

DECEMBER 2004

Ingot

ALCAN PRIMARY METAL BRITISH COLUMBIA



KITIMAT WORKS



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For Alcan employees, retirees and their families

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for a happy
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DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS: As 2004 concludes...

...Paul Henning announces 2005 plans

A historical year concludes, as director of operations Paul Henning, announces 2005 objectives.

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The highlight of 2004 was our 50th anniversary celebrations. The long weekend event in August was definitely a high point for my family and myself. It was a great honour and a pleasure to have met and celebrated this milestone with so many wonderful people.

To acknowledge our 50 years of operations in British Columbia, we enclose "A Celebration of Pioneering Spirit"; a special tribute recounting our history and recognizing the contributions of our employees and retirees. Enjoy!

Plans for 2005

Now that 50th festivities are over, it's time to focus on our primary business and that of course is the production of aluminum.

The upcoming year will again be challenging. My priority is to regain our safety performance after a disappointing 2004. Recent months have shown what we can do in achieving a lost time accident free November, and at time of writing this article, in December as well. Our focus is striving to be injury free in our operations in 2005.

We have a challenging plan for the coming year and successful completion of capital projects will assist us in meeting the demands but the main driver continues to be the operating performance of Kitimat, Kemano and Strathcona plants.

Our main objectives are:

Safety: Obviously, our aim is to be at zero injuries but this will take time, our target for 2005 is to be lower than 0.6 LTA case rate, with a recordable accident frequency of below 2.7.

Environment: To have zero non-conformances.

Production: To produce 245,000 hot metal tonnes to create over 250,000 tonnes of value added product from casting. Kemano will generate power to meet our smelter and LTEPA demands. Additional generation will be considered depending on inflows to the Nechako Reservoir on a monthly basis.

Training: To have all supervisors complete EHS First training

by December 2005, and joint supervisor and union representative training completed on labour relations and human rights.

The overriding objective is to meet our financial plan. We can only achieve this by vigilant cost control and adherence to our department plans. Meeting our capital expenditure plan and delivering on our projects, such as DC4 expansion completed in the first quarter of 2006, and our increased amperage strategy (KHALE project). In addition, we will receive 10 new crustbreakers during 2005.

I'm planning for a normal but challenging year ahead, and of course, we have a collective labour agreement to negotiate in the summer. We continue to evaluate technology options to retrofit the plant but at this stage we do not have a package that meets all criteria. In 2005, the best thing we can do to influence this process is to work well together, and to make Kitimat as safe and productive as possible with the technology we have.

Let's make 2005 our safest and best!

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

Fabrication shop employees volunteer

Alcan supports St. Paul's Hospital 'Lights of Hope'

For the seventh year in a row, Alcan's fabrication shop employees volunteered their time to construct stars and structures for St. Paul's Hospital 'Lights of Hope' fund raising campaign.

This year the fabrication shop employees constructed a light post for the campaign. Alcan bought the materials for the project from local metal supplier A. J. Forsyth at a discounted cost and Bandstra Transportation

Company provided free shipping.

Fabrication shop employees Ben Schwarz and Brian Ferris both won a trip for two to see the lighting ceremony compliments of St. Paul's Hospital, Alcan, Hawkair and the Holiday Inn in Vancouver.

"We think it is a really nice gesture on behalf of the hospital," says Brian Ferris. "It isn't something we expected when we started volunteering years ago."

"The trip means a little extra to me," explains Ben Schwarz. A couple of years ago he was

injured and treated at St. Paul's Hospital. "This is a worthwhile project to be associated with and promotes the Christmas spirit," concludes Ben.

The Lights of Hope lighting ceremony was held Tuesday, November 30, in Vancouver.



▲ The fabrication shop employees who contributed to this year's St. Paul's 'Lights of Hope' fundraising campaign are from left, **Brian Mott, Steve Herunter, Jim Ferguson, Dennis Skender, Bob Brown, Al Tome, Carlos Tomaz, Leonard Nunes, Lee Reichert, Ben Schwarz** and **Brian Ferris**. Missing are **Steve Buick, Todd Finlayson** and planner **Harry Eisenberger**. Lights of Hope (photo on page 1) contributed by St. Paul's Hospital Foundation.

AT-A-GLANCE

Nechako Reservoir Update



As of December 2, the reservoir elevation was 2795.60 feet above sea level. The long-term-average for this time of year is 2794.52 feet above sea level. The inflow into the reservoir during November was 220.0 per cent of the long-term-average.

▲ Kenney Dam

The reservoir storage at present is at 110.9 per cent of the long-term-average storage. The snow accumulation at the three automatic snow pillow stations so far is very close to the long-term-average for this time of the year. Spillway discharges are currently set at 30.0 cubic meters per second and will be maintained at this rate until the end of March 2005.

