

Neighbours

A part of the community since 1965

Summer 2006



Meeting the Neighbours

L-R: OPG President Jim Hankinson and Senior Vice-President Pickering B Tom Mitchell were just two of more than 250 employee volunteers who visited about 7,500 homes around Pickering Nuclear this spring. *See story page 2.*

Nuclear and the Energy Mix

Ontario Power Generation's nuclear plants in Durham Region are part of the Province's future energy plan, Minister of Energy Dwight Duncan revealed, June 13.

In the Government's response to the Ontario Power Authority's December, 2005 supply mix report, Minister Duncan directed OPG to move forward with business case studies, including environmental assessments on the feasibility of refurbishment and life extension of both Pickering B and Darlington generating stations. As well, OPG was directed to begin work needed for an environmental assessment for construction of new units at an existing nuclear facility.

Two days after the Minister's announcement, OPG President Jim Hankinson told a supportive crowd at the Toronto Board of Trade, "We are well prepared to examine the business cases for the refurbishment and life extension of the Pickering B and Darlington nuclear stations." The President noted a team, led by Senior Vice-President Patrick McNeil has already been formed to take on the work required to come to a sound business decision.

As part of that process, on June 15, OPG submitted a letter to the federal nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission on the Pickering B refurbishment project. The letter is the first step to request an environmental assessment for this potential project. An EA would include significant public input and examination of any potential impacts to the local environment and community from this project.

Mr. McNeil says his team will spend the next 18 months working on an objective and fact-based business case on whether Pickering B

should be refurbished. "We will only proceed if there is a solid business case, approved by our Board of Directors," notes Mr. McNeil. The same will be true for Darlington when that process begins, he adds.

Overall, Mr. Hankinson stated, OPG views the Government's announcement, as it pertains to OPG, as a vote of confidence in our ability to operate our facilities efficiently and responsibly.

Durham Strategic Energy Alliance Chairman Michael Angemeer says, "The Government's decision is an extremely positive step in securing a reliable electricity base for future generations. Durham is already a leader in the energy sector in all facets from generation and transmission to innovative research and training through the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Durham College. This decision only serves to strengthen that."

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Meeting the Neighbours

At Pickering Nuclear we take our commitment to the community seriously.

Part of that commitment as a good corporate citizen includes operating in an open and transparent manner and answering questions our neighbours may have.

So in May, more than 250 employee volunteers visited approximately 7,500 homes around Pickering Nuclear over seven evenings. The volunteer walkers included company president Jim Hankinson, Chief Nuclear Officer Pierre Charlebois and many other employees from our station shop floor to administration and support staff.

Most work right here at Pickering Nuclear but a few joined us from the

broader OPG family including one Nanticoke fossil fuel plant employee Ken Jobba who joined his son Dan, an engineer here at Pickering Nuclear.

During our walks, we invited people to a barbecue we hosted June 9 at our station in celebration of our 40th year in the community. As well, we offered to answer any questions residents might have about our operations and provided information on Pickering Nuclear and nuclear technology in general.

Thanks to all the people we met in May who took the time at their door to chat with us. We welcome all our neighbours to visit us here at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre any time, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

OPG takes pride in Pickering

It was the largest annual 'Take Pride in Pickering Day' event to date, more than 250 community volunteers planted about 1000 trees and shrubs by the Hydro Marsh in Alex Robertson Park, April 29.

The purpose of the event is to replace mown grass with a naturalized

area to expand wildlife habitat in a partnership between OPG, the City of Pickering and the Frenchman's Bay Watershed Rehabilitation Project. Each year, OPG and its partners naturalize a little more of the park. The work is part of OPG Pickering Nuclear's Biodiversity Program led by OPG's Environmental Programs Department under the guidance of OPG's Bob Hester. Among those participating in this year's event were local Scout, Cub, and Beaver packs; local businesses, other community members, local politicians Councillor Regional Rick Johnson and MP Mark Holland as well as OPG volunteer employees.

The tree planters enjoyed a barbecue afterwards hosted by OPG Public Affairs. The annual fall "Take Pride in Pickering" tree planting is scheduled for Saturday, October 26.



OPG Pickering employee Noel Delloro, son Francis, and another 250 volunteers from the community and OPG, planted about 1000 trees in Alex Robertson Park on April 29 during Take Pride in Pickering Day.

Working for a bright future



A message from Pat McNeil

So much of our quality of life is reliant on electricity, from the operation of our hospitals and schools to our businesses and of course, for our families at home.

