



Probis Club of Central Edmonton

October 2016

Editor: Ken Hoffman

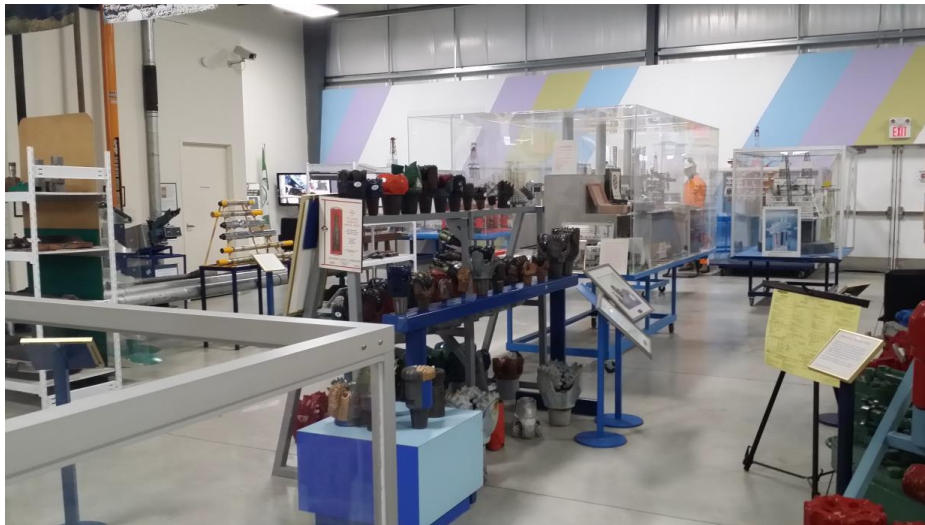
Speaker: October 18 – Sheldon Weatherby, Leduc #1

October 18, Sheldon Weatherby delivered an intriguing presentation on the history of Leduc 1, energy industry and on the Discovery Centre. The presentation was accompanied by the original radio coverage when Leduc 1 oil well started to flow in 1946, as well as, video of the Centre. We learned that, while there were earlier wells, Leduc 1 was the first significant oil well and that it had a major impact on the energy sector. In many respects, it is the start of the energy industry we know today. It enabled Canada to become self-sufficient in oil. He spoke about a second well that blew and started to burn. It hit the world news and let everyone know that we had oil in Alberta. Also, we learned some interesting facts about Leduc 1 and the energy industry in Alberta.

Tour: October 25 - Leduc #1

Members of the Club (about 15) drove through the drizzle on October 25 to attend the Leduc 1 Discovery Centre. It was well worth the trip. The Centre has a remarkable collection. It contains displays that tell the history of our land and why we have oil and gas. Including the distribution of oil and gas field as well as coal.

The following is a picture of the part of the drill bit display. The rotary bit, which revolutionized the industry, was invented by Howard Hughes. They have one of these on site. In the background, one can see the models of drilling rigs used in exploring the oil field under the ocean.



Our guide engaged in one of her many explanations of what we were looking at. She was remarkably patient answer the many question we had.



This picture is of a model of a drilling rig that would have been deployed in Alberta. We received a length explanation of how it worked. In the back ground, is the world’s largest drill bit. It is a display that we entered to receive a visual experience of a drill bit seeking out an oil field.



We all appreciated the warm and informative welcome at the Centre. The tour was topped off with a trip to Florida Pizza Steakhouse for some fine pizza.