Plant protection personnel perfect performance

Live fire training advances skills

It's one thing to sit in a classroom and talk about firefighting, but nothing beats real experience. Plant protection from Kitimat and Kemano tackle live-fire training.

It's a sunny October afternoon and six members of Kitimat Works' plant protection department assemble at the Northwest Emergency Services Training Association's training grounds on Forest Avenue.

With them are Kitimat Fire Department firefighters Alex Dobri and Dale Young. Alex will lead the live-fire training session. Providing co-instructor, safety and fire-setting support are plant protection members Judy Mosher, Ken Isaak and Frank Baruta.

Earlier in the day, members completed training on ground level, above and below grade structure fires. This afternoon, the crew will tackle vehicle and dumpster fires.

Alex Dobri talks the group through some of the hazards associated with each type of fire and offers this advice: stay low, work in pairs, make sure you've got a hose covering your back.

"The bottom line is firefighter safety," he explains. "These days, you never know what could be in a burning vehicle or dumpster." Aerosol cans and propane cylinders are possible dangers in both types of fires.

Plant protection shift supervisor Judy Mosher says the approach is the same for industrial vehicles. "The inherent hazards are similar," she points out.

Fortunately, no such hazards are present at today's training session. Instead, students will be tackling a fire in an older model station wagon that has been prepped for the training session.

Natural gas is fed into the car through a 3/4" pipe at 60 lbs. per square inch. As Alex turns on the natural gas from a remote location, Judy approaches the car with a burning torch and ignites the natural gas burner.

The fuel turns the interior of the car into a roaring inferno. Because the car has been stripped, wooden pallets and hay are added to create smoke and add colour to the fire. The students



▲ Kitimat Fire Department firefighter **Alex Dobri** (back to camera) addresses a group of plant protection personnel during a live-fire training exercise at Northwest Emergency Services Training Association's training grounds. The group includes **Scott Michaluk, Kirk Godard, Ken Isaak, John Kosarynski** and **Frank Baruta**.



▲ Prior to each exercise, **Alex Dobri** spent time explaining the scenario and answering questions from the firefighters.

**"The bottom line is firefighter safety. These days, you never know what could be in a burning vehicle or dumpster."
- Alex Dobri**

murmur expressions of approval as the flame roars to life and the combustibles ignite.

With two teams in place, Kirk Godard and Scott Michaluk tackle the burning car on the attack hose while Frank Baruta and John Kosarynski provide fire suppression support. It's over in moments. The teams regroup, conduct a debriefing of the exercise, then swap places on the attack and support hose and repeat the exercise.

Then it's on to the next fire ... this time in a dumpster. Hay is added as combustible fuel.

The firefighters again divide into teams of two and use the same approach as with the



▲ **Kirk Godard** and **Scott Michaluk** control the attack hose used to extinguish the car fire, while **Frank Baruta** and **John Kosarynski** provide support with the cover hose.

burning car: stay low, keep a steady stream of water on the dumpster from the attack hose and a suppressing fog of water from the support team. The fire is quickly extinguished and with that, the students begin cleaning up the equipment.

Live-fire training took place throughout the week for all Kitimat plant protection members as well as emergency crews located in Kemano.

Shortly after the training

was completed, plant protection had an opportunity to put their skills into practice when a fire occurred in the general refuse dumpster located at the Line 7 recycling centre. The dumpster was filled with materials like aluminum, wood and wires, etc. These materials can be recycled and should be placed in the right segregation bin. The fire reinforced the importance of properly segregating refuse material.

No snow doesn't mean no show

Santa keeps his date with Alcan children

The weather may have been spring-like outside, but inside Mount Elizabeth Theatre, the setting was positively wintry as Alcan children gathered at the North Pole to meet their favourite elf and his helpers.



Mount Elizabeth Theatre was a busy place on December 4 and 5, as more than 640 children and 900 parents attended Alcan's annual Children's Christmas Parties.

The featured guest star this year was Thomas Arthur, a renowned juggler from Washington State.

He has traveled the world to share the musicality of his fluid movement with a wide range of audiences in theaters, clubs, festivals and schools.

The enchanting Mrs. Claus (portrayed by Alcan retiree Eleanor Kendell) kept the party flowing nicely from her welcoming remarks to parents and children through the singing of the traditional Christmas carols with the elves.

Mrs. Claus also greeted Santa. His arrival is always an exciting moment for the younger children, as they twist and turn to get a good look at the jolly old elf.

Joining Mrs. Claus and Santa on stage were Alcan's Christmas elves, played by Aliceyn Egan, Jamie Hansen, Chelsea Hartmann, Amanda Lagana, Kirsten Pereira, Stacie Reis, Amie Roberts, Marlena Silveira, Carly Snider and Nicole Thomas. In addition, the show featured the musical talents of Laura Fitzpatrick on piano.