Although there is now more discussion about Ontario's energy industry, many people still take the electricity supply for granted and assume our children's families will be able to do the same.

But a bright future won't happen without careful planning today.

And so, in December, the Ontario Power Authority released its recommendations for ensuring a safe, reliable supply of electricity for the next 20 years. After review and public consultation, on June 13, Ontario Energy Minister Dwight Duncan gave the government's response to those recommendations with a directive that included feasibility studies for the business cases on the potential refurbishments of the four-unit Pickering B and Darlington nuclear plants. As well, he directed OPG to initiate a request for a federal environmental assessment on new nuclear at an existing site.

If, after thorough and objective analysis, there is a solid business case to refurbish Pickering B, it could mean continued operation of the plant until 2060. Either way, the plant will continue to be a positive contributor to this community through economic, environmental and civic contributions for years to come.

As we look toward our future contribution to the energy supply mix and our community, this year we are also remembering our past as Pickering Nuclear celebrates 40 years in the community. In this time, the community has literally grown up around us and we have worked hard to be a positive part of it.

We were extremely honoured recently to receive the City of Pickering's 2005 Local Business Award for our contributions and partnerships.

At the same time, Pickering Nuclear provided a significant amount of the Province's electricity in 2005 at a cost much lower than the average wholesale market price, moderating the price that consumers pay and ensuring electricity supply for residents and businesses alike.

Pickering Nuclear is proud of its heritage and committed to continuing to earn the right to be part of Durham's and Ontario's, bright future.

*Pat McNeil
Senior Vice President
Plant Life Extension Program*

A vacation of service

OPG employees aid developing nations

For OPG's Allan Holt, foreign aid missions are as much a part of his life as the nuclear business itself. But for Mary Duarte, chemistry manager, Pickering Nuclear who joined Allan on a mission in March, this was a whole new world.

Allan, senior advisor for Pickering Nuclear and forty-year OPG veteran, frequently uses his vacation time to travel to underdeveloped nations to aid in the building of youth camps.

So far this year, Allan has travelled to the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Mexico. Spending two weeks in each location, Allan and a group of volunteers working with Latin America Mission, helped local residents build dormitories and other facilities for the youth camps. Since he began his travels in 1992,

Allan has participated in and led 27 missions to eight countries throughout Latin America.

Fellow OPG employee Mary Duarte joined Allan in Mexico this year for her first working trip abroad.

Mary says she has always been compelled to help people in developing nations and the trip to Mexico gave her the chance to get involved in a worthwhile cause.

"You can send money to charity organizations, however the direct hands on involvement brings a different perspective," she says.

The group dug the land and built structures for the camps amidst temperatures far higher than we ever experience in Canadian summers, says Allan. Each member brought their own skill set to the project and everyone had something important to offer.

Each participant pays for their own travel, meals and accommodations on each trip. Each volunteer also brings money with them to buy materials for the facilities and to aid in building costs.

Traveling to undeveloped countries not only gives you the opportunity to see another country and learn a new culture, but you come home with a new appreciation for life in Canada, says Allan. "People can fully appreciate what they have in Canada once they see what it's like over there."



OPG's Mary Duarte helped to build a youth camp in Mexico on her vacation.

Reaching out 'From Durham to Africa'

Durham students will be transported into the heart of Africa thanks to Metroland Durham Media Group's new educational supplement, supported by Ontario Power Generation.



Metroland Durham reporter Crystal Crimi, above, was sent on assignment to Africa with the Canadian International Development Agency.

The 'From Durham to Africa' section and interactive website takes readers on a journey through the continent. Using lush photography and educational stories, it illustrates the African way of life and Durham Region's commitment to help the people there.

Joanne Burghardt, Editor-In-Chief for Metroland Durham, says it's important for youth to know what's going on in the world. She says the goal of the section is to get information into the hands of teachers, parents, and ultimately to expose children to how people live in underdeveloped nations.

Pickering Public Affairs Manager Jacquie McInnes says, "Metroland has earned a reputation for their exceptional education

projects, from the Durham Spelling Bee to Faces of the Future, last year's Nunavut educational project and now this initiative. OPG is very proud to be involved in these types of quality projects." Many of OPG's own employees are involved in volunteer humanitarian projects around the world, she adds.

