabo is binding on the Tribunal, superseding any prior Tribunal decisions interpreting section 25(1)(d) differently, and provides guidance on calculating the NIN component of compensation.

**Tribunal Finds Neither Party Established Pattern of Dealings for Metering Station, Maintains Existing Compensation Rate**

**Decision: Lone Oak Farms Ltd v ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd, 2026 ABLPRT 271**

**Date: April 14, 2026**

In this decision, the Tribunal considered an application under section 27 of the Act for a review of annual compensation payable under a surface lease for a metering station, line heater, satellite dish, and telemetry building located on SW 1-74-11-W6M in the County of Grande Prairie. The metering station was accessed by a short access road.

Compensation decisions on metering stations are rare. The Tribunal was not able to find any reported Tribunal or Surface Rights Board decisions on compensation in respect of metering stations. The comparable agreement evidence filed in the proceeding was based on various types of sites, including metering stations, risers, emergency shutdown systems or "ESDs", and compressor sites.

The existing rate of annual compensation was \$2,100 per year, which had been negotiated through a series of

increases: \$800 in 2009, \$1,650 in 2014, and \$2,100 in 2018. In 2023, the operator, ATCO, confirmed the \$2,100 rate, stating there were no factors warranting a change to the current rentals. In 2025, the landowner, Lone Oak Farms Ltd. ("**Lone Oak**"), filed a section 27 application seeking an increase in compensation.

At the hearing, Lone Oak sought an increased annual rental of \$3,000 based on the pattern of dealings evidence or, in the alternative, a comparable agreement review. ATCO advanced three alternative positions: \$1,750 based on a pattern of dealings, \$540 based on empirical evidence, or maintaining the existing annual rate.

The Tribunal rejected both parties' pattern of dealings evidence. With respect to ATCO's evidence, ATCO's expert presented a report discussing nine comparable agreements based on information he had gathered on similar dispositions near the subject disposition in the period from January 2020 to mid-2025. The Tribunal found that the expert had effectively relied upon only five of those agreements, all of which were for ESD sites operated by a single operator. The Tribunal determined no pattern was established based on several factors: the comparables were ESD sites rather than metering stations; only five agreements were relied on; all five agreements were with a single operator and only three landowners; and the agreements were from 2020 (their effective dates of review were in 2025, and it was not clear that the landowners remained content with the 2020 rates). The Tribunal also noted that, contrary to the requested reduction, ATCO had increased compensation in prior years and stated in 2023 that no change to the \$2,100 rental was warranted.

The Tribunal's assessment of ATCO's pattern evidence included a detailed review of the criteria used to assess whether a pattern of dealings exists. In particular, the Tribunal discussed how many deals are required to establish a pattern, citing a number of cases which had dealt with pattern evidence based on a range from two to 353 comparables, with varying outcomes in terms of whether a pattern of dealings was established (of the 17 cases referenced by the Tribunal, which is not an

exhaustive sample, 6 were cases where a pattern was established on the basis of a range of 61-353 comparables. The Tribunal concluded that there was no definitive answer as to how many comparables are required to establish a pattern, but the number of agreements relied upon is a factor that will be considered.

With respect to Lone Oak's pattern of dealings evidence, Lone Oak's expert presented 15 comparable agreements that had been provided to him by Lone Oak's counsel. Based on an assessment of the comparability of each of the agreements and relevant sites, the expert concluded that the annual compensation should be \$3,000 per year. The Tribunal rejected the pattern evidence, mainly because there was no evidence as to how the comparables were chosen by Lone Oak's counsel, and the expert did not know whether the leases provided to him constituted a representative sample of agreements. The Tribunal emphasized that a pattern of dealings evidence, or even comparable agreement evidence, must be presented on an objective basis as a truly representative sample, rather than being "cherry-picked".

The Tribunal also rejected the alternative empirical analysis presented by ATCO's expert, which valued annual compensation at \$540 per year, finding that the figure was not supported by the prior negotiated rates or the comparables presented by the parties.

The Tribunal analyzed the comparable agreements in evidence in order to determine appropriate annual compensation. It found that Lone Oak's requested rate of \$3,000.00 was not supported by the comparables, noting that rates at or above \$3,000.00 were generally associated with sites exhibiting greater degrees of adverse effect, such as home quarters, mid-field sites, or longer access roads. The Tribunal also reviewed the comparables that had been included in ATCO's pattern of dealings evidence. ATCO's agreements included one metering station comparable with annual compensation of \$2,000 per year, although there was limited information available about the site since Lone Oak's expert had not used it as a comparable.

The Tribunal further observed that the subject lease itself was a relevant comparable, with a rate of \$2,100.00 agreed to in 2021. Accordingly, the Tribunal ordered that the existing rate of \$2,100.00 continue.

This decision provides guidance on the standards required to establish a pattern of dealings, including the importance of presenting a representative sample of comparable agreements and disclosing the methodology by which comparables were selected. It also highlights the challenges of establishing compensation benchmarks for less common facility types, such as metering stations, where limited comparable data is available.

### **Tribunal Permits Backdated Compensation Reviews and Awards Increased Compensation for Organic Farming Operation**

**Decision: Steinke v West Isle Energy Inc, 2026 ABLPRT 315**

**Date: April 30, 2026**

This decision arose from three applications under section 27 of the Act filed by the landowner, Mr. Ronald Steinke, requesting reviews of annual compensation payable under a surface lease for a 9.81-acre site (including an oil wellsite, access road, and buffer) in NE 2-49-23W4M in Leduc County. The surface lease was originally entered into in February 2003 and had been suspended since 2009. The licensee, West Isle Energy Inc. ("**West Isle**"), was struck from the Alberta Corporate Registry in October 2021 and did not appear at the hearing. The site was transferred to the Orphan Well Association ("**OWA**") in January 2025. Canadian Natural Resources Limited ("**CNRL**"), a 30% working interest participant, appeared as an affected party.

The existing compensation was \$9,475 per year, established in a November 2009 lease, consisting of a global amount of \$8,975 for loss of use and adverse effect, as well as a \$500 per year payment for mowing the buffer area located around the well site.

A significant preliminary issue was whether the Tribunal should permit review of compensation for three review cycles dating back to February 14, 2013. CNRL objected to the request to review the older 2013-2018 and 2018-2023 periods, arguing they were "time-barred". CNRL cited prior Alberta Court of Appeal and Tribunal decisions, which held that landowners should not "sit on" their rights and should file review applications within the five-year review window, although the window may be extended in appropriate circumstances. CNRL submitted that the landowner had filed other applications under the Act, so was aware of his rights, and that a decision allowing the backdated reviews could trigger additional backdated rent review applications before the Tribunal.

The Tribunal permitted the applications for all three review periods. Although acknowledging CNRL's submissions, the Tribunal noted that the period in which to apply for a review could be extended based on extenuating circumstances. In the subject case, the landowner had made multiple attempts during the initial review period to initiate the review process and had not been sitting on his rights. The Tribunal found that the landowner's efforts were frustrated by non-response from successive operators and from the Surface Rights Board (predecessor to the Tribunal), noting evidence that the landowner had sent inquiries about the rental review process to the Surface Rights Board as early as 2016 without receiving a response.

On the merits, the Tribunal found that no pattern of dealings was established. The landowner did not submit a pattern of dealings evidence. He used the subject lands for an organic boxed beef operation and grew organic hay to feed cattle sold as organic beef (with cereal crops grown in some years for crop rotation purposes). He stated that there were few comparable properties due to the specialized nature of organic farming. CNRL submitted pattern evidence based on 17 leases on organic lands in Central Alberta from two operators (Enhance Energy and Ember Resources), each operator having entered the lease agreements with one lessor, that contained a range of compensation amounts for each of the loss of use and adverse effect. However,

The Tribunal found the evidence insufficient to establish a pattern of dealings because the leases involved only two companies and one lessor for each, and the global compensation amounts varied widely. The Tribunal also noted that the leases CNRL relied on involved organic grain farming and not organic beef operations.

The Tribunal then set annual compensation based on the parties' evidence on loss of use and adverse effect. A notable aspect of the decision was the Tribunal's treatment of the landowner's organic beef farming operation for loss of use purposes.

The landowner provided loss of use calculations based on the impact on beef sales due to lost hay production. He relied on detailed farming records and evidence regarding additional work required to maintain organic beef status. CNRL also provided an empirical calculation of loss of use based on the landowner's production data and Alberta Financial Services Corporation pricing data for hay (with a premium added for organic hay). CNRL's position was that loss of use should be based on the use of the site for crop production and not livestock sales.

The Tribunal accepted the landowner's proposed methodology of calculating loss of use based on the gross revenue from the sale of boxed organic beef, stating that it most accurately reflected "the impact of the taking on the core activity of the farm and recognized the unique losses sustained by the operation". The Tribunal made some adjustments to the landowner's inputs to the calculation and determined loss of use rates of \$767.10 per acre for the 2013 review period, \$728.13 per acre for 2018 (reflecting lower yields), and \$986.53 per acre for 2023.

