

The Excavator



GCS Energy Services Ltd.

June 2017

From Greg's Desk...

Hello All,

Summer is near and I can't wait to get to the lake on July long!

Things are looking a bit more positive at GCS this year compared to this time last year. There has been some bigger projects announced and lots we have tendered that we are still waiting to hear a response. Virden is picking up as well now that break up is over. Jim, Justin, Steve and Brittaneer have been a busy group keeping everyone organized as well as hiring and training new hires in operator and laborer positions for us. It's nice to see us hiring again!

The Crushers have work for the summer and fall with projects in Red Deer, Hardisty and Special Area's. Civil Industrial is waiting to hear if we land some large projects but they have a few things on the go in the Hardisty area and north of Fort Mac which keeps most of our regular guys busy but we definitely need some more work. Hopefully we pick up something bigger soon and we can fill up our plate for the summer and fall work season. Marshall and the guys and gals in RD are continually looking and bidding on every opportunity and everyone here is anxious to get some more field projects awarded and started up soon.

Big announcement in Hardisty by Gibson's Petroleum as they have donated \$200,000 to the Hardisty Ag Society and will now have the naming rights to the arena going forward. I believe the new name will be the Gibson Energy Center. GCS applauds their contribution and hopes that others on the hill will follow suit as Hardisty is in need of grants and donations to keep their community infrastructure in good working order. Unfortunately, the town just doesn't possess the necessary resources on its own. I know this donation will be going towards the renovation of some much needed new dressing rooms and players boxes at the arena. GCS has been involved with the design and construction budgeting process along the way. It is essential that we keep this valuable resource in the best shape and current condition as possible and this money will go a long way to ensure that happens!

I hope everyone has an awesome summer, stay, play and work safe every day!

Take Care,
Greg Schmidt
President

**Staff
Count:
138**

Red Deer Office & Shop

Hi everyone. Here at Red Deer, the shop has been busy going through the rental returns. Jack has been counting down the number of track hoes he has left to wash. The boys are just about done going through them.

We have a few bigger jobs to do like pull an engine to get a torque converter seal and rebuild a skid-steer engine. It's been great to have Viet back on the welding truck. He can make a difficult job look like "small potatoes" as he likes to say.

Ritch gave us a scare the other week but he is looking better every time I see him. He's working on quitting smoking and doing a good job...keep it up!

We all have fingers crossed for the boys and girls upstairs to hit a job. They have been putting in some long days, long weeks and even a few weekends.

Hardisty Office

Hardisty is abloom... In more ways than one!

Here in Hardisty, the fragrant smell of flowers is floating in the air again this year! Suzan and Laura may not play in the dirt in traditional GCS fashion, but they faithfully purchased and planted a myriad of blossoming happiness again this year, and the front of the office boasts a welcoming display of colour and dedication. Thank you ladies for embracing your inner botanists and getting a little dirty. Our days are a little brighter now, thanks to you!

With all the moisture mother nature has showered us with so far this spring, the office is looking mighty green, and the demands of lawn care and landscaping are not slowing down. We welcomed Ryon Fuechtmann a few weeks ago, and this week we will also welcome Jayden Ramage, both shop labourers. Together they will maintain the exterior esthetic and keep our office pruned to perfection, amongst other duties. Welcome boys... and don't forget extra water and sunscreen!

Question: What did the bee say to the rose?

Answer: What's up bud?

Question: Do you know what little cutie is about to have a new little bud or buddette?

Answer: Jackson Bolivar!!!

That's right! Ashley Bolivar, our Human Resource Advisor, her husband Dave, and their little sweet pea Jackson, are growing a new little sprout! Baby Bolivar is set to make his/her appearance November 12, 2017! They snagged this



photo on their recent family trip to Hawaii, and can't wait to discover who their little seed will become! Congratulations to you and your growing family, Ashley!

