



OPG supports Remembrance Day initiative

More than 100 schools and 30,000 students across Ontario participated in a project initiated by the Durham West Arts Centre to honour veterans.

Schools from Ottawa to Omemee and Sturgeon Falls to Unionville were signing up for a provincial project to honour veterans by showing that young people are willing to take up the torch of remembrance mentioned in John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields."

The Durham West Arts Centre's Web site has been a hive of activity with more than 80,000 hits since September as teachers signed up and downloaded free resources to assist with their planning.

"We added new materials weekly," said Executive Director, Angie Littlefield.

"We have a musical and French version of the poem as well as teaching resources for elementary and secondary students. And there's more coming: images, links, oral histories, arts and drama activities. Signed-up schools received a free poster and some bookmarks as a thank you," said Littlefield.

Reading and Remembrance is a special tribute to veterans in "The Year of the Veteran." The not-for-profit project had the support of Veterans Affairs Canada, the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command and Ontario Power Generation.

Check out www.dwac.ca

Pickering Nuclear is proud to be one of the premiere sponsors of the 2005 Pickering Mayor's Gala. This inaugural event is being held in honour of the Canadian Year of the Veteran and is a celebration of the quality of life and accomplishments of Pickering with proceeds going to veteran causes including funding toward the rehabilitation department in the Rouge Valley Ajax Pickering hospital. The event will take place on the evening of Nov. 19 at the Pickering Recreation Complex. Having a little fun preparing for the big night, left to right, are: OPG Senior Vice President Pat McNeil, Scotiabank's Kent Guest and Kathryn Boyle, Veridian's Diana Hills-Milligan, Chairperson, Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan and up top, the gala's honourary chairman, 1st Canadian Paratrooper veteran Jan de Vries.



Holiday program at Info Centre

Join us at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre for some great holiday family fun. Program includes a great winter movie and making holiday crafts.

Saturday, December 3 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Movie Playtime: 1:00 p.m. for Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and 3:00 p.m. for Frosty the Snowman. Christmas crafts session runs from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Learn to make reindeer tags and sparkle gift bags.

Saturday, December 10 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Movie Playtime: 1:00 p.m. for Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas and 3:00 p.m. Rudolph's Shiny New Year

Craft session runs from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Learn to make a sparkle snowflake set.

For more information on our holiday programs as well as other Pickering Nuclear Information Centre events, please call (905) 837-7272.



Metroland photographer Walter Passarella, left, and reporter Mike Ruta travel north to Nunavut.

Durham kids discover Nunavut

The Metroland Durham Region Media Group, in partnership with Ontario Power Generation, recently visited Nunavut to learn more about Canada's newest territory. The result was a special publication, distributed to school children in Grades 4 to 6 across Durham.

The booklet "North to Nunavut" brings a piece of elementary curriculum to life through stories, photos and activities. It is 'chalk-full' of information on various topics such as geography, arts, government and lifestyle in Nunavut, which Durham elementary students will be able to use in their studies of Nunavut as part of their school curriculum.

The Durham Region Media Group team also created a resource Web site for children, parents and teachers alike where information can be downloaded along with a video and links to other related sites and ran a series of articles in its newspapers across Durham, including the Ajax-Pickering News Advertiser, Clarington This Week and Oshawa This Week, this past summer.

The educational project was created through the work of reporter Mike Ruta and photographer Walter Passarella, who visited the territory last spring. Now, the two are visiting schools, sharing the stories of their travels with students.

Ontario Power Generation is proud to support educational initiatives like 'North to Nunavut' for the students of Durham Region.

To view 'North to Nunavut' on the Web, visit <http://www.metrolanddurhamregion.com/nunavut/>

Neighbours

Pickering Neighbours is published quarterly for the neighbours of Ontario Power Generation at Pickering Nuclear.

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**ONTARIO POWER
GENERATION**

Neighbours

A part of the community since 1965

Fall 2005



Pickering A Control Room staff synchronize the Unit 1 reactor to the grid for the first time in almost eight years.

First electrons flow from Unit 1

At 6:36 p.m. on September 26, the Pickering A Unit 1 generator started sending electrons flowing through transmission lines for the first time since December 1997.

Commissioning and testing of the newly-refurbished reactor and related systems throughout the plant will continue this fall. Getting those first electrons into the transmission grid was the most significant milestone yet in this challenging project. Major construction began about 15 months ago.

"By returning enough clean and reliable electrical capacity to meet the needs of about 350,000 Ontario households, OPG is demonstrating its ability to successfully complete a very large and challenging energy project, whose future production the province needs," said Jim Hankinson, OPG President and CEO.

At its peak, the refurbishment was one of the largest construction sites in the country. The project's safety record has been excellent. OPG staff and contractors working on the project have worked more than five million hours without a lost-time incident.

"Producing clean and reliable electricity for the province has always been the goal of this project," said Project Manager Bill Robinson, Senior Vice President, Pickering 'A' Return to Service.

