

# SiteLine

## Joffre Site Community News

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Season's greetings from all of us at the Joffre Site!



## Reflecting on our participation in the community

While NOVA Chemicals Joffre Site has a long history of community involvement and investment, 2015 seems to me to have been a year that particularly exemplifies our Responsible Care® ethic in action.

**Our seventh Responsible Care verification was successful** and highlighted many positive community aspects for NOVA Chemicals overall and for our Joffre Site (see page 4 for the independent verification team report highlights). While we are reviewing and implementing the team's suggestions for improvement, we are also very pleased with assessments such as this: "In all of the team's interaction with community members there was not one indication of any reluctance or hesitation on the part of the community to contact the company about any issue and to expect timely feedback."

**Another Joffre Site record-breaking United Way campaign** reflects the community commitment of our employees — and the pride they take in lending a hand. The kind words of 2015 Co-Chair of the United Way of Central Alberta Craig Curtis 'made' our cheque presentation day: "NOVA is a shining example of an organization with a social heart." (See pages 2 and 3 for more community highlights.)

**NOVA Chemicals Community Nature Trail is now open** for the enjoyment of our community and employees. It is a wonderful resource and we invite you to visit it soon. Please let us know what you think.



The PE1 Expansion Project has passed the 60% construction complete milestone.

**We continue to seek your input on site activities** including our proposed new retention pond. We have just completed our application for rezoning to Lacombe County (see page 4).

On the business front, **our Polyethylene 1 (PE1) Expansion Project** is now at the peak workforce phase (page 3). As Alberta continues to be impacted by low oil prices, this growth project, as well as our Ethylene 2 Furnace Refurbishment Project, significantly contribute to positive economic activity in the region. By this time next year, we expect the expanded PE1 facility to be in start-up phase.

Your interest and input into our operations and activities are appreciated by all of us at the Joffre Site. I sincerely wish you and your families a safe and peaceful holiday season and all the best for 2016.

  
**Rick Van Hemmen**, Joffre Site Leader

# A few 2015 highlights: a proud tradition of lending a hand

## Yet another record-breaking United Way campaign

Even after our Joffre Site cheque presentation, the donations kept coming in for the United Way of Central Alberta from our employees, retirees and matching corporate funds. We had another record-breaking total for 2015 with \$733,000 going to benefit 34 agency programs.

When our leaders and campaign volunteers presented the cheque to Robert Mitchell, United Way CEO, and Craig Curtis, Central Alberta's United Way campaign co-chair, Curtis responded: "NOVA is a shining example of an organization with a social heart."

In addition to the funds raised, 276 employees and leaders participated in the United Way Day of Caring® Program offering 2,100 hours of service to agencies such as the Red Deer Library, Central Alberta Women's Outreach Centre and the Red Deer Food Bank.

Dedicated canvassers, energetic event co-ordinators and team building events were all key ingredients in this year's successful campaign.



*Todd Karran, President & CEO; Naushad Jamani, Senior VP Olefins & Feedstocks and Rick VanHemmen joined the Joffre Site campaign team in wishing the United Way a Happy 50th Anniversary in Central Alberta and presented them with this year's cheque.*



*Lending a hand at the Central Alberta Women's Outreach Centre.*



*Sorting and organizing food for the Red Deer Food Bank.*



*Day of Caring at the Red Deer Public Library.*

## TIS the Season Luncheon: Joffre Site received inaugural corporate award

As our volunteers wrapped up our work at last year's TIS the Season Luncheon, we were thrilled to receive the inaugural Corporate / Group Volunteer Award from the Red Deer Regional Hospital Foundation for our significant contribution to the Festival of Trees event through volunteering efforts.

As we took part in the 2015 event this November, our 16th year as a financial sponsor, these words from the Luncheon Event Committee encouraged our ever hard-working volunteers: "The teamwork exhibited is magically efficient" and "Watching the NOVA Team at work is like watching a well-oiled machine...."





## NOVA Chemicals Community Nature Trail open to public

The 89-hectare (220-acre) Community Nature Trail located just north of the Joffre Site will be open all winter to the public. To learn more about the trail — a legacy project of the PE1 Expansion Project — go to: [www.novachem.com/pages/joffre/joffre.aspx](http://www.novachem.com/pages/joffre/joffre.aspx) to view the fact sheet with directions, hours and other visitor information. See you there!



## I want to be an Earth Ranger!

NOVA Chemicals is a sponsor across our Canadian sites of Earth Rangers, a school outreach program focusing on biodiversity and conservation. This year Earth Rangers visited six schools in Lacombe and Red Deer.

