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## Athabasca Basin Security Buys Alberta-based All Peace Protection



Pictured: Ron Hyggen, CEO of Athabasca Basin Security (left) with Kelly Chalmers, former owner of All Peace Protection (right).



ATHABASCA BASIN  
**SECURITY**



**ALL  
PEACE  
PROTECTION**

*Our trained professionals, are your best defense!*

Athabasca Basin Security recently completed the acquisition of All Peace Protection, a security company based in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

All Peace Protection has been providing security and protection services since 1974. The company has grown to employ 150 people in a wide arrange of security and protection services including security to oilfield facilities such as pipelines, worksites and campsites, parking enforcement, video monitoring and safety training courses. All Peace Protection has operations primarily in Alberta and British Columbia.

"We are very excited about this investment into All Peace Protection," says Ron Hyggen, CEO of Athabasca Basin Security. "We were very interested in All Peace Protection as Kelly and his management team have done an excellent job in growing the company and are well diversified in its service offerings. This acquisition essentially doubles our company in size to over 300 staff, and significantly increases our footprint in Western Canada.

It will also allow ABS to continue to service our Alberta clients with greater capacity and provide further support to our BC operations. With this acquisition, we are excited to start a new and exciting chapter in our company's history, and we look forward to continuing the excellent relationship that All Peace Protection has had with their clients and the Grande Prairie community for the past 40 years."

Athabasca Basin Security, a Saskatoon-based company providing industrial security services to clients such as AREVA, Cameco, K+S, BHP Billiton and Potash Corp, will have 100% ownership of All Peace Protection. Ron Hyggen will take over the CEO responsibilities for All Peace Protection with no other changes to current operations as a result of this transaction.

"As part of our succession planning, it was important for us to find the right company, and Athabasca Basin Security was a perfect fit with our company's culture and values," says Kelly Chalmers, former owner of All

Peace Protection. "Both companies have demonstrated commitment and successful track records in respecting local First Nations territory, building meaningful relationships with First Nations and providing employment to local workers, as well as providing top tier service to our clients. This transaction was a true win-win and will have a positive outcome for both companies."

Athabasca Basin Security is owned 100% by Athabasca Basin Development. This is the first investment in the security company's fifteen-year history. "These two companies provide a very similar service, and it made perfect sense for Athabasca Basin Security to make this investment in order to grow the company," says Geoff Gay, CEO of Athabasca Basin Development. "We look forward to seeing how the two companies will continue to grow and be stronger as a result of this transaction."

Athabasca Basin Development is continuing to look for new opportunities for investments – both to strengthen its existing investments as well as outside of its existing industries. "There are lots of opportunities out there and we are continuing to seek solid investment opportunities. I would encourage business owners who are looking at succession planning to consider us as a potential fit and to contact us to discuss opportunities – there may be a fit either with Athabasca Basin Development or with one of our investments."

# Message from the CEO and Board Chair



Geoff Gay, CEO and Anne Robillard, Board Chair

It's no secret that 2016 gave Saskatchewan more challenging economic conditions than we've had to deal with for awhile, and these conditions certainly have had an impact on our investments as they have had on everyone else in our province. But sometimes, a challenging economy can be the very thing that makes a good company even stronger. Strong companies adapt to changing conditions, and we are very pleased to see that our investments have achieved positive momentum by making changes, new investments, or through innovative practices this year.

Even through the inevitable rough patches we all experience from time to time, avoiding "survival mode" in our investments and in our business is key

to continued long term growth. While the instinct may be to hold off on making any new investments until conditions improve, we continue to look for new opportunities. As we've learned from the past, sometimes a challenging market provides the perfect conditions for long term growth through opportunities and innovative thinking, because we can no longer simply continue doing the same thing and expect the same results. Companies are forced to think outside, inside, and all around the box, and the results can be greatly increased revenues, more efficient operations, or a change in strategic plan. Sometimes, opportunities become available that may not have been available in less challenging conditions, such as Athabasca Basin Security's opportunity to invest in an excellent security company in Alberta, doubling ABS's size and providing huge potential for expanded product offering and further growth.

When Athabasca Basin Development first began, the vision of the leadership was to build long lasting wealth for the communities. By staying true to the original unity and vision of the Athabasca leadership, we strengthen our ability to give back to our shareholder communities today, tomorrow and fifty years from now. Through the pillars of building wealth, community distributions, building a reputation, building capacity and economic development, our donations program, as well as the

continued support of our partners, we will continue to see success and make an impact into the future.