With respect to the adverse effect, the Tribunal accepted a starting amount of \$4,218.25 for the tangible adverse effect based on the landowner's submissions in respect of the original lease payment, and increased compensation for the tangible adverse effect to \$4,386.98 per year throughout the three review periods. The Tribunal rejected the owner's request for a

compounding annual inflationary increase, stating that adjustments for inflation are indirectly addressed through periodic reviews of loss of use and noting that the landowner's evidence did not justify the requested increases. As to intangible adverse effect, the Tribunal awarded \$1,000 per year, using a rate of \$50 per hour, for the landowner's time handpicking weeds and management time associated with maintaining organic beef status.

The Tribunal set total annual compensation rates of \$12,912.26 for the period commencing February 14, 2013, \$12,529.90 commencing in 2018, and \$15,064.83 commencing in 2023.

This decision demonstrates that the Tribunal may permit backdated rent reviews for prior five-year cycles where a landowner's efforts to pursue a review were frustrated by absentee or non-responsive operators and/or by administrative non-response from the Tribunal itself. It also confirms the Tribunal's willingness to base loss of use on the actual use of the land, including specialized operations such as organic beef production, provided sufficient evidence is adduced. Finally, it reinforces that inflationary increases are generally not awarded as a standalone component of compensation.

#### **Tribunal Dismisses Reconsideration Application Seeking to Revisit Compensation Set by 2023 Decision**

**Decision: Gregory v Lynx Energy ULC, 2026 ABLPRT 343**

**Date: May 14, 2026**

In this decision, the Tribunal dismissed a reconsideration application brought by the landowners under section 29 of the Act that sought to revisit a 2023 Tribunal decision on annual compensation under four surface leases for coalbed methane ("**CBM**") wellsites and associated access roads in Wheatland County, Alberta.

The underlying dispute arose from applications filed in

December 2021 by the operator, Lynx Energy ULC ("**Lynx**") under section 27 of the Act. Lynx had sought a reduction of the rates of annual compensation payable under the four subject leases. Lynx's expert presented a pattern of dealings and empirical evidence, while the representative for the landowners presented comparable evidence of agreement. The Tribunal issued its decision, *Lynx Energy ULC v Gregory et al*, 2023 ABLPRT 233, in April 2023 (the "**Section 27 Decision**"). In the Section 27 Decision, the Tribunal set reduced compensation rates under all four leases based on empirical and comparable evidence.

On October 20, 2023, the landowners filed a reconsideration application (the "**Reconsideration Application**") seeking reconsideration of the Section 27 Decision. Notably, they requested compensation figures that deviated from their position at the original hearing, seeking a compensation increase for three of the four sites.

The Tribunal did not establish any initial submission process on the Reconsideration Application. It issued a decision in June of 2025 (the "**2025 Reconsideration Decision**") in which it determined that the landowners had met the basic requirements for reconsideration of the Section 27 Decision and sought submissions from the parties on the issues to be reviewed. Lynx raised procedural fairness concerns, seeking a reconsideration of the 2025 Reconsideration Decision, because it had not been provided with an opportunity to comment on the Reconsideration Application prior to the issuance of the 2025 Reconsideration Decision. Subsequently, the Tribunal rescinded the 2025 Reconsideration Decision and invited Lynx to provide submissions on the Reconsideration Application.

In this May 2026 decision on the Reconsideration Application, the Tribunal first considered the nature of the reconsideration process available under the Act. It affirmed that a reconsideration under section 29 is discretionary; the Tribunal is not obligated to reconsider any of its decisions.

The reconsideration process under the Act is not an

appeal, and the courts are the appropriate forum for filing an appeal or judicial review of a Tribunal decision. As identified in past Tribunal decisions, in order for the Tribunal to reopen a decision, there should be "extenuating circumstances". A party's disagreement with the decision is not enough, and the reconsideration is not an opportunity for a party to simply repeat or bolster its case.

The Surface Rights Rules (the "**Rules**") contain requirements on the form and substance of reconsideration applications as well as "basic requirements for review", of which at least one requirement must be met to warrant reconsideration. The reconsideration process is therefore conducted in two steps. The applicant must establish one of the basic requirements for review on a balance of probabilities before the review itself will proceed.

Turning to the form and timing of the landowners' Reconsideration Application, the Tribunal found that the application substantially complied with the Rules, notwithstanding that it was filed one day after the six-month deadline prescribed by Rule 37(2)(d). The Tribunal exercised its discretion to waive this timing requirement, having regard to fairness to the parties and any potential prejudice to Lynx. The Tribunal rejected Lynx's argument that the application was technically deficient for failing to describe how the landowners were adversely affected by the Section 27 Decision, finding that the issues raised in the landowners' submissions were enough to satisfy the relevant requirements of the Rules.

The Tribunal then turned to the substantive question of whether the Reconsideration Application met the basic requirements for review under Rule 37(3).

The landowners alleged several errors of fact, including that the original hearing panel had misstated the number of comparable agreements submitted by the landowners, mischaracterized their submissions on adverse effect, and had incorrectly stated the ranges of compensation amounts from the parties' comparables. The Tribunal referenced past decisions cited by Lynx

(Canadian Natural Resources Limited v Kesterke, 2019 ABSRB 179 and Apache Canada Ltd, 2012 ABSRB 334), which found that, in order to warrant reconsideration, an error of fact must be important or meaningfully impact the decision at issue. Reviewing the original panel's analysis, the Tribunal found that the alleged errors of fact did not occur and that, in one case, even if the error had occurred, it was not an important error affecting the Section 27 Decision.

The landowners also raised errors of mixed fact and law regarding the original panel's reliance on comparable agreements containing "global" compensation amounts (amounts not broken down into loss of use and adverse effect) and on the trend evidence presented by Lynx's expert on the basis that the expert was not personally involved in the negotiation of the comparables, such that the evidence was hearsay. The Tribunal found that the landowners had not provided binding case law or evidence establishing the alleged issue regarding global agreements. It also noted that global amounts are used in rural areas and that global agreement evidence is routinely used before the Tribunal. The Tribunal also dismissed the hearsay issue, noting that it is not bound by formal rules of evidence and finding that the authorities relied on by the landowners were neither binding nor directly applicable.

The landowners further argued that the original panel failed to adequately assess their comparable agreement evidence. The Tribunal noted that the issue reflected dissatisfaction with the Section 27 Decision rather than an identified important error, which is not a rationale for reconsideration, and found that the original panels had appropriately considered all the evidence in determining the appropriate rates of compensation.

The landowners also alleged that the Section 27 Decision was inconsistent with prior Tribunal decisions or binding judicial authority, where the Tribunal had discounted loss of use values due to a small sample size of comparable agreements and where the landowners were farming the majority of the lease. The Tribunal found no errors. On the issue of small sample size, the Tribunal found that the landowners had not proven that

the Section 27 Decision was inconsistent with a prior binding authority, and noted that there were prior examples where the Tribunal had treated a small sample size as a basis to assign less weight to a party's evidence. On the issue of a discount based on the amount of area farmed, the Tribunal determined that the original panel had awarded compensation for loss of use based on the entire acreage of each surface lease, consistent with relevant authorities, without any reduction for beneficial use as alleged by the landowners.

Finally, the Tribunal addressed Lynx's argument that the landowners had failed to file the prescribed Request for Review of Decision or Order form as required by the Rules. While the Tribunal acknowledged that the prescribed form was not filed, it retained discretion to control its own processes and had done so in the circumstances to still accept the application.

The Tribunal ultimately dismissed the Reconsideration Application because the landowners had not met the threshold requirements for reconsideration. It also declined to award costs to the landowners, noting that the landowners had brought multiple grounds that were found to lack merit and that certain of their arguments reflected dissatisfaction with the Section 27 Decision rather than identifying specific errors that were properly the subject of the reconsideration process.

This decision reinforces the narrow scope of the Tribunal's reconsideration process under section 29 of the Act, confirming that reconsideration cannot be used to relitigate the merits of a compensation determination, and provides guidance on the Tribunal's consideration of the basic requirements for review under the Rules.



# Increase Your Company's Visibility with the **CALEP Public Service Directory**

## **Looking to connect with land and energy professionals across Canada?**

The CALEP Public Service Directory provides a platform for service providers to showcase their expertise, services, and areas of operation to individuals and organizations working throughout the land and energy sector.

Whether you offer consulting, environmental services, GIS support, legal services, surface land expertise, right-of-way services, stakeholder engagement, regulatory support, or other specialized services, the directory helps potential clients find and connect with your business.

## **Why Join the Directory?**

- Publicly searchable company listing
- Showcase your services and expertise
- Highlight geographic areas of operation
- Increase visibility within the land and energy industry
- Connect with organizations seeking specialized support

## ***Annual Listing Fee: \$500 CAD + GST per 12-month listing period***

Your annual directory listing includes a company profile featuring your contact information, service offerings, operating regions, website, and company description.

