

Newfoundland and Labrador Oil and Gas Industry Key Events Chronology 2009 – 1812

January 23, 2009	Province reaches one billionth barrel of crude oil production from combined production at Hibernia, Terra Nova and White Rose oil developments.
August 20, 2008	Provincial Government signs agreement with Hebron proponents to develop province's fourth major offshore project. Agreement includes equity stake for province signalling new era in Newfoundland and Labrador's oil and gas industry.
November 12, 2005	First oil produced from White Rose oil development.
January 20, 2002	First oil produced from Terra Nova oil development.
June 14, 1999	Husky announced that the White Rose L-08 delineation well had encountered 100 m of net oil pay with a 50 meter gas cap in the Avalon sandstone and had flow tested at more than 5000 bpd.
February 1999	Grand Banks Consortium (Chevron, Mobil, Norsk Hydro and Petro-Canada) announce that the Hebron D-94 delineation well had encountered 86 meters of net pay and flow tested 3100 bpd of 21o API oil.
January 1999	Gas injection begins at the Hibernia field.
January 1999	A \$65 million expansion of the transshipment terminal is announced. The expansion includes a second tanker berth and one additional 500,000 barrel tank.
October 1998	Transshipment terminal at Whiffen Head, Placentia Bay, begins operating. The facility includes three 500,000 barrel tanks, for a total storage capacity of 1.5 million barrels, and one tanker berth.
September 1998	C-NOPB landsale attracts \$175 million in work expenditure bids for 10 parcels.
September 1998	Haliburton broke ground to construct a \$6 million service center in the St. John's area.
February 1998	Husky Oil opens an office in St. John's to manage East Coast Operations.
February 1998	The Terra Nova proponents announce their intention to proceed with development of the Terra Nova oilfield. First oil is expected by year-end 2000.
January 1998	The C-NOPB releases its report approving the Terra Nova Canada-Newfoundland Benefits Plan and the Terra Nova Development Plan.
1998	Hibernia B-16-1 tested a flow rate of 56,000 bpd setting new Canadian record. The previous record 27,000 bpd held by the Panuke field offshore Nova Scotia.
December 1997	The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announces a new Labour Relations Regime for offshore oil production platforms.

December 1997	The first 850,000 barrel Hibernia crude oil cargo is transported onboard the M.T. Kometik to Tosco Corp., a U.S. refining and marketing company.
December 1997	Norsk Hydro Canada Oil and Gas officially opens its St. John's office.
November 17, 1997	Hibernia produces first oil, one month earlier than planned.
November 1997	Mobil Oil announces an upgrade in Hibernia reserve estimates to at least 750 million barrels of recoverable oil.
September 1997	The Terra Nova Alliance selects Daewoo Heavy Industries Ltd. of South Korea to design and construct the steel hull for the floating production, storage and offloading vessel (FPSO).
August 1997	A joint panel reviewing the proposed Terra Nova project recommends that the project proceed.
August 1997	Hibernia spuds its first production well.
June 1997	Hibernia platform is towed to its permanent drilling site on the Grand Banks.
February 1997	Hibernia Topsides Module is successfully mated to the GBS.
1997	Bridge simulator established at the Marine Institute.
December 1996	Petro-Canada announces the Grand Banks Alliance (GBA) as the preferred contractor to develop the Terra Nova offshore project. GBA will design and construct the Terra Nova production facility, which will be a steel floating production storage and offloading vessel (FPSO).
September 5, 1996	Chevron, Mobil Oil and Petro-Canada announce their intentions to build a transshipment facility at Whiffen Head, Newfoundland.
July 19, 1996	Twenty-seven exploration permits issued onshore, Western Nfld, covering 840,000 hectares and involving work commitments of \$28 million.
June 13, 1996	Generic royalty regime for offshore Newfoundland and Labrador announced.
December 12, 1995	Petro-Canada and partners announce plans to spend \$2 billion to develop the estimated 406 million barrel Terra Nova field, the second largest oilfield on the Grand Banks, and to produce oil within six years.
April 1995	Flare from Hunt/PanCanadian Port Au Port #1 leads to a land rush in western Newfoundland.
November 1994	Hibernia's 120,000 tonne GBS is successfully towed from wetdock position to the deepwater construction site.
September 1994	Hunt Oil spuds a 4600m well on the Port au Port Peninsula, West Coast Newfoundland.
June 1994	Royalty regime for onshore petroleum developments is announced.