One of the most important indicators of our success is not measured through dollars and cents, but is reflected in individual stories. We are so excited that this year's Athabasca Student Dinner had the most attendees ever, and we believe it's indicative of a positive trend in the region. Furthering education in the region can be a great challenge, as Brianda Robillard from Black Lake so eloquently tells in her story in this edition, a challenge which makes success stories all the more inspiring. We include stories like these in our Explorer newsletter that has come out faithfully each spring and each fall for the past eight years because to us, these are the stories that matter the most and remind us why we strive for success.

We are excited about the progress being made, where our company is at and what we have achieved. Our company, as well as our investments, continue to make investments and changes to help grow our existing companies, and we continue to look for opportunities that are outside of our current portfolio. There are lots of opportunities out there for investment, and we will actively keep searching for them as we continue growing a strong and stable company for our shareholders.

## New Road Maintenance Coordinators From Black Lake Inspect the Ice Roads



Ray MacDonald and Victor Echodh Sr. were both required to take ice rescue training as part of their new Road Maintenance Coordinator position. Photo courtesy of Dewayne Butterfield.

One of the contracts in the very beginning days of Athabasca Basin Development was a road maintenance contract in the Athabasca region. Local people were hired as subcontractors then, and local subcontractors continue to maintain over 250km of seasonal roads and a 150km ice road in the Athabasca region today, through Lonona Contracting, a company managed by Points Athabasca.

Lonona Contracting recently hired two local Road Maintenance Coordinator positions. Raymond

MacDonald and Victor Echodh Sr, both hailing from Black Lake First Nation, have been hired to inspect the condition of the road that runs from Points North to Uranium City. This length of road is maintained by four local contractors (Medal Enterprise, P&M Gas Bar, Fern Contracting, and SAB's Contracting). Ensuring these contractors are called out when the different sections of road are approved for maintenance or snow removal is part of the responsibility of the job.

The position requires each coordinator to be trained in First Aid/CPR and have Ice Rescue Training to ensure they are able to assist in any safety issues that could arise while working in the isolated far north. Points Athabasca provided all training for these coordinator positions.

The road from Points North to Uranium City is made up of 400kms of which 150kms is ice road, and 250kms of overland. The road is an all-weather road from Points North to Stony Rapids. The 200kms from Stony Rapids to Uranium City is seasonal and only operational in the winter months.

The Road Maintenance Coordinators are responsible to check the conditions of not just the overland roads, but also to check the more dangerous ice roads. To ensure safety of workers on the ice roads, checking ice thickness is done on skidoo only – no use of ½ tons or any other

heavier vehicles is allowed. Maintenance crews do not work alone or at night. The ice is checked every 500 meters, to ensure thickness has reached the required inches to safely allow traffic and maintenance equipment – 20 inches is the minimum allowed, which would allow vehicles only up to 15,000 kg to cross. Equipment must be installed with either bars or floatation barrels in order to allow an operator enough time to escape the equipment if it breaks through the ice. Ice rescue vehicles accompany all ice road clearing operations just in case.

It's a risky, but important job. The ice roads are essential to the Athabasca communities, both in terms of travel and in bringing supplies to the communities. In the summer months, the communities of Camsell Portage, Uranium City and Fond du Lac are resupplied by a privately-owned barge, which is very expensive compared to travel over the ice roads in the winter. Last year's mild winter caused the ice roads to open later than normal, causing some communities to be concerned about their level of supplies.

# Giving Back

"Building a Future Through Investment" is accomplished through the pillars of building wealth for the Athabasca communities, donations, community distributions, building a reputation, and building capacity. The key to making all benefits possible is in building wealth for the communities; without this foundation, the other pillars would not be possible. Here are a few recent examples of the ways Athabasca Basin Development and its investments give back:

## 2016 Northern Tour

The 2016 Northern Tour took place on September 26, 2016. The tour was hosted by the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Northern Business Task Force. One of the key mandates of the group is to expand the knowledge of northern opportunities and challenges by taking business leaders, media, Ministry officials and others to visit remote northern communities. 2016 marks the third Northern Tour.



Photo courtesy of Sask Chamber of Commerce.

## Fond du Lac Community Garden

Fond du Lac had a great harvest from its community garden in 2016. Athabasca Basin Development is proud to have been a supporter of this initiative, contributing \$50,000 towards community gardens in 2015. We are so excited to see it has continued to be a success in Fond du Lac into its second year!



Photo courtesy of Fond du Lac Community Bulletin Facebook page.

## Christmas in the North

In December, Athabasca Basin Development co-sponsored the sixth annual Christmas in the North event together with West Wind Aviation, Cameco and AREVA Resources, with Points Athabasca also contributing gifts. Almost 600 gifts were hand-delivered in four communities: Fond du Lac, Stony Rapids, Black Lake and Wollaston Lake.



Pictured: Grade 1 students in Fond du Lac with Dennis Baranieski, West Wind Aviation, Dora MacKenzie, West Wind Aviation, Colleen Durocher, Cameco, Glenn Lafleur, AREVA Resources, and Kristy Jackson, Athabasca Basin Development.