## **What's Included?**

Each company profile can include:

Company name and contact information

Website and business details

Service offerings

Operating regions and locations

Company description and areas of expertise

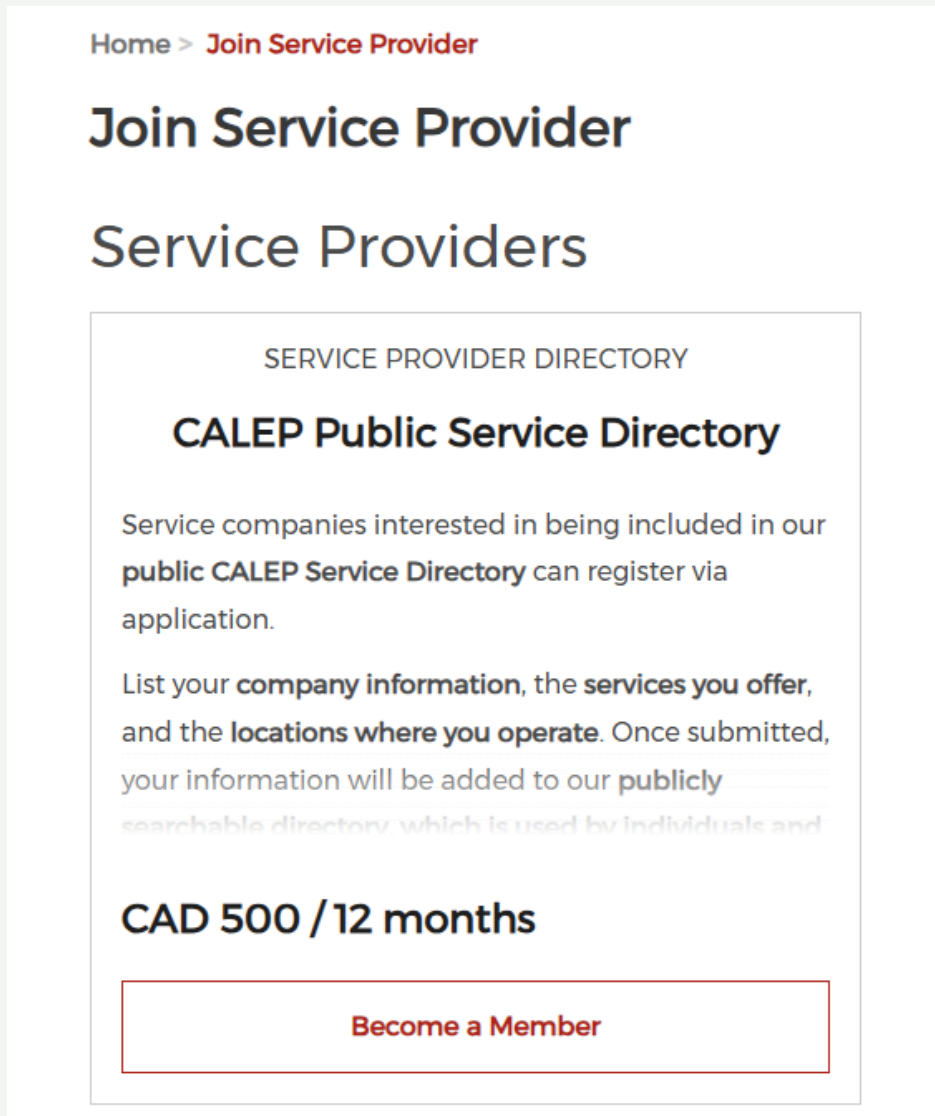
## How to Apply

Companies interested in being included in the directory can complete a simple online application. Once approved, your listing will be added to the CALEP Public Service Directory and made available to industry professionals searching for services and expertise.

## Important Note

For administrative purposes, this registration category may appear as "Corporate Membership" within our system. However, this is not a CALEP membership and does not include membership rights, benefits, voting privileges, or member services. Registration is solely for inclusion in the Public Service Directory.

## This is how it currently appears on the website:



Home > [Join Service Provider](#)

# Join Service Provider

## Service Providers

SERVICE PROVIDER DIRECTORY

### CALEP Public Service Directory

Service companies interested in being included in our **public CALEP Service Directory** can register via application.

List your **company information**, the **services you offer**, and the **locations where you operate**. Once submitted, your information will be added to our **publicly searchable directory** which is used by individuals and

**CAD 500 / 12 months**

[Become a Member](#)

# WHAT SWEAT THE SUBSURFACE MEANS FOR CALGARY'S ENERGY COMMUNITY



*Kendra MacLean | Heritage Royalty*

Land aligns interests across disciplines, companies, regulators, and other stakeholders to advance responsible development. The relationships that support that work are often built outside the boardroom, and Sweat the Subsurface creates space for those connections.

Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year, Sweat the Subsurface brings together land professionals, geoscientists, geophysicists, and the broader community. Jointly organized by CALEP, the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association (CEGA), and the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG), this race takes place along Calgary's Bow River pathways on the evening of Thursday, September 24, followed by an afterparty at the Calgary Curling Club. Whether you run the full 10 km, complete the 5 km, or join as an afterparty guest (no judgment), the point is to just show up. Registration closes September 17, and details are available on the CALEP website.

## **Moving From Start to Finish Together**

Sweat the Subsurface reflects how the industry functions at its best, with multiple disciplines working

toward a common objective. Events like this are a reminder that decisions are stronger when we understand how other disciplines are evaluating the same asset, and Land has a lot to contribute to and gain from those conversations.

That dynamic shows up across career stages, too. Each discipline doesn't advance through one generation, passing knowledge down to the next. It advances when people at every stage are learning from each other, questioning assumptions, and building a shared understanding of how the pieces fit together.

My own experiences on the Sweat the Subsurface committee have reinforced this to me. At one of our committee meetings, a seismic inversion meme made the agenda. Admittedly, the joke went over my head, which led to an impromptu lesson on seismic that has since helped me understand the broader context when working with Seismic Data Review Agreements. That kind of informal exchange is a consistent outcome of this event, and one of the reasons I continue to be involved.

## **The Folks Behind the Race**

Behind Sweat the Subsurface is something that fuels strong industry associations: volunteers. Here's why a few of this year's committee members have decided to invest their time and expertise into making this event a success:

"As someone who's participated in the last two Sweat the Subsurfaces, I am thrilled to be on this year's committee. It's a great opportunity to meet geoscientists and landmen in a relaxed, fun environment that feels very different from most traditional industry events. I'm still getting together for runs with some of the friends I've met at past events. I'm already looking forward to this year's run and hope I can play a small role in helping others enjoy it as much as I have."

### **Matt Keller, Committee Member, Sweat the Subsurface | CALEP**

"Part of why I've been one of the CALEP/CEGA/CSEG volunteers who organize the Sweat the Subsurface run has been because I love how the event ties running into geoscience in a fun, lighthearted way. It's a great reminder that even though we spend so much time focused on the subsurface, we're still a community that can get outside, stay active, and connect beyond work. It's also a fun way to show people outside the industry who we are and what we do, and highlight the people behind the science. Whether you're racing, volunteering, or just coming out to be part of it, it's a great chance to support each other, meet people, and join a longstanding community."

### **Michelle Hung, Co-Chair, Sweat the Subsurface | CEGA**

"I choose to invest my time in Sweat the Subsurface because it represents the best parts of our industry: community, collaboration, and connection. Entirely planned and organized by volunteers from CEGA,

CSEG and CALEP, this event brings together people from across our three societies in a fun, welcoming, and inclusive environment, while also opening the door for the public to see the incredible people behind our industry and what we can accomplish when we work together. Whether someone comes to race, volunteer, reconnect with old friends, or make new ones, the event creates opportunities to support one another, build meaningful relationships, and celebrate our shared community."

### **Darren Hinks, Co-Chair, Sweat the Subsurface | CSEG**

A sincere thank you to the rest of this year's committee: Franck Delbecq, Joanna Czarnecki, Jocelyn Frankow, Kasia Hinks, Michelle Saquet, Rebecca Stretch, Patricia Gigantelli, and Stephen Kotkas, and to Julie Beally, CEGA's Event Coordinator, for her continued support.

Members showing up and contributing their expertise is what keeps CALEP relevant and connected to the people it serves. If you are interested in joining a committee or learning more about volunteer opportunities with CALEP, please reach out to [reception@calep.ca](mailto:reception@calep.ca). We would love to have you!

Come Join!

Thirty-five years is a long run (pun intended) for anything in this industry. This event has outlasted more market cycles, company restructurings, and versions of "the industry is changing" than I have been alive to witness because it is built around something that never goes out of style: our work is better when we know each other.

### **Hope to see you at the start line on Sept. 24!**

Kendra MacLean



# Sweat the Subsurface Road Race 2026

September 24, 2026 | 18:00 - 21:00 (MDT)



# AWARD OF MERIT: MARTIN LEUNG

I am truly grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the CALEP Award of Merit. It has been a great honor and privilege to work alongside an amazing group of people on the editorial board of The Negotiator publication who create opportunities for people like me to contribute. Volunteering at CALEP, to me, has never been about recognition—it's about showing up and contributing to an association that has given me so much over the course of my career as a landman. Over the years, we have seen The Negotiator publication evolve from print circulation to a fully digital format and adapt from publishing quarterly issues to a monthly format in order to enhance communication with its readership. One thing that remains constant is the dedication of incredible people such as Wade McLeod, Spryng Kubicek, and Su Mohapatra, who help keep this publication running seamlessly.

I'd also like to thank my employer, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, for its support and flexibility, which makes it possible for me to continue volunteering.

To my fellow volunteers: your hard work and willingness to give your time are what keep CALEP moving forward, and it reminds me that even small actions can create meaningful change. This award really belongs to all of you as well!