Rodeo is fast approaching! Two years ago we introduced the Town of Hardisty to the likes of Loaded Larry, our good time having, western representin' cowboy of a loader; and last year, in rolled Dirty Gertie, our glitzy and glam, chap slappin' gravel truck. It was love at first dump (of dirt--- geesh!), so this year, we're rounding up our flower girls and putting their love on display, as Larry and Gertie say "I Do", Saturday, July 15, 2017!! So we'll shine up those boots, curl that stache, and order the flowers! We have a long list of to-do's before the I-do's.

In florally fashion, Lady Bird Johnson once said, "Where flowers bloom, so does hope", so here's hoping this summer blossoms into a bountiful one, full of memory making good times with loved ones and friends; and work! Here's hoping a bounty of jobs sprout like wild flowers with all this nice weather!

Quality is Our Commitment, Safety is Our Way Of Life, Diversity is Our Vision

NLS Office & Shop

NLS has had a busy spring. We have completed our bigger mechanical job with K+S doing the Recycle Line job and since then have steadily had 4-7 guys onsite doing smaller jobs. We gave K+S support during an outage and continue picking up jobs on a regular basis. The relationship with K+S is going well and they are calling on us for all their needs, as well as sending others to us. We have recently done (welded, tested, coated and installed) a gas line for Westside refrigeration after K+S directed them to use NLS for the mechanical scope.

We have also been given the opportunity to do a little job for Plains Midstream. It involves designing, welding, painting and installing a Loop Box at the Regina Terminal. The Box is ready to be installed next week.

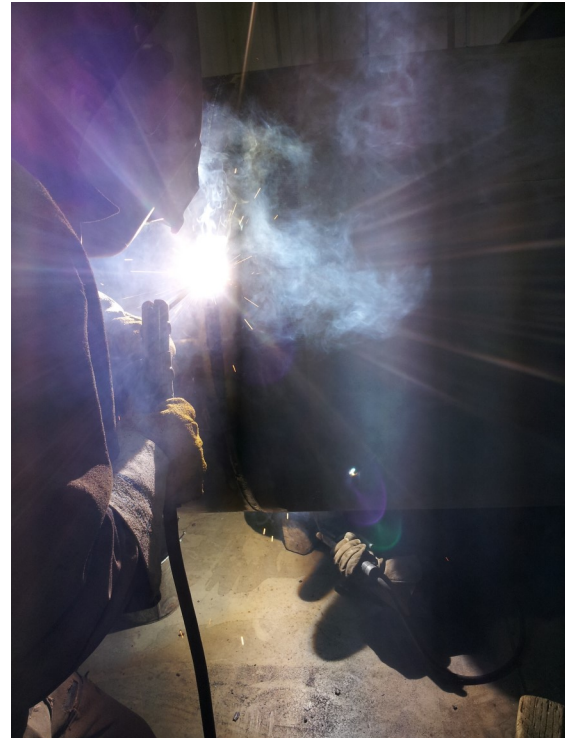
NLS has a piping job for Enbridge at the Glenavon Station that we have been awarded. We sent the drawings back to be revised as the material did not match what was in the field. We are still waiting for the revision. We have also recently fabricated and installed structural supports for Enbridge at Loreburn Station and Langbank Station. We had 2 welders, 2 helpers and visual inspection involved with Enbridge PLM out of Cromer for tank 103 tie ins. We are also now assisting Enbridge by doing some Red Books for Document Control turnover.

We also had the opportunity to do a little auto body on one of our welding rigs. Lucas and Nathan took it upon themselves to do some bodywork to the oldest welding truck in our fleet to enable it to pass the Provincial safety. They did a great job and it is now Safety Certified and on the road again.

The office renovation is coming along. We have recently moved some people upstairs with the new furniture, and the training room is being outfitted. We are now concentrating on the the main floor. Chrystal has now moved into front reception area, while the other offices and kitchen area are ongoing.

Our yard has never looked better. The back area is almost totally cleaned out and the newly installed security cameras survey the kingdom and can keep an eye on everything. Thanks to Kelly and Keith! The new phone system has been installed so if we hang up on you, sorry about that. Kelly and Pat have found an internet provider who says they can give us real internet so we are all really excited about that.