Working behind the scenes, a big thank you has to go to MET technical director John Rowe and his technicians for helping with set erection and decoration, lighting and cleanup.

This group of dedicated young people includes Kayla Czaga, Joel Grant, Chiara Guizzo, Stephanie Pomerleau and Kristie Saunders.

Thanks also to MET manager Brenda Feldhoff for her assistance in sourcing the entertainer for this year's parties.



▲ Alcan's Kids Christmas Party volunteers include, in front from left: **Kirsten Pereira, Stacie Reis, Marlena Silveira, Amanda Lagana and Amie Roberts**. In row two are **Aliceyn Egan** and Santa Claus. The third row includes **Eleanor Kendell, Nicole Thomas, Chelsea Hartmann, Jamie Hansen and Carly Snider**. The MET tech crew in black includes **Kayla Czaga, Joel Grant, Kristie Saunders**, MET technical director **John Rowe, Chiara Guizzo** and **Stephanie Pomerleau**.



▲ Santa with little **Logan Tweedy**.



▲ **Ava and Isaiah Galante**, children of Joe Galante, spend a moment with Santa.



▲ **Theadora and Luka Bajkin** gave Santa their Christmas wish list.



▲ **Eleanor Kendell**, playing the role of Mrs. Claus, spends a moment with the **Sam Harness** family.



▲ **Alivia and Jaidyn Salema**, daughters of Joe Salema.



▲ **Amy Koppers** watches the birdie for dad, Bernie Koppers.



▲ Entertainer **Thomas Arthur** teaches the art of feather balancing to a young protégé.

Season's Greetings

Bev and I wish all of our friends the very best of the season and a happy and healthy 2005. It was great to see so many of our friends at the spectacular 50th anniversary party. Fifty years ago I celebrated the Christmas season between the Delta King, the smeltersite trailer camp and Helen's cafe. We will be in Kitimat in December but will be home for Christmas, in Langley to be with family. All the best to the staff at *ingot*. **Bev and Fred Rodrigo, Langley, B.C.**

Happy holidays and all the best in the New Year to my ex co-workers and co-retirees from power operations. Best wishes from near Prague and a contemporary hockey fan from the Czech Republic. Sorry guys about the NHL.... Ho, Ho, Ho. **Jerry Smejkal**

How wonderful it was to have had the opportunity to visit with so many friends at Alcan's 50th anniversary! There are no friends like Kitimat friends! Wherever you may be, we wish all of our friends a joyous festive season and a happy, healthy and exciting New Year. **Bill and Marj Fowle, Abbotsford, B.C.**

Season's greetings and happy New Year to all our friends in Kitimat, especially the gang at A and B-Stores. **Leo and Kay O'Brien, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia**

Wishing you a safe and wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year. Happy holidays to everyone. **John and Wilma Sluyter, Calgary, Alberta**

We would like to wish all of our friends and relatives a very merry season and a happy New Year. **Paul and Mary Todoruk**

Seasons greeting to all from Tumbler Ridge. All the best for the New Year. **Debbie and Chris Brouse**



Alcan employees celebrate retirements and achievements



▲ **Roland Pegg**, left, accepts retirement plaque from buyer (former supervisor) **Ron Lechner**.

Roland Pegg joins the ranks of Alcan retirees after 15 years of service. Friends and coworkers gathered in the machine shop lunchroom to wish Roland and wife Anne happy trails. Supervisor Brian Mott began proceedings welcoming former machine shop supervisor Ron Lechner to speak about his experiences with Roland. Ron said that retirement was only a beginning and that Roland's wit and experience would be missed as he presented the company retirement plaque. CAW presenters Rick Belmont and Bill Garvin congratulated Roland and presented several gifts. On behalf of the crew Brian Mott presented an engraved plaque while George Neigriff passed on his congratulates and presented a gift of money, also from the crew. Alcan retiree Brian Kean said he would miss their conversations. Roland is looking forward to gentleman farming on his family's 100-acre homestead near Smith Falls, Ontario.



▲ **Jean Turbide**, left, accepts gifts from **Steven Jeffrey** and **Colin Coates**.

After 24 years of service, stud reconitioner Jean Turbide retires. Coworkers gathered to wish Jean a happy retirement. Supervisor of component rebuild/stud reconitioning/motor rewind shops Steven Jeffrey described Jean as a hard worker and said it was a pleasure to work with him. He wished Jean the best in the future, saying his retirement was well deserved. Presentations were made by CAW Local 2301 representatives Rick Belmont and Bill Garvin. Rick presented a hat, pen and a cheque for \$200 and Bill presented Jean with a CAW retirement card. Coworker Colin Coates presented a replica of a stud made out of copper and brass with the retirement date engraved on the plaque.