## Annual Athabasca Student Supper Draws Record Crowd

A record crowd attended this year's Athabasca Student Supper in PA. On December 15, 47 Athabasca students and their guests, for a total of 196 people, attended the event. The annual event, which celebrates the achievements of all students from the Athabasca region who are attending secondary or post secondary school in the south, has become a popular gathering for students and their families from the region. Special thanks to the Strong family for all their efforts running the event and providing entertainment, and to all the many companies that provided donations to help make this event possible: Points Athabasca, Athabasca Basin Security, West Wind Aviation, Flyer Electric, Tru North Yamaha, Transwest Air, Arctic Beverages, Team Drilling, Hands On Outreach & Development Centre, and MBC Radio.

# Arctic Beverages Signs Two Agreements with PepsiCo



In December 2016, Arctic Beverages signed two agreements with PepsiCo Canada, which reinforces the company's long term relationship with the food and beverage giant.

The first is a new agreement with PepsiCo Foods for distribution of Frito Lay and other snack foods. This new agreement goes to 2020 with renewal clauses. The agreement also aligns Arctic's selling area for the food side with the company's PepsiCo Bottling Agreement, which represents an area covering approximately 20% of Canada.

The second agreement is with PepsiCo Canada Beverages for Saskatchewan, assigning the Northern Saskatchewan territory to Arctic Beverages until 2021 with subsequent renewal dates.

"These agreements enhance our existing agreements with our long-time partner, and now our food side mirrors the beverage side," says Sean Post, CEO of Arctic Beverages. "We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with PepsiCo Foods and Beverages and to be the most valued consumer packaged goods company in the eyes of our customers, communities, employees, and shareholders."

Arctic Beverages is the fourth oldest Pepsi Bottler in Canada, and has the largest franchise territory in Canada. Originally formed in 1938, the company is the only First Nations owned Pepsi bottler in North America. Athabasca Basin Development purchased ownership

into Arctic Beverages in 2014, along with Prince Albert Development Corporation and Paskwayak Business Development.





Terry Tessier, CEO of Flyer Electric, was excited to hear about students from the region who were interested in a career as an electrician, and wanted to send Brianda Robilliard, whose story is featured in this newsletter, and others who may be interested in becoming an electrician, the following advice and encouragement:

**“The electrical trade is a good technical trade that gives workers many industry options to work within. When hiring for our company, I always look for the most well-rounded workers available; I don’t want strictly industrial electricians, or strictly commercial electricians, I always want people with experience from all the different industries, with even residential experience as well. A well-rounded electrician is normally much more skilled than an electrician that has only worked industrial for their whole career.**

When living in Northern Saskatchewan, most people will have their eyes set on gaining a career in the mines. While this is a great career, I would encourage you to gain residential and commercial experience before exploring the northern industrial world. This would gain you some top-quality skills in other parts of the trade, before trying to settle into an industrial career, making you a very well-rounded tradesperson. I would encourage Brianda and others to consider going after their electrical career in this way. Flyer Electric is one of those rare companies that can offer this type of experience; starting in basic residential and light commercial wiring, moving to larger commercial projects, and rounding into the industrial sector, with even high voltage installations on power generation sites. Best of all, it can all be done without moving from one company to another; it can all be done with Flyer.

**With an excellent work ethic, a strong desire to work safely, to learn, to do quality work, and to be part of a loyal team, I’m sure Brianda will be a great, well rounded electrician in the future.”**

# About Athabasca Basin Development

Athabasca Basin Development is an investment company committed to building and investing in successful businesses. Investments include partial or complete ownership in construction, industrial security, electrical, diamond drilling, logistics, road maintenance, aviation and more. The company is owned by the seven communities in Northern Saskatchewan’s Athabasca region.

**Watch for our next newsletter Fall 2017.**

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## Always Accomplish What You Started



Brianda Robilliard, student from Black Lake, shared her story at the Athabasca Student Supper on December 15, 2016.

Facing your fears is incredibly hard. Doing so in front of a crowd of 200 or so of your family and friends requires a special kind of courage.

So you have to admire Brianda Robilliard, a young student from Black Lake who, at the Athabasca Student Supper in December, faced her fears about public speaking by sharing her very personal journey about the challenges she faces trying to achieve an education, which include the fear and loneliness students experience when they move away from their home community. "I was excited and scared at the same time, because I knew it would be hard for me to move away from family and relatives," says Brianda. "As the days were getting closer to move, I didn't want to go, because I thought about my family and I didn't want to be alone as well. But I knew my family was proud of me for what I'd gotten myself into."