NLS is expecting a busy summer and we are looking forward to working side by side with GCS, soon on a project. Have a safe and enjoyable summer everyone.



With **Canada Day**
falling on a Saturday
this year, GCS offices
will be **CLOSED**
Friday, June 30
in lieu.

Virден Office & Shop

Virден Operations: Kicked off Job #556 Enbridge Erosion Control June 6th with a site kick off meeting. Ivan Landego and a crew of 5 or 6 will start construction June 12th.

We started with one cleanup crew at Waskada for Tundra. As of June 12th, we will have 3 including a crew at Lulu Lake in the very south of Manitoba on the US border working with Matrix consultants.

We have a flow line crew with Tundra. James Jones is supervising a crew of 6 - 10 people including a full time QA/QC person. Jennifer Gagnon has started with us to look after the QA/QC. We are happy to add her to our team.

We have been doing some flow line ROW cleanup for Corex from last year's construction season, keeping 1-2 operators busy.

We will be starting the finishing work at 10-27 where we were working all winter with Matrix. A crew of 6 operators and a couple of ground people will be starting June 12th.

We are starting a cut and cap program with Matrix/Tundra just across the Saskatchewan border on June 12th with 1 operator.

We will be starting battery improvements the 3rd week of June for Corex with a small crew of 4 - 6 workers.

We are still waiting to hear from 3 or 4 Matrix consultants we work with that have work as well as a Vertex and a Summit consultant we work with that we anticipate calls from any day. We have been talking to them over the past month and they are just preparing their jobs. As well, we should be getting a call from Corex shortly for a flowline crew.



FIELD PROJECTS:

Job 548 - CNRL - Ron Claxton

The tank base has been completed and the tank builders are busy erecting the shell. Our Firewater line is installed and pressure tested and backfill is nearly complete with re-installing the existing berms. We will be installing berm liner this week and removing the temporary north berm. We are waiting for the approval to start excavating the new storm line to the west in the near future. Thanks to Eldon, Shane, Brady and Jeff for their help on this project.

Job 545 - Tyson Trotzuk

We are on the tail end of this job with about one month left to finish it off. We've completed 90% of the grade beams and are currently working on the structural slab. Our first big slab pour will be on Monday, June 19 on the structural slab area of the basement. We're also working on pile caps and bolts. We still have some small miscellaneous pours to complete such as: front entrance, walkways and side walks. We have 7 guys on site right now.

Job 554 - Eldon Dietz

We just finished Job 554 in Hardisty at Gibsons. It was a 5 man crew and we were doing some grading under bullets at the Frac plant.

Job 539 - Eldon Dietz

We are cleaning out the lagoon for the Town of Hardisty. We have a good start on it prepping access roads and cleaning bull rushes out from the pond. That job is expected to run for another 15 days.



Safety Corner

Pest and Pesticide Safety

A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances used to prevent development of, repel, destroy, or kill a pest.

Pests are living organisms that bother, injure, or cause damage to buildings, plants, humans, and animals, including pets.

Pesticides includes many products, like:

- herbicides to control weeds
- fungicides to control certain types of plant diseases
- insecticides to control bugs
- rodenticides to control rats, mice, and other rodents
- sanitizers for swimming pools and spas to control micro-organisms

Pesticides are made from both man-made (synthetic) and naturally occurring (biochemical) active ingredients.

For example, the lawn care product 2,4-D is synthetic, while a pesticide with acetic acid (found in vinegar) is biochemical.

Pesticides are strictly regulated in Canada

Health Canada only registers products that will not harm human health or the environment. Health Canada does not register pesticides that are known to cause cancer or other illnesses when used according to label directions.

Pesticides can be hazardous

Whether they are man-made or naturally occurring, pesticides can harm people, pets, and the environment if not used carefully.