Thank you again for this honor.



# REFLECTIONS ON THE FRIENDS OF CALEP AWARD : CALTECH

## *What This Recognition Means*

### **What does receiving the Friends of CALEP Award mean to Caltech?**

It means a lot. It says that Caltech is having a positive impact on the industry and that matters to us. I've never done things to be recognized. Our involvement with CALEP comes down to supporting an organization and the people who have supported Caltech. The members of CALEP have been extremely generous to us over the years and have been vital to our success. Rory Brown, our Vice President of Business Development, deserves much of the credit for our involvement with CALEP. Without his leadership and the time he volunteers, Caltech's impact within CALEP simply isn't what it is.

### **What is Caltech's involvement with CALEP and the value of the relationship?**

Rory is Caltech's active member and volunteer within CALEP. His consistent presence and leadership have shaped the depth of our involvement. Beyond that, Caltech has been a regular sponsor and participant at events. But if I'm direct about the value of the relationship, it goes both ways. CALEP's members have provided business opportunities for Caltech or helped guide us toward them. The relationship-building that CALEP makes possible is significant. The CALEP community has been vital to our success.

### **Why is it important to support industry organizations like CALEP?**

Without associations like CALEP, the membership

has no voice. That voice matters as it's how land professionals establish themselves as vital to the energy industry, not an afterthought to it. CALEP sets a high bar for its members to strive for. It creates the relationships, the community, and the professional identity that make this a profession people are proud to be part of. That is worth showing up for.

### **What are some insights into Caltech's role in the industry?**

Caltech has been around for over 36 years. The industry has changed considerably in that time. Regulations are more complex and harder to keep current with. Caltech's role has evolved to match that. We're not just here to produce a plan or complete a survey. We're here to help land professionals and energy clients move forward with confidence, understanding the regulatory and geospatial landscape well enough to flag problems before they become costly ones. Our roots are in land surveying, but our value today is in bringing that awareness to the table early so it enables better decisions.

### **What are your thoughts on the future of the land and survey sectors? What does a strong industry community look like to you?**

Surveying is one of the oldest professions in the world. Its future is rooted in the client. Technology is changing how data is collected, interpreted, and delivered, and the regulatory environment continues to grow in complexity. Staying current on both fronts is not optional. But no tool or regulation replaces the discipline of truly understanding what

matters to your client. That has always been true. It will not change regardless of what comes next.

As for the energy industry, we've faced a strong headwind for so many years that it has almost felt normal. We may now be at a point where that is starting to lessen, perhaps even shift to be at our backs. The firms and professionals who stayed engaged, kept investing in their people, and maintained strong industry relationships through those years will be the ones best positioned when it does.

### **About Caltech**

Caltech is a Canadian-owned geomatics firm with over 36 years of experience supporting energy, infrastructure, and resource projects across Western Canada. Operating from offices in Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and Manitoba, Caltech delivers land surveying, geospatial, and GIS services through PM-led project partnerships, one point of coordination, consistent standards, and dependable follow-through. In complex projects where regulatory scrutiny and shifting scope create pressure, Caltech brings clarity and confidence. People and clients come first. That is the belief that drives everything at Caltech.

**Jade McLeod** is President of Caltech Group Inc., a position he has held since 2013. The son of a land surveyor, he joined Caltech in 2005 and has spent two decades working alongside energy clients from entrepreneurial juniors to established producers—developing a genuine passion for helping them succeed and building lasting relationships along the way. He believes strongly in the role industry organizations like CALEP play in connecting professionals and strengthening the profession, and is proud to count Caltech among its committed supporters.



Jade McLeod, President of Caltech Group Inc.



# SPOTLIGHT SERIES

## BRAD WILLISCROFT

*Team Lead, Mineral Land -  
Lloydminster Conventional,  
Strathcona Resources Ltd.*

*Interview by  
Wade McLeod,  
Director of Communications, CALEP*



***Tell us a bit about yourself and what first drew you into the land profession, particularly the mineral land side of the business.***

I was born and raised in South Calgary and graduated from SAIT in 2005 with a two-year business diploma. At the time, I fully intended to continue my post-secondary education and complete a business degree through the University of Lethbridge's transfer program with SAIT.

When I finished at SAIT in the spring of 2005, I was looking for summer employment, and I happened to be in the right place at the right time and landed a temporary job with NAL Resources, assisting their documentation team. It didn't take long for me to realize how much I enjoyed working compared to being in school. NAL continued to extend my

temporary position and eventually provided me with an opportunity on the mineral land side, where I helped with filing and other basic tasks. While I didn't know much about oil & gas at the time, my grandfather Bill Doherty was a landman and started his own company, Vermont Oil & Gas, in 1967. While he has since passed, his company remains active to this day, with my Nana still collecting royalty cheques from deals they did 40 years ago.

Before long, I made the decision to postpone my move to Lethbridge in the fall of 2005 and continued working. Even at 20 years old, that choice came with some criticism - especially from my mom, an elementary school teacher, who strongly emphasized the importance of continuing education!

As time went on, new opportunities kept emerging at

NAL, and I was eager to learn and take on everything they threw at me. I enrolled in all the mineral land courses available at night at Mt. Royal College. Eventually, I completed three separate mineral and contractual certificates over the next several years and also gained my official mineral certification from what was then CAPLA.

What started as a temporary role that was supposed to last a few days has turned into a long-term career. Now, 20 years later, I continue to evolve, learn, and contribute - it's been a wonderful journey.

***Could you walk us through your career journey and how you came to your current role with Strathcona Resources?***

During my seven years at NAL Resources, I was fortunate to gain broad exposure across the mineral land business. I started with the fundamentals - processing rentals and inputting BAs, before moving into land administration roles supporting active development teams across Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. I also developed significant experience in freehold leasing, working through complex offset situations and assisting with estate settlements involving lessors. That foundation gave me the confidence and skillset to advance my career, eventually moving into a more contract-focused role at Pengrowth.

Following Pengrowth's acquisition of NAL's public assets in 2011, I joined several former colleagues there in January 2012. It quickly became clear that Pengrowth would be a very different environment. It was a much larger organization, with more than 700 employees and production exceeding 100,000 bbls/d. However, after becoming over-leveraged developing their Lindbergh SAGD asset, the company was significantly impacted by the oil price downturn between 2014 and 2016 and was forced to make difficult decisions.

During this time, I was fortunate to transition into a role on the A&D team, something that proved to be a

pivotal turning point in my career. Between 2014 and 2017, Pengrowth was forced to sell the majority of its assets to pay off debt, and in turn, the employee head count went from over 700 to 35 full-time employees by the time we were bought by Cona Resources in early 2020. Throughout that period of time, the A&D team at Pengrowth executed and closed an incredible number of deals. I gained experience dealing with complex ROFR issues, sketchy purchasers that wouldn't show up to closings, and mountains of paperwork. This experience was invaluable and taught me the deal side of the business. Toward the latter part of my time at Pengrowth, I began leading smaller deals under the guidance of Dave Balderston, marking my first experience with negotiations.

Fast forward several months, and Strath Resources and Cona Resources merged to form Strathcona Resources in August 2020. Shortly after that merger, I had the opportunity to join the Kakwa/Resthaven area in northwest Alberta as a mineral landman - my first true role as an area landman. Kakwa had previously been managed by our VP at the time, Connie De Ciancio, who knew the asset exceptionally well, so I felt no pressure stepping into that role! It proved to be an outstanding place to grow. While we were actively drilling high-volume Montney pads, what stood out most from a mineral land perspective was the shallower Cretaceous rights. I was able to execute agreements with offsetting operators over that 5 year timeframe, which gave me a sense of contributing meaningfully to the team.

Strathcona itself has undergone significant transformation over the past several years. The company grew both organically and through acquisitions, increasing production from approximately 30,000 bbls/d in 2020 to nearly 200,000 bbls/d by 2025, prior to the sale of the Montney business. As has happened at different points in my career, I was fortunate to remain with the organization and transition into a new role. I am now in a Team Lead position on the Conventional Heavy Oil side of the business - my first leadership role. It's an exciting next step, offering the opportunity to lead

a small team while also working on a new set of assets and challenges.

***Looking back on your career, were there any mentors or role models who had a significant impact on your development as a mineral land professional?***

I've had the privilege of working with some incredibly talented people – too many to name. I am forever grateful to Evelyn Vandenhengel for believing in me at NAL Resources. The mineral land crew we had at NAL had some epic years. A true work-hard, play-hard company with relationships that continue on to this day. The leader who has had the greatest influence on my career, without question, is Dave Balderston. We have worked together now for 15+ years, and I continue to be impressed by the depth of his knowledge across so many aspects of the business. I've learned a great deal observing how he works through complex situations with confidence. He has been an exceptional mentor throughout my career and continues to be someone I learn from to this day. I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to shamelessly compliment my boss here – Thanks, ODB!

***Over the years, how have you seen the role of mineral land evolve within energy companies?***

I believe the role of the mineral landmen has expanded to include a broader range of expectations than it has in the past (I'm sure some will disagree). It seems like fewer companies are willing to take on risk, which makes deal-making challenging. ARO regulations are more important for being able to close deals, especially with smaller entities. A mineral landman who can flag certain risks early in evaluations (or in day-to-day business) can save time and money down the road. Being creative in an attempt to transact is becoming more important and a normal course of business.

