



Message from Honourable Ed Stelmach Premier of Alberta

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, welcome to the 2008 International Thermal Operations and Heavy Oil Symposium. Alberta's oil sands are a key driver of our energy industry and our expertise in heavy oil and bitumen development make the province an ideal location for this conference.

The Government of Alberta is strongly committed to the environmentally responsible development of the oil sands. The theme of this year's conference, "Heavy Oil: Integrating the Pieces" reflects the many partners and the environmental, economic and social considerations that are part of today's heavy oil and bitumen industries.

Working with industry and applying new technology - like carbon capture and storage - will be an important part of how these industries face future challenges.

Leading-edge technology is part of Alberta's success and is a key to balancing oil sands development with environmental protection. I know everyone is looking forward to this week's technology presentations and I look forward to hearing about the results of this conference and exhibition.

Once again, welcome to Calgary. I sincerely hope each of you enjoys your stay in our uniquely western, Canadian city.

Ed Stelmach

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