Like many other chemical products, pesticides are toxic and can cause injury, like burns and poisoning.

Use pesticides safely!

Read and follow all label directions. When buying a pesticide, always look for a Pest Control Products (PCP) number on the label. This way you know the product has been tested and approved by Health Canada.

-Government of Canada

Health Canada has a Pesticide Product Information Database

Speaking of pests...here's what Virden Office is dealing with...tent caterpillars...ewww!



Read the label and wear the proper protective equipment!

Many products require the use of respirators and chemical resistant gloves. Always look at your PPE to make sure it will protect you from the product being used.

Safety Corner

7 Provinces have legislation banning the use of all or some chemical pesticides (Apr 2015).

Newfoundland and Labrador, P.E.I., Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and Alberta

-Statistics Canada

Manitoba has legislation allowing the sale of only federally approved bio-pesticides (Jan 2015).

-Statistics Canada

Our very own Steve Cunningham suited up to deal with those pesky tent caterpillars in Virden.

Using a pesticide

- Carefully read all label instructions and warnings before using pesticides.
- Never mix different pesticides together, unless the instructions tell you to.
- Use a pesticide only for its stated purpose. For example, never use a pesticide indoors when it is intended for outdoor use.
- Do not apply pesticides directly to people, clothing, or bedding, except when told to do so on the label (i.e. personal insect repellents).
- Do not drink, eat, or smoke while applying pesticides.
- Do not rub your eyes or touch your mouth while working with pesticides.
- People and pets should leave the area during treatment, especially children, pregnant women, and elderly people.



Safety Tips

Make sure to correctly identify the type of pest you are dealing with first and to take steps to control the pest population by insect or rodent-proofing your home.

If you decide to use a pesticide, make sure you buy a product that includes the name of the pest you are trying to control on the label.

Always follow these pesticide safety tips:

- Only purchase and use pesticides that have been registered by Health Canada for their intended use.
- Carefully read all label instructions and warnings before buying or using pesticides.
- Only buy the amount of the product needed for the treatment.
- Use a pesticide only for its stated purpose. For example, never use a pesticide indoors when it is intended for outdoor use.
- Never mix different pesticides together, unless the instructions tell you to do so.

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Canada is turning 150 Years Old!!

Here are some fun facts you may or may not have known about CANADA!

1. The Canadian federal Government announced it would be spending an estimated half a billion dollars on 150th anniversary events and projects.
2. The official emblem of the sesquicentennial was designed by Ariana Cuvin, a then-19-year-old student in the University of Waterloo's global business and digital arts program. It consists of 13 multi-coloured diamonds forming a maple leaf; Cuvin stated that the four diamonds forming the emblem's base represented Canada's four original provinces, while the others represented the provinces and territories that had joined since. The government described the emblem as reflecting Canada's unity and diversity.
3. The Bank of Canada released a commemorative \$10 banknote for Canada's sesquicentennial, which was expected to be broadly available by Canada Day.



CANADA 150
1867-2017



4. This 150 year milestone is called a sesquicentennial (pronounced: SES-kwuh-sen-TEN-nee-yul).
5. Canada has a wealth of unusual place names. In Newfoundland alone you can count them to your Heart's Content (or Heart's Delight or Heart's Desire). Some that caught our eye include:

- Sober Island, N.S.
- Blow Me Down Provincial Park, NL
- Big Beaver, S.K.
- Bacon Ridge, M.B.
- Come by Chance, N.L.
- Mushaboom, N.S.
- Mayo, Yukon.
- Goobies, N.L.
- Dildo, N.L.
- Wawa, O.N.
- Mono, O.N.
- Crotch Lake, O.N.
- Uren, S.K.
- Vulcan, A.B.
- Balls Creek, N.S.
- Ball's Falls, O.N.
- Eyebrow, S.K.
- Elbow, S.K.
- Finger, M.B.
- Climax, S.K.
- Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, AB
- Dead Man's Flats, A.B
- Stoner, B.C.
- Punkeydoodles Corners, O.N.