***As Team Lead, Mineral Land, Lloydminster Conventional, what are some of the unique opportunities and challenges associated with managing mineral assets in a mature conventional***

***play?***

Day-to-day operations in the oil and gas industry are constantly evolving, with the broader macro environment playing a significant role in shaping annual development budgets and decision-making. In my current role at Strathcona, our Conventional team is focused on extending our development runway while maintaining a strong presence within our core operating areas. Identifying tuck-in acquisitions that complement and offset our existing lands is a consistent priority.

I feel like competition for resources has never been higher, and those who have it are in control. In addition to my core responsibilities, I now support and lead the mineral analysts within the Lloydminster conventional group, working to provide guidance and development opportunities similar to those that were instrumental in my own career growth.

***Mineral land work requires balancing technical, legal, commercial, and strategic considerations. What skills do you feel are most important for success in mineral land today?***

I think the most effective mineral landmen are those who develop a broad understanding of all facets of the business, even though that can feel overwhelming at times. This is where I feel like having a background from the ground floor up helps.

In my own experience, progressing through roles in land administration, contracts, A&D, and ultimately negotiations has provided a strong foundation to understand how these pieces fit together. I feel like you need to know where your blind spots are (everyone has them) and lean on your network and mentors when you get in a tight spot.

***How closely does mineral land integrate with other disciplines such as geology, engineering, business development, and surface land within an organization like Strathcona?***

While every company and role operates differently, the divisional structure within Strathcona allows us to function like independent businesses. We work closely with our technical teams, as well as surface land and business development, particularly when evaluating opportunities that would directly impact our day-to-day operations.

With the current strong macro environment, Strathcona is an awesome place to be, supported by substantial divisional budgets. We are very active, drilling a high number of wells, carrying out extensive evaluations, and advancing as many ideas as possible. Having spent over 20 years in this industry, I recognize that this level of activity isn't always the norm, which makes me especially appreciative of the position I'm in today.

***With industry consolidation and evolving asset portfolios continuing across Western Canada, how has that changed the way mineral land teams operate and create value?***

Consolidation creates multiple legacy land systems, different royalty burdens, and lease terms. The transition of onboarding a company's land system into your own and being able to provide internal departments with accurate data is getting faster. I think technology has changed the industry in a positive way, especially when speaking to consolidation. Tools like Stack, BOE Intel, and improving land systems have made it much easier to track competitor activity, follow results, and organize data. But even with better tools, the real value still comes from experience, judgment, and relationships.

***Is there a particular project, negotiation, acquisition, or experience during your career that stands out as especially memorable or impactful?***

A few examples come to mind, but over the years I've had the chance to work through and close several complex split-rights dispositions in W4. I've taken these deals from early-stage development through to closing, completing most of the work independently. One that stands out was late in my tenure at

Pengrowth, before electronic closings were common, with all purchasers (especially the small companies). I had an entire boardroom filled with organized stacks of closing documents for in-person execution, with lawyers observing from the sidelines. Anyone familiar with these heavier Freehold dispositions - where only a portion of the interest is being sold - knows how many opportunities there are for errors and mistakes. I was able to complete a few of these transactions over the years and, truthfully, wouldn't mind if I didn't have to tackle another one anytime soon.

***Looking ahead, where do you see the mineral land profession heading over the next 5-10 years?***

It's so difficult to say with our ever-changing world we live in. I would hope mineral landmen are still somewhat similar to what they are now. Adding value and guiding decisions for even more efficient companies. Thinking back to what landmen did 5-10 years ago compared to today, it isn't a stark difference, so I would hope that's the case going forward. I think we all need to embrace technology, but I don't see technology ever replacing the relationship part of the business.

***What advice would you give to someone considering a career in mineral land today?***

Strathcona has consistently supported the SAIT Energy Asset Management program's "Student Speed Networking" event since its inception, both through attendance and sponsorship. It's an excellent opportunity to connect with the next generation entering the industry. We've also had success hiring students from the program into both mineral and surface land roles.

When speaking with students, I always encourage them not to limit themselves to a single area of focus. The oil and gas industry offers a wide range of unique career paths, and surface and mineral land represent just a small part of what's available. Reflecting on my own career, I advise students to stay open to new opportunities, remain curious, and actively network. With a strong work ethic, there is tremendous

potential to build a rewarding and lasting career in this industry.

***Outside of work, what are some things you enjoy doing to recharge and maintain balance?***

My wife and I have two young boys at home and an 8-

year-old golden retriever, so most of my time is spent chasing the boys around and getting them to their various activities throughout the week. I was very active in sports growing up, and I will push my boys to be the same. So, I keep busy being Dad, and outside of that, I love to golf and just be active myself.



# SPOTLIGHT SERIES

## NOLAN TREBLE

*Manager, Land  
Kingston Midstream*

*Interview by  
Wade McLeod,  
Director of Communications, CALEP*



***Tell us a bit about yourself and what first drew you into the land profession.***

I grew up on a grain and cattle farm in southeast Saskatchewan, and my first exposure to the land profession came at our kitchen table around 1997. A Land Agent was working with my family on seismic permitting, and as I listened to him explain his career path, something clicked. I was about to graduate high school and wasn't entirely sure what direction to take, but his story caught my interest. I ended up asking him a lot of questions, to which he was more than happy to spend the time to chat about.

My knowledge of farming operations seemed like an asset, and I was drawn to roles that required both technical expertise and strong interpersonal skills.

Surface land work in oil and gas provided exactly that balance. The opportunity to work directly with landowners, communities, and regulators made the profession feel both challenging and rewarding, and it aligned well with the values and experiences I grew up with.

I decided to enroll in the Olds College Land program after taking time to consider my options. It was one of the best decisions I ever made.

***Could you walk us through your career journey and how you came to your current role as Manager, Land with Kingston Midstream?***

After graduating from the Land Agent program at Olds College in 2001, my career has been a steady

progression through various land roles.

I began my career with Progress Land International in the field, engaging with landowners in Saskatchewan on routing for a new proposed large-diameter pipeline running from Alaska to the lower 48. The pipeline project didn't move onto the acquisition phase and was ultimately cancelled, so I had the opportunity to accept a role coordinating pipeline reclamation activities in Alberta for the newly built Alliance Pipeline. After completion of that, I moved into the upstream world, acquiring oil and gas wells and flowlines in the Edmonton and Drayton Valley areas with Integrity Land. I decided once I had some money in my account, I would take some time to go backpacking through Europe for approximately 3 months to get some more life experience. I returned home and decided to move to Calgary to continue my career with D.R. Hurl & Associates, acquiring gas wells and flowlines near Calgary and around southern Alberta.

After "learning the ropes" as a Field Land Agent for approximately 5 years, I decided to make the jump to an in-house Surface Landman role and move into more complex project coordination and leadership responsibilities in downtown Calgary with PennWest Exploration and Quicksilver Resources. I was involved in upstream projects throughout B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba during my time in-house.

After approximately 15 years living and working in Alberta, I had the opportunity to move back to southeast Saskatchewan to continue my career with Legacy Oil and Gas. They were acquired by Crescent Point within a year of moving. I luckily had the opportunity to then join Evolve Surface Strategies and work as a field agent on the acquisition and construction of Enbridge L3R in Manitoba. Once that project was in the ground at the end of 2019, I joined Kingston Midstream out of their Estevan office. That broad exposure over my career helped me transition into a leadership role, where in the last 3 years, I have been in a management position at Kingston, overseeing land strategy, Public Awareness and

Stakeholder Engagement, Damage Prevention, project execution and maintenance activities across our operating areas of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

Over the last 25 years, I have gained a wealth of experience across multiple provinces, regulatory systems, and project types.

***Looking back on your career, were there any mentors or role models who had a significant impact on your professional development?***

Yes—throughout my career, I've been fortunate to work with mentors who emphasized professionalism, ethical decision-making, and the importance of building trust with stakeholders. There are a lot of great people who shaped my career, but a couple of key mentors in particular were Deryl Hurl and Al Gagne. Their guidance helped shape my approach to negotiations, conflict resolution, and leadership within the land discipline.

I have also been fortunate to work with and for some very knowledgeable people over the years who have helped guide me, such as yourself, Wade. There are too many others to mention, but the Land industry is very collaborative, and everyone seems willing to provide guidance or valuable insight when engaged.

***You began your career on the service side before moving in-house. How did those early experiences shape your approach to land work and leadership today?***

Working on the service side taught me the importance of efficiency, adaptability, and client service. I learned how to manage high workloads, keep myself organized, navigate diverse landowner personalities, and deliver results under tight timelines.

From working on projects in close proximity to

Calgary, to large-scale drilling programs, and onto large pipeline projects was extremely challenging, and I felt it provided a great multitude of experiences. Those experiences now influence my leadership style—I value clear communication, realistic expectations, and strong relationships with both internal and external stakeholders.

***Having worked across British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, what differences have stood out to you in terms of regulatory environments, stakeholder engagement, and land practices between provinces?***

Each province has its own regulatory framework, timelines, and expectations. Alberta has more established processes and an advanced regulatory framework, whereas British Columbia requires deeper engagement with Indigenous communities and greater attention to environmental considerations. Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba place strong emphasis on agricultural impacts and landowner relationships. Adapting to these differences has been essential for successful project execution.

