The Value of SPOG

The communication and awareness that SPOG has fostered is dependent on many factors. The most significant of these is the contributions of the key stakeholders. Industry, government and landowners are all part of the synergistic relationship that keep alive the vision and purpose of SPOG. Communication is not possible if only one stakeholder is involved and constructive communication requires all that need a voice in what happens, participate in the process.
SPOG is Synergy

Synergy Definitions: Oxford Dictionary
“Cooperation of two or more things to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.”

Merriam-Webster Dictionary;
“A mutually advantageous conjunction or compatibility of distinct business participants.”

Gary Redmond Synergy Alberta;
“Diverse interests coming together to learn from one another and work pro-actively for the best interests of all.”

Synergy AB Year in Review;
“Synergy is, after all, a process of working together to strengthen communities and the province as a whole.”

Gary Redmond, Synergy Statement;
“Synergy was born from the belief that simple ideas like mutual understanding and respect can go a long way in building healthier, more sustainable communities for all. Together, we can achieve much more than we ever could working alone.”
SPOG GEOGRAPHIC AREA

- Area of highest overlap of industry Emergency Response Plans
  - 600 square miles
  - 2 Urban centers, 2 Counties, several grazing leases, many summer camps, campgrounds, subdivisions, many farms
  - 6000 households
History of SPOG

• Formed in 1992 as a result of request from the public to develop a 1-800 emergency number. John Hawkins from Amoco 1st Chairman
• Originally a dozen industry members now over 20 industry members.
• Companies saw possibilities for maximizing opportunities through co-operation
• Mutual Aid, Environment and Community Affairs Committees were formed.
  • No community members for first 5 years.
“A long-term relationship based on mutual trust, honesty and respect, by way of sharing pertinent information and working towards resolving issues to benefit all stakeholders.”
SPOG Top
20 in 20 Achievements

SPOG Vision

1-800 Emergency Number

Mutual Aid

Mutual Learning

Resident Visits

Community Affairs Working Group

IMPACT Newsletter

Environment Working Group

Caroline Livestock Study

Proactive Engagement Process
SPOG Top
20 in 20 Achievements

Traffic Best Management Practices

Sour Gas Drilling and Development Performance Measures

Hydraulic Fracturing Best Management Practices

New Development Log

SPOG Website

Neighbors Day

SPOG Office and Staff

Complaint Process

SPOG Board of Directors

Synergy
Community Affairs Committee - Year in Review

January – Presentation by the Energy Resources Conservation Board
- Draft Directive 071: Emergency Preparedness and Response Changes
- Draft Hydraulic Fracturing Directive

February – Presentation by Red Deer Watershed Alliance
- Presented by Mr. Alan Dolan

March – Presentation by the Energy Resources Conservation Board
- Unconventional Regulatory Framework

April – Presentation from Olds College/Sundre High School
- Centennial Events for their 100 Year Anniversary
- Presentation from Lisa Wilson of the Sundre High School on The (RAP) Registered Apprenticeship Program

May – Presentation from Altalink
- Mr. John Grove presented on Altalink’s Stakeholder Engagement Process & activities in the SPOG boundary

June – 3 Presentations
- Kevin Bouchard with Enerchem International on their existing operations in the Sundre area
- Mark Welty of Secure Energy (new SPOG Member) of their operations and future plans
- Communications Committee Workshop with all Stakeholders

September – 16th Annual Neighbours ‘Day Event – In My Backyard

October – Presentation from the Alberta Energy Regulator
- Jennifer Steber, Executive Vice President of Stakeholder Relations, presented on the ongoing changes and updates as the new single regulator - the Alberta Energy Regulator
Environment Committee - Year in Review

The focus of the Environment Committee is to share information, educate, bring awareness and review environmental practices within the SPOG area. It educates area operators and the community about opportunities to minimize these impacts and promotes environmental programs which contribute to a healthier environment for the area’s current and future residents. It also brings to the forefront some of the many successes local operators have had in addressing environmental issues of great concern in the area, including flaring and emission reductions.

Last year, SPOG initiated the Proactive Engagement Process to develop Best/Beneficial Practices for Hydraulic Fracturing within the SPOG boundaries. After the process was complete, the Beneficial Practices for Hydraulic Fracturing were released in March of 2013. The spirit and intent of these Beneficial Practices, which in some cases do go above and beyond the existing minimum requirements under the regulatory framework, are intended to further develop good relationships and good neighbor practices between the oil and gas industry and the communities in which they work. Beneficial practices include requirements for groundwater and aquifers, water use and information transfer and transparency.

On April 18, 2013, the Olds College Center for Innovation made an enlightened presentation on “A Disappearing Landscape: Wetlands in Canada.” Many topics were covered ranging from a brief education on the types of Alberta’s wetlands and the importance of the wetlands to the realities of present day wetland use.

At a Learn at Supper event on April 13th, The Clearwater County Ag Services Landcare Supervisor, Gary Lewis, presented on the importance of communication between organizations and landowners regarding landcare issues. The presentation titled, “Clear Water Landcare, Where People, Land and Water Mix,” gave many insights into dealing with situations where landcare may be a sensitive topic.

SPOG also took a major role in participating in and coordinating the Creative Sentencing Grant opportunity in the James River watershed. Participation in this process is another way that SPOG can use the resources at it’s disposal and it’s relationship with landowners, communities to direct the outcome of these situations to where it can do the most good.

The Annual SPOG Highway clean up was held on September 19, 2013.
The Mutual Aid Committee is dedicated to public safety. This working group coordinates an 1-800 emergency number and calldown, integrated emergency response and consistent public education. The Resident Visit program is an important part of the program coordinated by the Mutual Aid Committee.

The SPOG’s Mutual Aid program showed it’s merit and value during the flood in June of 2013. The emergency response procedures and data allowed the town, municipality and industry partners to effectively limit the damage caused by the extensive flooding. The process of locating and evacuating any residents within the flood damaged areas, using the data gathered by SPOG was a resource that made the jobs of the Emergency Response teams all that much simpler.

The Resident Visit program visits were completed October 31.
Mutual Aid Committee

• 1-800 Mutual Aid Coordination Centre number rings in Shell Control Room providing 24/7 response - approximately 60-100 calls a year.
• Call down to other companies using geomatics to determine companies within 4KM of an odor complaint
• Resident Visit program carries out joint ERP visits for over 15 companies.
• 6000 resident/landowner/occupant records are managed for Emergency Response purposes.
Value Of Mutual Aid

1. Increases public and regulator confidence in industry response capability.

2. Promotes a common and consistent approach to emergency response within the Mutual Aid area.

3. Sharing of resources (ie. personnel, equipment, expertise) resulting in a more cost effective and efficient response

4. Relationship building between Industry and Community
Added Value of SPOG Mutual Aid

1. SPOG provides a One-number system for notification of potential emergencies.

2. SPOG self-disclosure to ERCB covers member companies in the initial response to an emergency or potential emergency.

3. SPOG Mutual Aid process provides a wider and more rapid communication/notification and investigation of each other’s actual or potential emergencies.
A vibrant, safe community benefits us all

Communities in SPOG
Bearberry • Bergen • Burnstick Lake • Crammond
Eagle Hill • Eagle Valley • Harmattan
James River • Town of Sundre
Village of Caroline

Mutual Aid … Mutual Benefit