→ We also have a town with exclamation points, Quebec's Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha!

→ The longest place name in Canada: Pekwachnamaykoskwaskwaypinwanik Lake, MB. Its name is said to mean "where the wild trout are caught by fishing with hooks."

6. Canada has one fifth of the world's freshwater.
7. Canada stretches across six time zones.
8. Our public broadcaster, the CBC, launched in 1936 to unify this sprawling country.

9. Here's the Canadian Red Ensign, the flag that got bumped by the Leaf. After much debate and disagreement, the Canadian Red Ensign was replaced by the modern Maple Leaf flag in 1965.



10. Canada is home to over 36 million people.

11. Canada has the world's longest: Recreational trail. (The Trans Canada Trail, a.k.a. The Great Trail.) Beaver dam. (At Wood Buffalo National Park.) And beard on a living male. (Sarwan Singh of Surrey, B.C. holds the Guinness World Record.) We've got the world's deepest underground clean lab. Not to mention the most polar bears, maple syrup and doughnut shops per capita.



12. Here are a bunch of inventions we can claim. (And if you think this list was easy to whip up, try claiming credit for the zipper or lacrosse.)

- Basketball
- Bloody Caesar
- Canadarm
- Garbage bag
- Goalie mask
- Insulin
- Poutine
- Egg carton
- Walkie-talkie
- Wonderbra
- Alkaline battery
- Cardiac pacemaker
- Caulking gun
- Computerized braille
- Electric wheelchair
- Electric organ
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Java programming language
- Jolly Jumper
- Keyframe animation
- Peanut butter
- Prosthetic hands
- Robertson screwdriver
- Rotary snowplow
- Five pin bowling
- Standard time
- Trivial Pursuit
- Snow blower
- Snowmobile
- Telephone
- Gas mask
- Foghorn
- Pabulum
- Paint roller

Our Provinces & Territories



British Columbia
Population: 4,648,055
Birthdate: July 20, 1871
Capitol: Victoria



Alberta
Population: 4,067,175
Birthdate: Sept. 1, 1905
Capitol: Edmonton



Saskatchewan
Population: 1,098,352
Birthdate: Sept. 1, 1905
Capitol: Regina



Manitoba
Population: 1,278,365
Birthdate: July 15, 1870
Capitol: Winnipeg



Ontario
Population: 13,448,494
Birthdate: July 1, 1867
Capitol: Toronto



Quebec
Population: 8,164,361
Birthdate: July 1, 1867
Capitol: Quebec City



Newfoundland/Labrador
Population: 519,716
Birthdate: March 31, 1949
Capitol: St. John's



New Brunswick
Population: 747,101
Birthdate: July 1, 1867
Capitol: Fredericton



Prince Edward Island
Population: 142,907
Birthdate: July 1, 1873
Capitol: Charlottetown



Nova Scotia
Population: 923,598
Birthdate: July 1, 1867
Capitol: Halifax



Yukon
Population: 35,874
Birthdate: June 13, 1898
Capitol: Whitehorse



Northwest Territories
Population: 41,786
Birthdate: July 15, 1870
Capitol: Yellowknife



Nunavut
Population: 35,944
Birthdate: April 1, 1999
Capitol: Iqaluit

Happy Anniversary!

*These employees
have hit some
important work
milestones with
GCS!*

Jack Lougheed
Wash-bay Attendant
5 Years



Denise Paul
Field Administrator
5 Years



Suzan Moore
Accounts Payable
10 Years



Marshall Sudeyko
Chief Estimator
10 Years

Ritch Sudeyko
Sr. Estimator
10 Years



Most people like to DRINK their margaritas but what about eating them in a pie! This recipe is tried, tested and approved by the Barber Family.

Enjoy!