▲ Over 100 retirees turned out for Alcan's Retiree Christmas social to chat with friends and to meet the management team. The group was especially attentive and appreciative of getting an update from director of operations **Paul Henning**, on the aluminum business. The door prizes and appetizers were also a big hit, organized by the corporate affairs team of **Colleen Nyce** and **Teresa Guest**.

Season's Greetings

My greetings! Nothing can surpass the personal contact with friends and fellow retirees like we experienced at Alcan's 50th anniversary festivities in August at Kitimat. Many thanks to *ingot* for publishing my best wishes and for all retirees to continue having happy and healthy retirements. Seasons greetings.

Henry Goyert, Gabriola, B.C.

Once again, from Laughlin, Nevada – to my friends and former workmates in B.C. and in the Algarve. All the best, good luck and good health in 2005.

Gerhard and Frieda Lindner

We remember 30 lovely and usually white Christmases in Kemano with family and friends. Wishing all ex-Kemanoites a wonderful season and a healthy New Year. Best wishes to the Kitimat and Kemano employees of today.

Jack and Jean Montgomery, Abbotsford, B.C.

Seasons greetings and best wishes to all for a prosperous and healthy New Year. It was so great to see many friends and former co-workers at the 50th anniversary.

Adam and Sheila Charneski, Vancouver, B.C.

Wishing all of you at Alcan in Kitimat and retirees wherever you live, the best for the season and the New Year.

Hugo Schmid, Kamloops, B.C.

To old friends: Fond memories linger, kind thoughts endure. Season's greetings and New Year wishes to you and yours.

Allen and Ursula Pritchard, Vancouver, B.C.

Season's greetings and wishing everyone happiness in 2005.

Wes and Joy Frechette, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan



Snowflake Contest Winner

Plant protection member Art Young predicted the first snowfall on October 21 and won \$100 for a dinner for two at a restaurant of his choice.



Another night before Christmas & I'm running late for work.



I stood locked in this prison, alone in the cold...



For 50 long years this smelter's been here, welcoming the men & the women to work every day of the year.



So that at the end of your shift, whether it's morning or night...



We're not over the hill yet & it's not all down hill from here...



As I push through the turnstile, it jams up with a jerk!



As I gazed through the bars, a strange vision began to unfold.



Some come to work in the morning & some stay all through the night.



You will all go home safely, then everything has worked out right.



Next year will be full of more challenges, for the future's not clear.



I'm stuck in the middle, between inside & out...



I could hear someone talking, as clear as a bell.



But the smelter never sleeps, it works in the dark & in the light.



Last summer, celebrating the smelters 50 long years, it watched through eyes, blimming with tears...



Then suddenly the gate I was locked in, clicked open with a jerk...



- So I push & I pull, then I shake & I shout!



I was listening to the smelter - it had a story to tell.



Over the past 50 years & through all the four seasons, they've worked hard together & all for the same reason.



As bus loads of retirees come for a tour, they come to visit & say hello - they don't work here no more.



and the voice I heard said, 'Have a very Merry Christmas & now get back to work!'"

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Colour between the lines

Alman 50th Anniversary Colouring Contest winners



▲ Nine-year-old John Spooner, son of Terry Spooner a repairman in reduction services, shows a zest for colouring with his entry.

▲ Nolan Bedard, age 12, son of Lou Bedard an industrial technologist in cathode lining, entered this colourful Alman colouring contest submission.

▲ Eleven-year-old Clayton Babcock shows a flair for felt pens with his entry. Clayton is the son of Dennis Babcock a senior cell operator in lines 7 & 8.

John, Nolan and Clayton each received a 50th anniversary visor, pen, highlighter, notepad and a small Hoselton sculpture.

50th Anniversary CD available

Alcan's Kitimat corporate affairs office has a limited quantity of compact disks containing photographic images from the 50th anniversary celebrations.

If you **attended** the anniversary weekend and would like a copy, please contact Teresa Guest at 250-639-8595 or teresa.guest@alcan.com.

Please note: There is a limited supply – we may not be able to accommodate all requests.

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deadlines for copy, revisions and photographs. The deadline for the next issue is January 12, 2005.

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Summer Student Application Forms

Application forms for summer student employment in 2005 for Alcan's smelter in Kitimat, BC can be picked up at McNab Morris Developments, located at 1352 Alexander Avenue. McNab Morris Developments is open Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Summer student employment is restricted to Terrace and Kitimat residents. Applications are to be picked up by the student or parent of the student.

The deadline for filing applications is Mon., Feb. 28, 2005.