It is a story that she thought others from the region who were also trying to achieve a greater education could relate to, and her goal was to provide a message of hope and encouragement, while also facing a life-long fear of public speaking. "Always accomplish what you started," Brianda concluded in her speech to the crowd,

who supported and encouraged her through their thunderous applause.

Brianda's personal challenges in receiving an education trace back to the 8th grade, when Brianda needed to go to work to help support her mother financially. At just 14 years old, Brianda went to work as a cashier at the Northern Store. "While I was working there, I met a lot of people, and I earned a little, but it was lots for me, because I was just fourteen and a half years old," says Brianda. "I was so happy that I received my first cheque, which was \$120."

At a young age, Brianda had to learn how to balance working long hours and life – all while trying to fit in at high school. "My first year in high school, kids were teasing me, calling me names because I was working and supporting my mother with her financial needs," she says. "I felt left out in any activities because of work. I was attending high school five times a week, 8am to 4pm. Then evening shifts five times a week, 4pm to 6pm, and then most nights, I worked nights at the café from 7pm to midnight."

The gruelling schedule eventually took its toll on the young teenager, and Brianda suffered the effects of stress. "I was overworking myself, and it was my first time experiencing it." She eventually made the tough decision to quit her night job at the café. "I wanted to make time for my family and friends. I felt so lonely working with that many hours, and I was just a teenager trying to get extra money."

After Brianda graduated from Grade 12, she didn't know what to do with herself. She continued working and supporting her mother, eventually registering in a program called the Indigenous Access Transition Education Certificate program. This program led Brianda to realize where her interests were, and she applied for an Electrician-Applied Certificate at SaskPolytech and a summer job at McLean Lake. "It was good experience to work at the mine site, week in/week out, facing my challenges at times, and learning every day," she says. "While working at the mine, I got an acceptance letter from SaskPolytech." Despite having fears and doubts about moving away from her family, Brianda made the decision to enrol and is now in her first year working towards becoming a journeyman electrician.

Hats off to you, Brianda, and all of you who face challenges while trying to achieve a better education and achieve your dreams. We at Athabasca Basin Development and all of our investments salute you, during days like the annual Athabasca Student Supper and all year long. Because to us, "Building a future through investment" also means building a future by investing in yourself.

## ABS Employee Presented with St. John Ambulance Gold Lifesaving Award



Her Honour the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, DStJ, SOM, SVM, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Vice Prior, Catherine (Maggy) Nagus, Mr. Philip Clarke Chancellor for the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem for the Priory of Canada, KStJ, CA, CIRP, and Dr. Jim Coucill, SBStJ, President for St. John Ambulance, Saskatchewan Council.

Catherine (Maggy) Nagus, who was born and raised in Wollaston Lake, was presented with the St. John Ambulance (SJA) Gold Lifesaving Award on December 1, 2016. The presentation was made at Government House in Regina, Saskatchewan as part of the St. John Ambulance Saskatchewan Council Awards Presentations.

Presented by Her Honour the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, DStJ, SOM, SVM, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Vice Prior, the SJA Gold Lifesaving Award recognizes individuals, or groups of individuals, who have saved or attempted to save a life through the administration of first aid knowledge and skills, where a degree of risk to life exists.

Ms. Nagus (who goes by the name Maggy) was one of only two people in the Province of Saskatchewan in 2016 to be recognized at the Gold Lifesaving Award level.

Currently in her eleventh year as an Industrial Security Officer with Athabasca Basin Security, Maggy was on duty at Cameco's Cigar Lake mine when she heard a noise and turned to witness an unprovoked wolf attack on a contractor that had been working at site. She immediately ran for her security vehicle and used it to chase the wolf away, then returned to the scene, called for help and began to render first aid until the Emergency Response Team could arrive.

The attack, which occurred shortly after midnight on August 30th, 2016, left a 26 year old contractor severely injured. He was later airlifted to a Saskatoon hospital for further treatment of his injuries.

Cameco Emergency Response Team member, Brandon Zarazun who responded to Maggy's call for assistance stated, "During the response, we noticed that the attacking wolf was still within close distance of the scene with the obvious intention of wanting to come back. It is certain, that if Maggy had not rushed into the scene with her vehicle, the victim would not have survived."

A quiet, soft-spoken Maggy remains very humble about the events of that night, saying that as "the mother of four boys, I just wanted to protect him."

"Working in close-proximity to where large carnivores live is something that our staff deal with on an ongoing basis," says Ron Hyggen, CEO of Athabasca Basin Security. "I am extremely proud of Maggie for her heroism and level-headed thinking in this stressful situation. Her actions and those of the site nurse and the Emergency Response Team came together and demonstrated why there is a great deal of effort put into practicing emergency protocols at site. The management and staff at Athabasca Basin Security are extremely grateful and appreciative of the team effort that took place that evening."