



## PROFILES OF THE 2009 PGAC AWARDS OF DISTINCTION WINNERS

The Propane Gas Association of Canada (PGAC) is pleased to present the following profiles of the winners of the PGAC's 2009 National Propane Awards of Distinction, as announced on Thursday evening, June 4<sup>th</sup>, during the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual PGAC Conference at the Westin Ottawa in Ontario.

This marks the third year of this prestigious awards program, which aims to bring recognition to those individuals and companies who have achieved success in the propane industry and, through the student scholarship award, to highlight the richness of experience possible through a career in the industry.

The 2009 Awards Program consists of four awards:

- **President's Award – Individual (Mr. Bob Bush)**
- **President's Award – Company (Shell Canada Energy)**
- **PGAC Volunteer Service Award (Mr. Maurice Gratton)**
- **W.L. Kurtze Student Scholarship Award (Mr. Christopher Rousch)**

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD – INDIVIDUAL: MR. BOB BUSH

This award recognizes individuals who have made significant or consistent outstanding contributions to the standards and practices of the propane industry. It acknowledges the hard work, dedication and commitment that these individuals provide. The award has the objective of encouraging individuals to contribute to the leadership, promotion and understanding of the propane industry.

The 2009 President's Award (Individual) was presented to **Mr. Bob Bush, Canwest Propane Partnership**, Calgary, Alberta.

Dedication in contributing to the leadership, promotion and understanding of the propane industry has been a 29-year commitment for Mr. Bush. Originally from Trail, British Columbia, he attended the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, before starting his working career with a steel manufacturing company. In 1970, Bob transferred to Calgary and eventually became Vice President of a former agent for the manufacturing company. Later, having owned an equipment rental company, he moved to an affiliated company as Vice President of Operations for



*Left to right: PGAC Board Chairperson Dan McPhee, Bob Bush, PGAC President Ann Marie Hann.*

its regional propane operations. Bob joined his present employer in 2000, becoming an Area Manager, with a recent change to Consultant.

Bob has been active in PGAC affairs for as long as most can remember! His service has included all manner of functions, boards, and committees, at both provincial and national levels. Committee highlights include his tenure as the industry representative on the Alberta Safety Codes Council and more recent issues brought before the Canadian Standards Association (particularly the B149 series of codes), Measurement Canada, and Alberta Transportation. His multiple board positions (Director and Chairperson) include both the PGAC and its subsidiary, the LPG Emergency Response Corporation. He continues to Chair the PGAC's Alberta meetings and can be counted on to participate in the on-going activities of the Association.

Forever patient, there seems to be no limit to the support Bob continues to provide, always without hesitation or desire for recognition. Bob describes his involvement as an integral part of being engaged in one's work. "Volunteering provides a two-way benefit," he explained. "It gives companies and individuals an opportunity to provide input on challenges that must be overcome, and the pay back is first-hand information on what's about to transpire, plus the advantages of looking out for each other."

Bob's consistent contributions to professionalism and promotion of the highest standards in the propane industry have earned him an extremely high level of regard and respect from all who know and have come into contact with him. When asked if there was anything he'd like to say, Bob chose these words. "I applaud the PGAC of the day and its current members – it's important for players to come to the table. To meet the challenges related to regulations, technical issues, and many other issues, we need the effort of the group."

## PRESIDENTIAL AWARD – COMPANY: SHELL CANADA ENERGY

This award recognizes companies that have made significant, unique and outstanding contributions to propane management in Canada. It appreciates the value of contributions made over a sustained period as well for singular momentous achievements. This award has the objective of encouraging excellence and leadership in company contributions to the Canadian propane industry.

The 2009 President's Award (Company) was presented to PGAC member company **Shell Canada Energy**, Calgary, Alberta.

Active in Canada for almost 100 years, Shell Canada Energy is a fully integrated producer, processor and marketer of Natural Gas Liquids (NGL's) and Liquefied Petroleum Gases (LPG's). In 2008, combined LPG sales of ethane, propane and butane exceeded 36,000 barrels per day, with related revenues exceeding \$825 million. With a geographically diverse supply and marketing network, Shell Canada Energy is well positioned to meet the needs of customers from coast to coast.

A long-time member of the PGAC and its subsidiary, the LPG Emergency Response Corporation, Shell Canada Energy has demonstrated a strong commitment to the propane industry and to the PGAC. It has shown its support of the goals of the industry by encouraging employees to become directly involved with the activities of the Association, and facilitating their efforts. This has included sustained representation at the board level for the PGAC and the LPG Emergency Response Corporation, as well as through participation in a litany of Association initiatives.