Stakeholders across all provinces have become increasingly advanced in their operations, and I have found that early engagement is extremely important to reach a mutual agreement, especially on issues like pipeline routing.

***Midstream projects often involve long linear infrastructure and multiple stakeholders. What are some of the unique challenges associated with pipeline and facility development compared to traditional upstream projects?***

Midstream projects require extensive coordination across large geographic areas, multiple landowners, residents, municipalities, and regulatory bodies. Challenges often include route selection, land impacts on farming operations and impacts in populated areas, construction access, and long-term right-of-way management. Unlike upstream projects, midstream work demands a broader, more strategic approach to

engagement and long-term land stewardship. Other unique challenges are stakeholder engagement requirements and addressing environmental concerns.

***Over the course of your career, how have you seen the role of surface land evolve, particularly around stakeholder engagement, regulatory requirements, and public expectations?***

Surface land has become increasingly complex, with heightened expectations for transparency, consultation, and environmental responsibility. Stakeholders are more informed and engaged than ever, and regulatory requirements continue to expand. As a result, land professionals now play a more strategic role in project planning, risk management, and community relations.

One thing I have implemented at Kingston is to have Land engaged as early as possible, often prior to initiating connection negotiations with producers. Early on in my career, it seemed Land was the last department informed of a new project; now we are quite often one of the first. It shows how internal stakeholders have also learned of the importance of land access and management.

***Is there a particular project, negotiation, or stakeholder experience that stands out as especially memorable or that taught you an important lesson during your career?***

One experience that really stands out from early in my career was when I was coordinating pipeline reclamation work in a very contentious area in central Alberta. It was my first real exposure to industry opposition, and some of the encounters were intense and emotional. Up until then, most of my work had been fairly straightforward, so this was a whole new world for me. This experience is where I initially learned to listen to stakeholders' concerns and explore options to come to a mutual agreement. It was a very important step in my career. That particular job reinforced the

importance of communication - listening, patience, problem solving, and land experience in general—skills that are essential for resolving conflict and maintaining long-term relationships in the Land profession.

***Having worked both on the service side and in-house, how do the priorities and pressures differ between the two environments?***

Each role presents its own set of pressures and prioritization. Service-side roles often focus on delivering results quickly and efficiently for multiple clients, requiring organization and effective time management.

In-house roles require a broader view of corporate strategy, risk, and long-term stakeholder relationships. In-house work also involves more cross-departmental collaboration and internal decision-making processes. Each role can create a high-stress environment, but both can result in a rewarding outcome.

***Looking ahead, where do you see the biggest opportunities — or challenges — for the land and energy industry over the next several years?***

Key opportunities include stakeholder engagement in emerging energy and tech sectors, such as nuclear power and AI data centres, improved land-use technologies, and an evolving regulatory framework that relies on professional Land support for responsible development.

Challenges will likely involve increased public scrutiny, environmental expectations, and, although an opportunity if dealt with early on, more stringent regulatory requirements pertaining to consultation to get projects shovel-ready can also be a challenge.

***Talent attraction (the lack of youth) and talent retention continue to be a major topic in the industry. What do you think needs to happen to encourage more people to pursue careers in land?***

Raising awareness about the profession is essential—

many people don't realize how dynamic and rewarding land work can be. From existing focus areas such as upstream and midstream oil and gas, renewables, power transmission, telecom, potash facilities, gravel, and other mining opportunities, to new focuses such as AI data centres, nuclear power, lithium, and helium extraction.

Access to Land is essential in each of these areas. More educational outreach and clear career pathways could help attract new talent. Showcasing the variety of work—from field engagement to regulatory strategy—can also make the profession more appealing. Offering the appropriate education and training is essential to being successful in the Land profession. With more and more development taking place, Damage Prevention, Public Awareness, and Indigenous Relations are also increasingly important, providing numerous opportunities to diversify and broaden your career path.

***What advice would you give to someone considering a career in Surface Land today?***

Be curious, adaptable, and willing to listen and learn. Strong communication skills and emotional intelligence are just as important as technical knowledge. I would suggest starting as a field agent and learning all you can. Ask questions and don't be afraid to fail. Offer your opinion and learn from your mistakes. Building trust with stakeholders and colleagues will take you far, and embracing continuous learning will help you navigate the evolving landscape of the energy industry.

***Outside of work, what are some things you enjoy doing to recharge and maintain balance?***

I enjoy spending time coaching my kids in hockey and baseball, which keeps me busy throughout the year. I also enjoy golfing and camping when I have

the chance. Maintaining work/life balance is essential in a profession that often requires travel, high-pressure, high-stress situations, and decision-making.



# Kingston Midstream



# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

*Sandra Dixon | President- CALEP*

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## ***Building Momentum at CALEP***

As I reflect on the past year—and look ahead to the opportunities before us—I want to begin by recognizing the exceptional dedication of our outgoing 2025–2026 Board of Directors. Their time, energy, and leadership have been instrumental in driving CALEP’s continued success and growth. The impact of their contributions extends well beyond our association, strengthening the broader industry we serve. It has been a true privilege to work alongside such passionate and committed professionals—thank you for all that you have done.

At the same time, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to our incoming Board members. We are excited to have you join CALEP and look forward to the ideas, energy, and leadership you will bring in the year ahead. Your perspectives will be vital as we continue to evolve and advance our profession.

Earlier this month, the Board came together for our annual strategy session—an important opportunity to reflect on the evolving landscape of our industry and define CALEP’s future direction. The session generated fresh ideas, renewed focus, and strong alignment around our priorities as both an association and a profession.

As a result of this work, we have introduced several



***Sandra Dixon, President - CALEP***

important initiatives. A new Mineral-focused portfolio has been established to better support this growing sector within our industry. In parallel, we have re-energized our commitment to education and professional development through the launch of the NextGen Online Learning portfolio and the Advancing Professional Mastery portfolio. Together, these initiatives represent a significant step forward in strengthening knowledge sharing, advancing professional capability, and supporting the long-term growth of both our members and our industry.

Another major milestone is the launch of CALEP’s Compensation and Industry Utilization Study—the first of its kind since 2014. This long-anticipated initiative will provide valuable insights into industry trends and has been designed as an ongoing cycle to ensure our membership continues to benefit from relevant, data-driven intelligence moving forward.

Under the SLAC portfolio, we continue to expand industry engagement and knowledge sharing through

key initiatives such as pipeline cycling education, GIS Fusion, and ongoing collaboration with the CER Land Matters Group and Canada Action. These efforts play a critical role in keeping our membership informed, connected, and actively engaged in the issues shaping our profession.

Our Events portfolio has delivered another outstanding year of engagement. Signature events—including the poker tournament, curling bonspiel, hockey, and golf tournaments—saw strong participation, alongside collaborative initiatives such as the Triple Round Up and Trifecta. We were also pleased to introduce new events, including the highly successful crib tournament. The Merit Awards once again stood out as a highlight, celebrating the exceptional achievements and contributions of professionals across our industry. And as we look ahead, we are excited to welcome Oktoberfest to CALEP as we transition out of the summer season.

Membership growth continues to trend positively, further strengthening the diversity and representation within our association. At the same time, our Communications team has achieved significant milestones, including the successful launch of the new CALEP website and the continued evolution of The Negotiator. These efforts are enhancing communication, expanding our reach, and strengthening knowledge sharing across the profession.

Through our External Relations portfolio, we have been actively exploring increased collaboration across associations. By reducing duplication, strengthening advocacy efforts, and maintaining the unique identity of each organization, we are positioning ourselves for greater collective impact. We anticipate that 2026 will be a milestone year for inter-association collaboration, creating new opportunities to strengthen our voice and better serve our members and industry.

Education and professionalism remain central to CALEP's mission. In partnership with Re-train

Canada, we successfully launched our online Learning Management System, with several courses already in development, and our Ethics course is now available to members. Building on this momentum, we are expanding programming in emerging and high-demand areas such as artificial intelligence and project management, while also advancing post-secondary pathways to support the next generation of professionals entering the field.

Over the past year, CALEP has continued to evolve, grow, and strengthen its role within the industry—driven by the passion, commitment, and professionalism of our members, volunteers, partners, and Board. The momentum we have built is creating meaningful opportunities not only for our association, but for the future of our profession as a whole.

As we move into the year ahead, I am optimistic about where we are headed. From advancing education and professional development to strengthening industry collaboration and expanding member engagement, CALEP is well-positioned to continue delivering meaningful value.

None of this progress would be possible without the dedication and support of our membership. Thank you to everyone who contributes their time, ideas, and energy—your involvement is what drives CALEP forward and ensures we remain a strong, connected, and respected voice within the industry.

I look forward to the opportunities ahead and to continuing this journey together as we build on the strong foundation we have created.

Here's to another successful year for CALEP, our members, and the industry we proudly serve.

# INDUSTRY EVENTS

## 2026

### **Oil & Gas, Energy Infrastructure & Pipelines**

#### **SPE Canadian Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition (2026 dates TBA)**

Calgary, AB

<https://www.spe-events.org/canadianenergytechnology>

Upstream, midstream & E&P technology, operations, and innovation.