"This has been a complex management and construction challenge, encompassing almost two million hours of work, 24,500 tasks, and almost 3,000 people at its peak. It's gratifying to see concrete evidence of our ability to successfully bring a project of this dimension to completion," said Robinson.

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Emergency info at your fingertips

A handy reference for the public in the event of an emergency at a nuclear station will be included as a special red-bordered page in the new 2006 phone directories being delivered to Durham Region homes this fall.

The initiative is part of an expanded public education program being developed to inform residents where to access information in the unlikely event of a nuclear station emergency.

The program is a joint effort of Emergency Management Ontario (EMO), Durham Emergency Management Office (DEMO) and OPG. Other participants include the municipalities of Pickering and Clarington.

Details on the program can be found on Page 3. You can also visit the Red Pages at: www.emergencymanagementontario.ca



OPG invests in future generations

Over the next decade, Ontario Power Generation and the Ontario energy industry will be faced with two significant challenges: meeting the growing demand for electricity, and replenishing up to 50 per cent of our knowledge-based, skilled workers expected to retire in this time period.

As an integral part of our business planning, Ontario Power Generation recently announced an investment of \$10 million over five years in the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's capital campaign. The 'Ontario Power Generation Engineering Building' has been named in recognition of the investment.

The investment is part of a continuing partnership with UOIT, Durham College and other educational institutions across Ontario. OPG's many educational initiatives are focused on ensuring the best-prepared candidates are available to OPG and the energy industry in producing a safe, clean and reliable source of electricity for the province.



UOIT sits in the heart of Durham Region, home of OPG's nuclear plants. It is Ontario's newest university and the only one with a full degree program dedicated to energy science and nuclear engineering.

"While this is the largest single educational investment OPG has made, it is just one of many educational partnerships the company has invested in at all levels from elementary to post-secondary," said OPG President and CEO Jim Hankinson.

"Today's students truly are tomorrow's leaders and it is up to us as an institution and a community to ensure they have the resources and training they require to meet the challenges of our ever-evolving workplace," says Dr. Gary Polonsky, president of UOIT and Durham College.

"OPG is helping to make that happen through this financial support, through the mentoring and placement opportunities it provides students, and through continued partnerships," said Polonsky.

On hand for the recent announcement of a major investment in UOIT were (Front L-R): UOIT Dean of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, George Bereznai; OPG President Jim Hankinson; UOIT Dean, School of Engineering Mark Rosen; OPG Chief Nuclear Office Pierre Charlebois; UOIT Student Association President Thomas Coughlan; (Back L-R) OPG Senior V.P. Strategy and Support Pat McNeil and UOIT / Durham College President Gary Polonsky.

Restart not an option for Units 2 and 3

OPG decided in August not to proceed with the refurbishment of Units 2 and 3 at the Pickering A nuclear station.

"For several months we have studied the economics of the Pickering A Units 2 and 3 return to service, including third party reviews," said OPG President and CEO Jim Hankinson.

"Our mandate is to operate our assets as efficiently and as cost-effectively as possible. We don't see a sound business case for returning Units 2 and 3 to service.

"The expertise in nuclear operations and the knowledge gained by returning Units 4 and 1 to service can be used best in maximizing the performance of these two units, and the other eight units at our Pickering and Darlington stations. OPG's nuclear units are important for Ontario

as they produced close to 30 per cent of the power used by the province last year," Mr. Hankinson said.

Mr. Hankinson also reassured both workers in OPG's nuclear division and the communities in Durham Region that the decision announced does not reduce the relevance of nuclear power to either Ontario Power Generation or to the province.

"The decision on Units 2 and 3 should not be seen as a lack of confidence in nuclear power," Hankinson said. "OPG continues to believe strongly that nuclear power remains an important element of the province's electricity generation mix. Nuclear fuel costs are stable and nuclear reactors do not contribute to smog or global warming."

A message from Pat McNeil



As we head into the high-demand winter months, Pickering Nuclear is very proud of the return to service of the Unit 1 reactor.

It has almost been eight years since this unit has produced power and its 515 megawatts of power are very much needed in Ontario where numerous new peak demand records were set over an exceedingly hot summer.

With the return of Unit 1, the earlier completion of Unit 4 and the four reactors at Pickering B, the Pickering complex can produce more than 3000 MW of power. That is a fair chunk of the province's needs, considering the newest record for peak power this summer was 26,160 MW. That works out to meeting more than 10 per cent of the Ontario power needs.

This was an exceedingly complex job and kudos go to Bill Robinson, Senior Vice President, Pickering 'A' Return to Service, and all the people who worked on this project.

Pickering 2 and 3

Despite the success of the Unit 1 project, there was naturally some disappointment among employees when the decision was made to not proceed with refurbishment of Units 2 and 3 at Pickering A.

The decision came after carefully weighing the business case for restarting these two units. The bottom line did not favour their return to service.

But we certainly intend to benefit from our experience during the restart project as we now focus our attention on the operation of our 10 working units at Pickering and Darlington.