*"Thanks for providing the opportunity for me to attend Earth Rangers at the Lacombe Upper Elementary School. It was very enjoyable and moving. I could tell how it resonated with the students. My daughter is still talking about it and that she wants to be an Earth Ranger."*

## PE1 Expansion Project now at peak workforce

The PE1 Expansion Project has passed the 60% construction complete milestone. Nearing completion now for the \$1-billion expansion are electrical / instrumentation modules, building enclosures, structural steel, equipment installations, main piping systems and power distribution.

Workforce numbers have peaked at approximately 675 dayshift and 140 night shift craft workers. These numbers will hold steady until late Spring 2016. Once commissioning of the expanded facilities begins in the latter part of 2016, workforce numbers will drop to about 50.

Workers remain on a ten-day on and four-day off work schedule that began in November 2014. The schedule helps reduce weekday traffic volumes.



## Greenhouse demolition work underway soon

We plan to get underway soon with the first phase of demolition of the former greenhouse property (just south of the Joffre Site). This phase involves dismantling / demolishing of the above-ground facilities. This work is expected to be complete in the first half of 2016. The second phase will focus on below-ground foundations and soil reclamation. Watch for more information on this reclamation work in our Spring 2016 edition of *SiteLine*.

# Highlights of our seventh Responsible Care verification

NOVA Chemicals' seventh successful Responsible Care verification was conducted June 15 to June 19, 2015 with the independent verification team visiting our Joffre, Sarnia-area and Calgary locations. In its assessment, the team had the opportunity to interact with a wide range of company personnel and external stakeholders.

The Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC) verification team concluded the Responsible Care (RC) Ethic and Principles for Sustainability are guiding company decisions and actions, and that a management system is in place to drive continual improvement. The team's report highlighted a number of areas for improvement and actions which we are fully reviewing; we will be putting together an action plan to ensure the opportunities are considered and that current successful initiatives are maintained. We will also be seeking community input as we prepare communications-related actions.

The following are some highlights from the verification team's report that we felt would be of interest to the community. **If you are interested in reviewing the team's full report, please email us at [joffresite@novachem.com](mailto:joffresite@novachem.com).**

## Community-related highlights:

- All standards, procedures and practices for Emergency Management meet RC code implementation expectations. The team suggested inviting near neighbours to observe an emergency drill exercise. They also acknowledged the site's purchase of an all-terrain vehicle to provide emergency response assistance at the Community Nature Trail.

- An action item related to Emergency Management and Preparedness is to confirm near neighbours understand the actions they should take to protect themselves in the event NOVA Chemicals or local authorities activate a 'Shelter in Place' instruction associated with site activities. We will build on our existing programs with neighbours to strengthen our communications in this area.
- The team is of the opinion that the company has built and maintains an excellent community dialogue process: "In all of the team's interaction with community members there was not one indication of any reluctance or hesitation on the part of the community to contact the company about any issue and to expect timely feedback. The team offered us some suggestions on enhancing the dialogue process, for example, to consider having corporate transportation specialists dialogue with the community when issues related to carriers are raised, especially rail.
- The company has developed a platform ('Taking Care') to bring the entire organization together to put RC in practise with a focus on sustainability. "The team is enthused about this initiative. It is an excellent example of bringing the complex concepts of sustainability to the shop floor.... The team believes this effort leads the industry in involving employees in this complex undertaking."

These regular verification processes provide us a valuable third-party perspective on how we are doing in relation to the RC codes and ethic, and sustainability. Thank you to Joffre Community Advisory Panel (JCAP) member Kathy Pyper for being the community representative on the independent panel.

## Regulatory Update

**Proposed new retention pond:** In November 2015 we submitted an application to Lacombe County for the rezoning of eight hectares (20 acres) of agricultural land to industrial to accommodate the new retention pond located adjacent to our existing south retention pond. We will also be seeking a review by Alberta Environment & Parks on the design of the new retention pond. This will include a review for dam safety. If all applications are approved, we plan to start construction of the pond in Spring 2016. For details on the proposed new pond, please see our fact sheet at: [www.novachem.com/pages/joffre/joffre.aspx](http://www.novachem.com/pages/joffre/joffre.aspx)



*Updates on the location and technical specifications for the proposed new retention pond were provided at the October 14 Community Open House. Other displays and discussions focused on our annual environmental performance report. More than 40 people attended.*

## SiteLine is published by NOVA Chemicals Corporation

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## For more information, please see these websites:

- [www.novachemicals.com](http://www.novachemicals.com) | [www.novachemicals.com/Joffre](http://www.novachemicals.com/Joffre)
- Chemistry Industry Association of Canada: [www.canadianchemistry.ca](http://www.canadianchemistry.ca)
- American Chemistry Council: [www.americanchemistry.com](http://www.americanchemistry.com)



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