#### **Data Driven Oil & Gas USA 2026**

2026 — USA (City TBA)

<https://events.reutersevents.com/oilandgas/data-driven-usa>

Performance optimization, analytics, and digital transformation in O&G.

#### **SPE Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition (ATCE 2026)**

October 21–23, 2026 — Houston, TX

<https://www.atce.org>

One of the world's largest oil & gas technical conferences.

#### **Energy LIVE Conference & Exhibition 2026**

2026 — Houston, TX

Oil, gas, utilities, and power sector leadership event.

#### **Global Conference on Oil, Gas & Petroleum Engineering (GCOGPE 2026)**

Date TBA — Vancouver, BC

<https://globalconference.ca/conference/26th-global-conference-on-oil-gas-and-petroleum-engineering>

Global petroleum engineering & resource development forum.

### **Renewables, Clean Energy & Transition**

#### **CanREA National Renewable Energy Conference 2026**

<https://renewablesassociation.ca>

(Fall 2026 — TBA; national conference for wind, solar, and storage)

#### **VERGE 26 Climate Tech Conference**

<https://www.greenbiz.com/events/verge>

(October 2026 — San Jose; clean energy innovation, microgrids, hydrogen)

### **International Renewable Energy Conference (IREC 2026)**

<https://www.ren21.net/irec>

(Global venue for 2026 TBA; renewable markets & policy)

### **Wind Energy Conference Canada 2026**

<https://renewablesassociation.ca>

(2026 TBA; onshore & offshore wind development)

### **Electricity Transformation Canada 2026**

(Fall 2026 — Montreal, grid modernization & energy storage)

## **Indigenous Partnerships, Consultation & Community Development**

### **NCC Energy & Natural Resource Summit**

September 17–18, 2026 — Calgary, AB [2025 NCC Energy and Natural Resource Summit - National Coalition of Chiefs](#)

### **Indigenous Women in Industry Summit (IWIS)**

September 28–30, 2026 — Vancouver [Uniting Indigenous Women in Industry: Global Summit to Take Place in Vancouver in September 2026 - NACCA National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association](#)

## **Municipal & County Conventions (AB, SK, BC)**

### **Alberta**

#### **RMA – Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention & Tradeshow**

November (annual) — Edmonton, AB

<https://rmaalberta.com>

Largest gathering of Alberta reeves, mayors, CAOs, and county leadership.

#### **AUMA / Alberta Municipalities Convention & Tradeshow**

September (annual) — rotating locations

<https://www.abmunis.ca>

Cities, towns, villages — municipal leadership, land use, energy, planning.

#### **Alberta Planning Conference (APPI)**

October 2025/2026 (annual) — Alberta

<https://www.albertaplanners.com>

Land-use planning, community development, zoning, policy.

## **Saskatchewan**

### **SARM – Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Annual Convention**

#### **SARM Midterm Convention**

November (annual) — Saskatoon/Regina

<https://sarm.ca>

Policy updates, landowner issues, rural governance.

#### **Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute (SPPI) Conference**

Fall (annual) — Saskatchewan

<https://sppi.ca>

Land planning, zoning, municipal land use, and environmental review.

## **British Columbia**

### **UBCM – Union of BC Municipalities Convention**

September (annual) — Vancouver / Victoria / rotating BC

<https://www.ubcm.ca>

BC's largest municipal policy event. Heavy focus on land use, Crown/First Nation relations, and development approvals.

### **LGMA – Local Government Management Association of BC Annual Conference**

June (annual) — BC (rotating locations)

<https://www.lgma.ca>

Professional development for municipal CAOs, planners, and governance staff.

## **Agriculture & Farm Shows (Saskatchewan & Alberta)**

### **Alberta**

#### **AgSmart – Olds College**

July/August (annual TBD) — Olds, AB

<https://agsmartolds.ca>

Digital agriculture, drones, precision ag, soil & crop technology.

#### **Agri-Trade**

November 11 -13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Red Deer, AB

[Home - Agri-Trade](#)

Saskatchewan

**Ag in Motion Outdoor Farm Expo**

July 21-23, 2026 — Saskatoon, SK

<https://www.aginmotion.ca>

Outdoor demos, equipment, innovation, test plots — “Prairie farm show in a field.”

**Canadian Western Agribition (CWA)**

November 23 -29, 2026 — Regina, SK

<https://www.agribition.com>

The largest livestock show in Canada, with ag business, trade, and rural events.



# ON THE HORIZON

Please visit CALEP website [www.calep.ca](http://www.calep.ca) to register for the upcoming events



## 2026 GOLF TOURNAMENT



**July 23 | 12:00 - 21:00 MDT**  
Heritage Pointe Golf Club

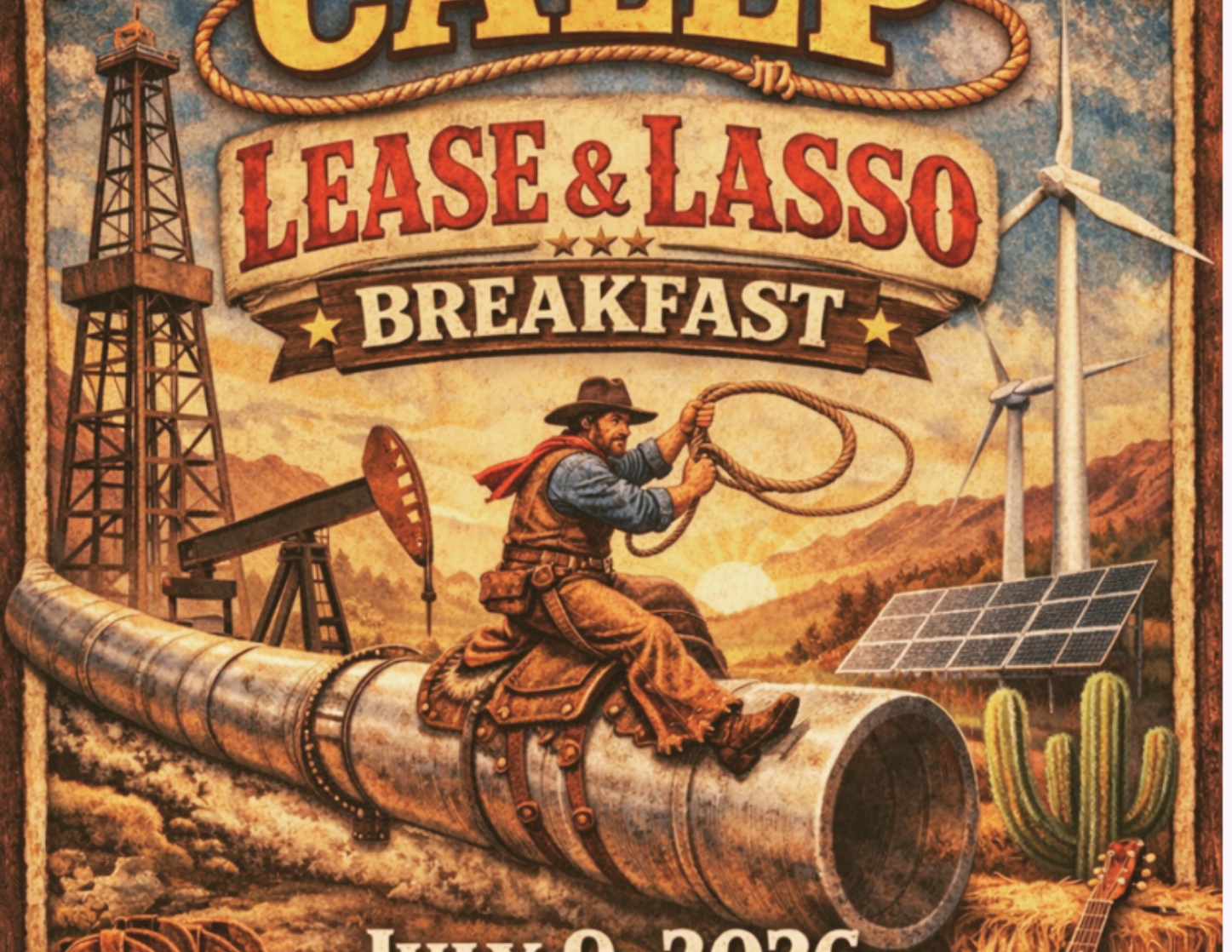
**Registration will close**  
**July 18, 2026 at 08:00**