"It is Shell's perspective that a strong propane industry is important," explained **Drew Harris**, General Manager, LPG Business- Canada, and Shell spokesperson. "As a large producer, we play a role in the value chain, so having a robust domestic industry is good for Shell and it's good for the industry. It's our role to support our investments, not just with dollars, but also with business skills, leadership and good people. In the end, the quality of our products really is only as good as the quality of our people, and I'm proud to say we have some of the best people in the business."

The award was accepted by Shell's **Dominic Michiels**, LPG Marketing Manager – Canada.



*Left to right: PGAC Board Chairperson Dan McPhee, Dominic Michiels, PGAC President Ann Marie Hann.*

## PGAC VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD: MR. MAURICE GRATTON

This award recognizes individuals who have made significant or consistent outstanding volunteer service contributions to the PGAC. The award appreciates the hard work, dedication, and commitment that individuals provide through exceptional leadership and outstanding volunteer service. This award has the objective of encouraging individuals to contribute to the leadership, promotion and understanding of the propane industry through volunteerism with the Association.

The 2009 PGAC Volunteer Service Award was presented to **Mr. Maurice Gratton, NGL Supply Co. Ltd.**, Calgary, Alberta.

A 20+ year veteran in the propane industry, covering all aspect of supply, logistics, marketing and trading, Mr. Gratton is an owner and Vice President at NGL Supply Co. Ltd., a private wholesale marketing and



*Left to right: PGAC Board Chairperson Dan McPhee, Maurice Gratton, PGAC President Ann Marie Hann.*

transportation company. He handles numerous supply and customer issues on both sides of the U.S.-Canadian border and is well recognized throughout North America for his work.

As a PGAC volunteer, Mr. Gratton has worked quietly and tirelessly in various leadership roles to advance the interests of the propane industry. For many years, and continuing today, he has been an active member of both the PGAC Board of Directors, and with its subsidiary, the LPG Emergency Response Corporation. Likewise, he is Chairperson of the PGAC Shippers' Group and a Canadian Director with the National Propane Gas Association in the U.S. Not one to toot his own horn, Maurice characterized his extraordinary commitment as an ordinary expectation: "It's inevitable there will be inequities in the industry, so we all play a part in lobbying, working with all those involved in our industry, trying to find a way to comply and compromise that works for all of us."

When asked what prompted him to step up to the plate over the years, he offered this perspective: "It makes sense to give back to the industry that supports you and your family. I've always tried to be involved at work with industry in the same way I'm involved at home with community."

## W.L. KURTZE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: MR. CHRISTOPHER ROUSCH

The W.L. Kurtze Scholarship Award, valued at \$1,000, has been established to honour Bill Kurtze for his exemplary contributions, dedication, commitment and leadership to the PGAC. The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide financial assistance, annually, to recipients planning or pursuing a career related to the propane industry, for post-secondary education at a Canadian Vocational or Trade School, Community College, or University.

The 2009 W.L. Kurtze Student Scholarship Award was presented to **Mr. Christopher Rousch, Provident Midstream LP**, Calgary Alberta.

As Manager of Engineering and Construction at Provident Midstream LP, Mr. Rousch is currently responsible for the technical services located at the Provident facilities, as well for all capital expansion projects, which have amounted to \$100 million over the past five years. About the industry, Chris has said, "I discovered the world of Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs) early in my career and was fascinated by the expanse of opportunities."

A Queen's graduate (Chemical Engineering), Chris has been enrolled in the Cornell-Queen's Executive MBA Program since April, 2008. He spends most weekends attending 10 hours of class time via teleconference with students from 12 other sites across North America. This will continue into the fall of this year, as will his homework and study assignments, which average an additional 20-30 hours per week. Chris reports he enrolled in the MBA program to better understand the higher-level management aspects of business. "I'm pursuing an MBA so I can learn more about the business, the financials, sales, and the mechanisms for decision-making. These skills, combined



*Left to right: PGAC Board Chairperson Dan McPhee, Chris Rousch, PGAC President Ann Marie Hann.*

with my engineering knowledge and experience will allow me to provide increasing value to my employer.”

Thanking the PGAC for the availability of the scholarship, Chris made a point that resonates with many, “Going to school comes with additional expenses that add up, especially where travel is required. Access to a scholarship is very helpful in that regard.”

## THANK YOU!

The PGAC thanked **BP Canada Energy Company** for its generous sponsorship of this year’s awards reception and dinner. Thanks were also extended to **Propane Canada** magazine for providing Awards Dinner photography. Appreciation was acknowledged for those who brought forward deserving candidates through the preparation of nomination packages.

## GET YOUR 2010 NOMINATIONS IN BY MARCH 31, 2010

To download the 2010 Nomination Package, go to the PGAC website for details under All About Propane / Events / Industry Awards, or [click here](#).