UOIT Investment

Our commitment to Durham Region also remains as strong as ever. On October 6, I was pleased to participate in the announcement of a \$10-million investment to in the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's capital campaign. Details are in the adjacent story in this Neighbours newsletter.

It is a fact of life that our workforce is aging and within the next 10 years, half of our current employees have the potential to retire. We want to hire the best to replace them and consider this an investment in our future as well as that of UOIT.

Pat McNeil
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Strategy and support

Emergency info at your fingertips

Red page provides residents with emergency information

Public safety has been a goal and success story for the Canadian nuclear industry. Canadian reactors are built and operated safely. While the chance of a major nuclear emergency is highly unlikely, it makes sense to know what to do if it becomes necessary.

For your information and safety, a new 'Red Page' has been developed by Emergency Management Ontario, Durham Region, the City of Toronto, the City of Pickering, the Town of Clarington and OPG. It provides instructions on what to do in the event of an emergency at Pickering Nuclear.

The main message to remember is: Go. Listen. Follow.

- **Go** inside and turn on your radio or television
- **Listen** to the media reports

- **Follow** instructions provided by the Province.

The Red Page is part of a public awareness program for residents and businesses located within 10 km of Pickering Nuclear. The Red Page, which will appear in the 2006 phone directories being issued this fall, includes telephone numbers and internet links for more information.

The Province, Durham Region, City of Toronto and OPG work together to continually improve emergency plans. We revise and practise each other's emergency plans regularly. Staff from police, fire, emergency medical services, public health, transit and volunteer organizations routinely train together to deal with nuclear and other emergencies.

For more information or for additional copies of the Red Page, go to www.emergencymanagementontario.ca.

Second Quarter Performance Report

The latest Performance Report for Pickering A and B shows that progress was made in the area of safety and production during the second quarter of 2005.

Both Pickering A and B stations improved their All Injury Rate which measures the number of workplace injuries per 200,000 hours worked. Pickering A, which had 0.88 injuries per 200,000 hours worked in the second quarter of 2004, improved its rate to 0.72 in the second quarter of 2005. Pickering B, which registered a 0.85 rate in the second quarter of 2004, remained about the same level with 0.86 injuries per 200,000 hours worked in the second quarter of 2005.

Another safety indicator is the Accident Severity Rate which measures the number of days lost due to injuries per 200,000 hours worked. During the second quarter of 2005, Pickering A had no days lost to injuries, the same record achieved in the second quarter of 2004. Pickering B also had a repeat of its good performance in the second quarter of 2004 with no days lost during the second quarter of 2005.

In the first six months of 2005, production levels for Pickering B increased significantly over the same period in 2004. Total output from the four reactors was 6.98 terawatt hours (TWh) compared to 6.0 TWh for the first half of 2004, an increase of 16.3 per cent. The Pickering A Unit 4 reactor was shut down for almost the entire second quarter due to the necessity of inspecting feeder tubes that carry heavy water from the reactors to the steam generators. The unit was subsequently returned to service in July. Maintenance work completed during the outage meant a planned outage this fall will not be required.

Pickering also continued to maintain a low radiation exposure rate to the public. The estimated additional exposure during the first quarter of 2005 (most recent data) for people living near the station, based on their actual lifestyle characteristics and food consumption patterns, was 0.8 microsieverts, well under the total 2005 projection of 10. This is a very small percentage of the amount we each receive naturally, about 1,770 microsieverts per person per year, and much lower than permitted by regulation.

The current Performance Report for Pickering Nuclear can be found at: http://www.opg.com/ops/N_pub.asp

Ajax-Pickering Toastmasters

Untie your tongue. Improve your confidence, control those butterflies. Whether it's the 30 second toast at your best friend's wedding, or the new business presentation that leaves you sleepless, Ajax-Pickering Toastmasters will help you discover the vocal dynamo within you.

We meet every Wednesday evening from 7:30-9:30 p.m., at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre, on

Montgomery Park Road. That's at the southern end of Brock Road in Pickering.

We invite you to arrive about 7:15 p.m. to greet members and fellow guests. For more details, contact:

Renata Rozinger at 905-426-9786
or

Dennis Kelly at 905-427-3819

And please visit website: <http://ajaxpickering.freetoasthost.org>

Lake Sturgeon caught

As a positive sign that the Lake Sturgeon population may be rebounding somewhat, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority has caught a 3.5 kilogram sturgeon at the Pickering Nuclear station.

During routine fisheries monitoring on July 21, TRCA staff collected a Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) whose length measured 938mm.

This sturgeon was picked up during electrofishing operations along the Pickering shoreline of Lake Ontario at the discharge of the Pickering Nuclear Generation Station at a depth of 2.5m (8 feet). The fish was subsequently released back into the lake.



Toronto Conservation Authority's John Dirocco is shown with sturgeon caught in outflow at Pickering Nuclear.

The monitoring operation is a joint venture with OPG which provided a boat to the TRCA in order to collect specimens.

The lake Sturgeon is one of Lake Ontario's largest fish and appears to be on the rebound. It is not legal for commercial or sport fishers to harvest sturgeon from Lake Ontario.