**SADDLE UP PARTNERS!**

**CALEP**

**LEASE & LASSO**

**BREAKFAST**



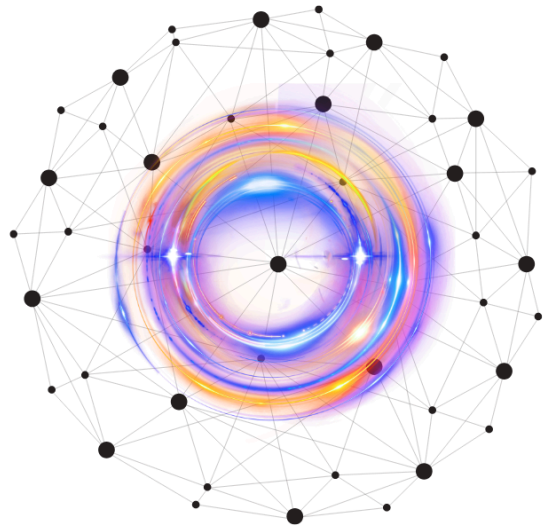
**JULY 9, 2026**

**7:30 am**

**Parking lot at  
208 - 9 Ave SW  
downtown Calgary**



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 **CALEP**

**2026**

Northern Horizons

Connecting People. Powering Progress

**Sep 26 - 29, 2026 / MDT**

**Edmonton, Canada**



### UPCOMING SLAC MEETINGS 2026 (AT CALEP OFFICE)

DATE	DAY	TIME
Sep 17, 2026	Thursday	12 pm to 1 pm
Oct 15, 2026	Thursday	12 pm to 1 pm
Nov 19, 2026	Thursday	12 pm to 1 pm
Dec 17, 2026	Thursday	12 pm to 1 pm

# GET SMART

For registration, please visit  
[www.calep.ca](http://www.calep.ca)

Date	Day	Course (At CALEP Office)
Sep 16	Wednesday	Advanced Surface Right Law
Nov 12	Thursday	Freehold Mineral Lease

*Save \$50 when you register at least 3 weeks in advance! Prices will increase 3 weeks before the course.*

*For more information or to register, please see the CALEP course schedule in its entirety here.*



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# CALEP IN ACTION

## Triple Round Up 2026

Bringing together professionals from across the land, energy, and right-of-way communities, this year's event once again demonstrated the power of connection, collaboration, and community. Hosted in partnership with LEMAC and IRWA Chapter 48, the Triple Round Up delivered an unforgettable evening filled with meaningful conversations, new connections, engaging activities, and plenty of Calgary summer energy.

A sincere thank you to our attendees, sponsors, volunteers, and partner organizations whose enthusiasm and support made this event such a success. Events like these strengthen our professional community and create opportunities that extend far beyond a single evening.



## Drilling Across Mixed Lands Lunch & Learn

This Lunch & Learn provided attendees with valuable insights into the complexities of drilling across mixed lands. Expert speakers shared practical knowledge, industry perspectives, and real-world experiences, sparking meaningful discussion among participants. Thank you to our presenters, sponsors, and attendees for contributing to another successful and informative CALEP event.



### June'26 SLAC meeting

The June SLAC meeting welcomed Joanna Shea, CEO and Founder of The Negotiations Collective, for an engaging session on negotiation, leadership, and relationship-building. Drawing on her extensive experience as a negotiator, facilitator, and advisor, Joanna shared practical strategies for navigating complex conversations with confidence and achieving better outcomes through collaboration. Members left with valuable insights they can apply in both their professional and personal negotiations.

# ROSTER UPDATES

## *ON THE MOVE*

- **Amber Elie:** PrairieSky Royalty Ltd. to Bull Pine Energy Inc.
- **Matthew Rasula, MBA:** Cenovus Energy Inc. to Independent
- **Dallas Henderson:** Independent to Bull Pine Energy Inc.
- **Erika Henderson:** Independent to Ayik Energy Corp.
- **Sandra Seltsam:** Independent to Sproule ERCE
- **Ryan Prud'Homme:** Esso to Imperial Oil
- **David Meier:** Lynx Energy ULC to Independent

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# IN MEMORIAM



## Harry Frederick Gabel

**May 11, 1946 - May 4, 2026**

Calgary, Alberta

*Harry Gabel of Calgary, AB, passed away on Monday, May 4, 2026, at the age of 79 years.*

*Born in Didsbury, AB, on May 11, 1946, Harry was known to many as “Dirty Harry” or “Hot Dog,” nicknames that reflected his vibrant personality and sense of humour.*

*Harry spent his life in Calgary, where he built a long and successful career as a landman in the oil and gas industry. Through his work, he formed countless friendships and lasting business relationships. Dedicated to his profession, Harry continued working until he was no longer able to do so in his final months. He was one of the longest-standing members of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen and was recognised for an incredible 50 years of membership in 2024.*

*An avid golfer, Harry was a longtime member of Bearspaw Golf Club, where he developed many close friendships. He also lived on the 12th hole for 37 years, combining his love of the game with his home life. In addition to golf, Harry had a deep passion for fishing and enjoyed many memorable trips over the years with family and friends.*

*Harry was also one of the founding members of Calgary’s senior men’s basketball association, where he played until he was over 70 years old and became its oldest active player. He was known for his fierce competitiveness, and one of the things he missed most in later years was being part of a team — a role he cherished for decades.*

*His love for the Calgary Flames was nearly as strong as his love for his family. A season ticket holder since the early 1980s, Harry was a passionate and loyal fan — quick to defend his team, especially in spirited debates with Oilers fans.*

*Harry also had a special love for Cabo San Lucas, where he vacationed*



*annually. Fondly nicknamed “Timeshare Harry,” he owned several timeshare properties there and created many cherished memories with loved ones.*

*He will be remembered for his favourite sayings, “Only great and getting better” and “It is what it is,” which reflected his outlook on life.*

*Harry is survived by his loving and supportive family, who were by his side throughout his illness in recent months. He leaves behind two sons, Brad Gabel and his wife, Melanie, of Delray Beach, Florida, and Darrin Gabel of Fort Saskatchewan, AB. He is also survived by five grandchildren — Aidan, Bretton, Logan, Samantha, and Ryan — and four great-grandchildren: Ava, Isabella, Bentley, and Louisa.*

*Harry is further survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law: Calvin and Linda Gabel, David and Elizabeth (Betty) Gabel, and John and Elaine Gabel, all of Calgary, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. His close friend, Dianna Clarke, was also a significant part of Harry’s life and was by his side during his final days.*

*He was predeceased by his parents, Jennie and Laurence Gabel.*

*Memorial Services will be held at McInnis & Holloway (Crowfoot, 82 Crowfoot Circle NW, Calgary, AB), on Friday, June 19, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. Reception to follow at the Bearspaw Golf Club (61 Hamilton Drive, Calgary, AB).*

*Rather than formal attire, summer business casual attire is encouraged.*

*Condolences, memories, and photos may be shared and viewed with Harry’s family [here](#).*

*In living memory of Harry Gabel, a tree will be planted in the Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area by McInnis & Holloway Funeral Homes, Crowfoot, 82 Crowfoot Circle NW, Calgary, AB T3G 2T3, Telephone: 403-241-0044.*

Memorial Service

Friday, June 19, 2026

2:30PM

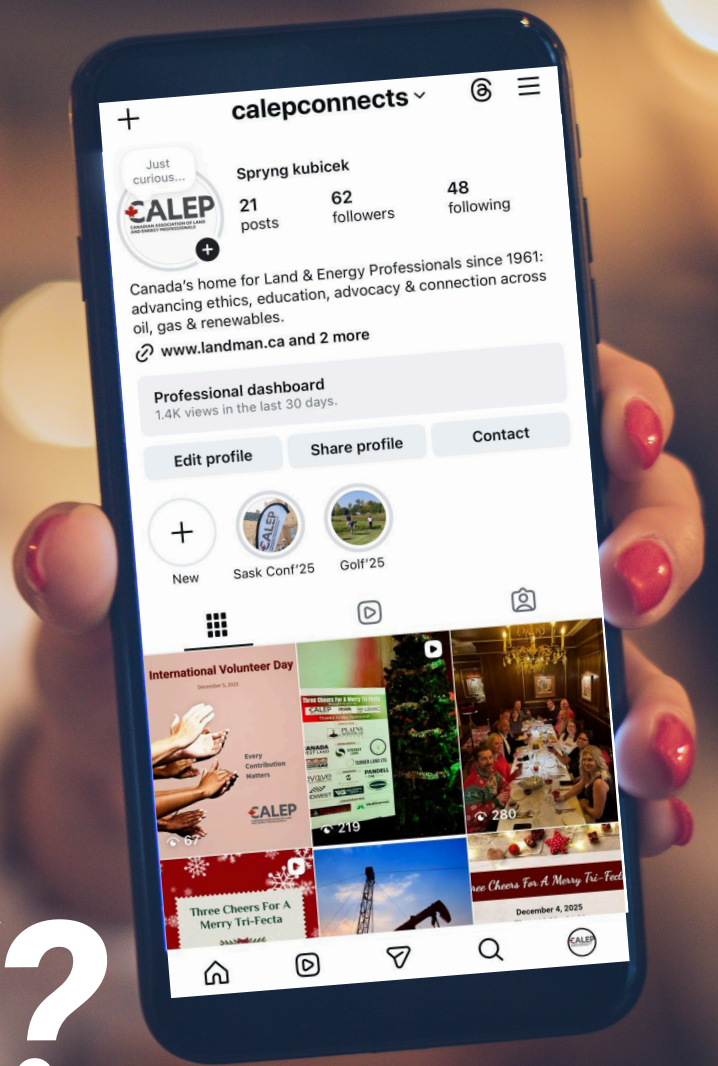
McInnis & Holloway, Crowfoot

82 Crowfoot Circle NW

Calgary, AB T3G 2T3

Reception to follow at the Bearspaw Golf Club. Rather than formal attire, summer business casual attire is encouraged.

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