Frozen Margarita Pie

Filling:

- 1 (14 oz.) Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 1/3 Cup Frozen Limeade Concentrate OR Margarita Mix
- 2 Tbls Orange Liqueur
- 1 Cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 lime sliced for garnish (optional)
- 3 Drops Green Food Coloring (optional)

Crust:

- 1 Cup finely crushed pretzels
- 1/4 Cup white sugar
- 1/3 Cup Margarine

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
2. Mix pretzels and sugar together in a bowl; stir in margarine until evenly incorporated. Spoon mixture into a 9-inch pie plate; press into bottom and up sides of plate to form a firm, even crust.
3. Bake crust in the preheated oven until edges are lightly browned, about 5 minutes. Let cool.
4. Mix sweetened condensed milk, limeade concentrate, tequila, orange liqueur, and green food coloring in a large bowl.
5. Beat cream in a glass or metal bowl until soft peaks form. Fold whipped cream into sweetened condensed milk mixture. Spoon filling into cooled crust.
6. Cover pie with plastic wrap and freeze until firm, about 4 hours. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving; garnish with lime slices.

*Makes 8 servings

Memorium

GCS said goodbye to one of its own. On February 26, 2017, Dan Tennant passed away from a battle with cancer. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends. Rest easy, Dan.

*Dan Foster
Tennant
March 10 1959 -
February 26 2017*



Dan Foster Tennant was born March 10, 1959, in Wainwright, Alberta to Hazel McArthur Tennant and N. Foster Tennant. He grew up on a farm just North of Amisk and was a busy, adventurous boy who enjoyed horses, motorbikes, hockey, and baseball. Dan attended Amisk School through grade eight and then attended Hughenden Central High until he graduated in 1978.

Hockey was a large part of Dan's life. He played minor hockey in Hughenden, eventually moving up to play for many years with the Hughenden Jets and then with the Hardisty Stampeders in the Battle River Hockey League.

In February of 1977 at a broomball game in Czar, AB Dan met his true love, Katherine Dance, they were later married in October of 1980. In March of 1984, they welcomed their first daughter, Bobbi. MaryAnne, their second daughter, was welcomed in July of 1985. Many happy years were spent working on the farm and travelling to sporting events as a family. In 1990, Dan and his girls started training in taekwondo together. For more than a decade they travelled together to classes, tournaments, and tests, eventually becoming 2nd-degree black belts, creating many wonderful and happy memories together.

In 2002, Dan and Katherine rented out the farm and began an adventure driving truck all throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan that would last for four years. In 2006 Dan joined GCS Energy Services Limited in Hardisty, then in 2009 Dan and Katherine bought their own truck and worked long-haul trucking. For the next two years, they travelled all throughout Canada and the United States. It was an incredible experience, and they absolutely loved the time they spent together.

In 2011, their daughter MaryAnne told them that they were going to be grandparents! With the happy news, Dan and Katherine made the decision to return to GCS Energy so that they could be around to enjoy and be a part of their grandchildren's lives. Dan worked for GCS until June of 2016 when he became too ill to work any longer. For the last nine months Dan waged a battle with cancer that he would not win, and in February of 2017 he passed on with Katherine present until the very end.

Dan was predeceased by his parents, Hazel McArthur Tennant and N. Foster Tennant, and his brother, Dave Tennant. Dan is survived by his wife, Katherine Tennant; his daughters, Bobbi Tennant and MaryAnne Tennant Bishop; son-in-law, Nicolas Bishop; grandchildren Addison and Connor Bishop.

Dan's extended family, of which he was very close with include his father- and mother-in-law, Dave and Vivian Dance; brother-in-law and wife, Bill and Karen Dance; nephew and family, Justin and Jessica Dance, along with their children Quinn, Payson, and Charlee; niece, Nicole Dance and her fiancé Kevin; nephew, Jon Watt, his partner, Sandra, and their children Haylee, Scotty, and Jaylynn; and his brother-in-law, Frank Dance and his wife, Melanie; as well as his aunt, and numerous cousins and friends.

As with Dan's wishes, there will be no funeral services. The family asks that you take this time to remember Dan in your own way.

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