September 1992	Drydock construction of Hibernia's Gravity Base Structure (GBS) begins.
October 1990	Work begins on the Bull Arm construction site.
March 1990	The C-NOPB issues a 25-year production licence to the Hibernia consortium
1990	Alexander Murray Building completed at Memorial University.
August 1987	Come by Chance Oil Refinery re-establishes operation (purchased in August 1986).
April 4, 1987	Atlantic Accord Acts concurrently proclaimed in the House of Assembly and Parliament of Canada.
January 1986	C-NOPB assumes regulatory power over the offshore area.
October 1985	Hibernia fiscal negotiations begin.
September 1985	Mobil submits a Development Plan for the Hibernia field.
February 11, 1985	The Atlantic Accord is signed, recognizing the province of Newfoundland and Labrador as the principal beneficiary of the oil and gas resources off its shores. This leads to the formation of the Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NOPB).
1985	Institute for Marine Dynamics was established.
1985	West Ben Nevis field discovered by Petro-Canada.
Fall 1994	Cow Head Facility constructed in Marystown.
January 1984	Basic Offshore Survival Training available in Province.
1984	Petro-Canada drills the Terra Nova K-08 discovery well.
1984	White Rose field discovered by Husky/Bow Valley.
1984	Hibernia delineation drilling is completed. Reserves are estimated by the Nfld Petroleum Directorate at 862 million barrels recoverable.
1983	Center for Earth Resources Research was established.
1983	First Graduating Class from the Petroleum Engineering Technology Program .
February 18, 1982	Newfoundland refers the offshore ownership issue to the Supreme Court of Newfoundland.
February 15, 1982	While drilling at the Hibernia Field, the semi-submersible Ocean Ranger sank. There were no survivors among the crew of 84 men.
1981	Federal and provincial governments begin negotiations regarding revenue sharing and management of offshore resources.
1981	First oil show off the coast of Labrador - Petro-Canada's North Bjarni well.

1981	Hebron field discovered by Mobil.
October 1980	National Energy Program enacted to encourage Canadian ownership of petroleum resources and exploration of the frontiers. The program allows for up to an 80% refund of frontier exploration expenses for companies with sufficient Canadian ownership.
1980	Ben Nevis field discovered.
1980	First year of year-round drilling activity off the East Coast.
1980	Mobil Canada and partners begin engineering, environmental and socioeconomic studies in support of Hibernia field development plan.
1980	Petroleum Engineering Technology Program established at College of Trades & Technology in St. John's.
November 1979	The Newfoundland & Labrador Petroleum Directorate established.
1979	The first major oil discovery in the Canadian offshore is made when the Glomar Atlantic drills the Hibernia P- 1 5 well for Chevron Canada Resources Ltd. The well flow tested at approximately 12,000 barrels per day, with 11 million cubic feet per day of natural gas.
1979	Petro-Canada takes over operatorship of the offshore Labrador Group from Total Eastcan.
October 1978	Chevron Standard Ltd. discovers Hopedale gas field off Labrador.
1978	Exploration activity resumes offshore Newfoundland after a one-year hiatus.
1977	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador enacts Petroleum Regulations, and exploration activity off Newfoundland ceases.
November 1976	Nordco study concludes that concrete production platforms can be built in the province.
1975	Snorri gas field discovered by Total Eastcan off Labrador.
1974	C-Core was established.
October 1974	Gudrid gas field discovered by Total Eastcan off Labrador.
1973	Bjarni gas field discovered by Total Eastcan off Labrador.
1973	East Coast drilling peaks - 29 holes drilled at a cost of \$79 million.
1973	Mobil-Gulf Adolphus 2K-41 flow tested at 268 barrels per day of 31o API oil. First oil discovery in the Jeanne d' Arc Basin.
March 1973	The Energy Resources Branch of the Department of Mines and Energy established to provide expert technical support and to develop and enforce oil and gas policy and regulations

1969	Ocean Engineering Research Center established at Memorial University.
1966	First two wells spudded offshore Newfoundland and Labrador by Pan Am (Amoco) and Imperial.
1950's - early 1960's	Canadian and US researchers carry out aeromagnetic and seismic refraction studies which prove the presence of a thick sedimentary wedge offshore Eastern Canada. Oil companies are quick to determine the area is favourable for hydrocarbon accumulations.
circa 1907/09	Small refinery operating at Parsons Pond. First "commercial" oil production in the province.
1878	Gloucester fishermen collect rock samples brought up in trawls for the US Fish Commission. Grand Banks rocks identified as Tertiary age by microfossils.
1867	First petroleum exploration well drilled at Parsons Pond to a depth of 213 meters. Encountered "some oil".
1812	Mr. Parsons skimmed oil from the surface of Parsons Pond, in western Newfoundland, to be used as a treatment for rheumatism.