The 'From Durham to Africa' section provides students with a comparison of life in Africa and Canada, demonstrating the state of need the continent is in and the hope for a brighter tomorrow thanks, in part, to the efforts of many residents of Durham Region.

For more information on the 'From Durham to Africa' project, visit www.metrolanddurhamregion.com/africa

Pickering A gets promising start to 2006

With Unit 1 refurbished and back on the grid in the fall 2005, production levels for Pickering A increased in the first quarter of 2006, over the same period in 2005. Units 1 and 4 produced 2.02TWh in total. A terawatt hour is the equivalent of one billion kilowatt hours. The average household uses 800 to 1,000 kilowatt hours a month.

The four units at Pickering B also provided a significant contribution to Ontario's electricity grid, producing a total of 3.86TWh, slightly below the first quarter performance in 2005.

Pickering Nuclear's overall employee safety record for the 2006 first quarter is within the Canadian Electricity Association's top quartile performance. Safety is always the first and foremost consideration at Pickering Nuclear.

Tuesdays On the Trail



Join us for fun, outdoor family activities this summer with Pickering Nuclear's 'Tuesdays on the Trail' Program.

Pickering Nuclear is partnering with community groups to offer free family-oriented programs on eight Tuesdays in July and August.

Learn amazing facts about the Waterfront Trail and Pickering's history from conservation and heritage experts, and discover how local artists interpret our natural environment. Play exciting outdoor games, and make crafts from natural materials.

Join us for all of these activities and more at the Sandy Beach Road entrance to the Alex Robertson Park at 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. each Tuesday. Programs will last approximately two hours, and can be enjoyed by all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Mark it on your calendar and we'll see you on the Trail!!

For further information about this and other Pickering Nuclear programs call our Community Information Line at 905-837-7272.

Pickering Nuclear receives top honours for community involvement

Working to make the community a better place by our presence here is the cornerstone of Ontario Power Generation's corporate commitment.

So it was with great pride that OPG accepted the 2005 Local Business Award from the City of Pickering and Mayor Dave Ryan.

The Local Business Award, given to businesses from Pickering in recognition of outstanding support and participation of community activities, recognizes OPG's long-standing commitment to the Pickering community.

Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan, who presented the award on May 15, spoke highly of OPG's contribution to the community.

"OPG is much more than simply our most well-known corporate citizen," he said. "It's

also one of our most generous corporate citizens. OPG gives back to our community in many ways, including the sponsoring of many city events, programs and initiatives."

Mayor Ryan further discussed Pickering Nuclear's commitment to the City's Partners for Climate Protection Program, Community Safety Day, annual Canada Day celebrations and Waterfront Concert Series, to name a few.

"These popular events attract thousands of residents," said Mr. Ryan. "Thanks to OPG's assistance, we're able to offer them at no charge to our community."

Don Terry, Director of Nuclear Public Affairs, accepted the award on behalf of Pickering Nuclear.

"Receiving this recognition from our host community is gratifying and confirms that we



L-R: Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan, OPG Director Nuclear Public Affairs Don Terry and Pickering Councillor Bill McLean share a moment as OPG receives the 'Local Business Award' for its community contribution.

are doing the right things as station operators and community citizens," says Don. "It was an honour to accept the award on behalf of all Pickering employees who make significant contributions as community volunteers."



L-R: Andrea Gussen, GO Transit, Beverley Thomson, Durham Region Transit, Gary McNeil, GO Transit and Jacquie McInnes, Pickering Nuclear Public Affairs Manager celebrated Clean Air Day at the Pickering GO station.

Making our air a little bit cleaner

Pickering Nuclear joined GO Transit, The City of Pickering, Region of Durham and other partners to celebrate Clean Air Day, June 7.

Pickering Nuclear once again joined its other partners at the Pickering GO Station for the annual event, handing out water and information to commuters on initiatives that make it easier for everyone to breathe.

This year, Pickering Nuclear had a bit more to celebrate. Since mid-2005 when it introduced a commuter shuttle to its operations at the station as well as the new nuclear support building at 889 Brock Road and its 777 Brock

Road office building, OPG has avoided an estimated 461 tonnes of CO₂ from going into the environment. That annual number is based on the average 98 daily commuters who have been taking GO Transit and using the shuttle instead of taking their car to work.

Clean Air Day has always been a good fit for Pickering Nuclear. Nuclear energy produces virtually no emissions of carbon dioxide, nitric oxide or sulphur dioxide and therefore is not a significant contributor to smog or poor air quality.

Together we can make a difference.

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