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WEST IS BEST: CANADA'S TWO WESTERN MOST PROVINCES TO LEAD ECONOMIC GROWTH THIS YEAR AND NEXT

Alberta's economy is set to lead the country this year, with robust economic growth of 6.7 per cent. Next year, however, the province will take a back seat to British Columbia, who will emerge once again as the provincial growth leader, according to The Conference Board of Canada's Provincial Outlook: Autumn 2017.

"Thanks to rising oil production and a swift turnaround in drilling levels, Alberta surged out of recession this year. But, the rebound has been unsustainably fast, implying the pace of recovery will moderate in 2018," said Marie-Christine Bernard, Director, Provincial Forecast, The Conference Board of Canada. "Next year, with strength in many sectors, British Columbia's economy is poised to outpace all other provinces and will be one of only three provinces with growth above 2 per cent."

Highlights

Alberta will outpace all other provinces this year with incredibly rapid real GDP growth of 6.7 per cent. Newfoundland and Labrador will be the only province that will see an acceleration in economic growth next year. All other provinces can expect slower growth in 2018, but for most the pace will remain healthy.

British Columbia is forecast to enjoy real GDP growth above the national average next year, with the provincial economy expanding by 2.7 per cent.

Ontario's increase in the minimum wage will temper the pace of job growth. The higher cost of labour with reduce the pace of employment growth by 29,000 positions in 2018 and an additional 12,000 in 2019.

Alberta's economy is set to grow by a robust 6.7 per cent this year. Several sectors came out of recession, but it was the swift pickup in drilling and solid oil production that led economic growth. The domestic economy also performed well, as consumer demand picked up, boosting retail sales and housing construction. But the booming growth is not expected to last, with Alberta's economy forecast to grow at a more sustainable 2.1 per cent in 2018. However, recent strength in oil prices could help maintain the momentum in drilling and push economic growth higher over the near term.

British Columbia is forecast to enjoy real GDP growth of 3.2 per cent this year. And, while slightly weaker growth of 2.7 per cent is anticipated for 2018, B.C. will still outpace all other provinces in economic growth. One of the factors behind the slowdown next year is the cooling off in the housing sector. Measures implemented to cool demand and continued challenges related to housing affordability have led to a small decline in housing starts this year and they are forecast to remain virtually flat next year. The cooling off in the housing sector will trickle down through the economy and lead to slower growth in employment, income, and, most significant of all, consumer spending. Meanwhile, the province's forestry sector is expected to be either flat or negative over the next five years due to ongoing problems with the mountain pine beetle infestations and duties imposed by the U.S. on Canadian softwood lumber imports.

Having faced a milder recession than Alberta's in 2015 and 2016, Saskatchewan's rebound this year will be more muted. Real GDP in Saskatchewan is expected to advance 2.1 per cent in 2017 and by a more moderate 1.6 per cent in 2018. Labour markets remain stuck in neutral and are not powering consumer spending. On a more positive note, prospects for the province's primary sector are brighter. The potash industry is increasing production and global market conditions are improving, and that is expected to carry over into 2018. The energy sector is benefiting from new technologies that are stimulating investment, and the recent strength in oil prices will help sustain the number of wells drilled in the province.

Manitoba has been benefiting from heavy investment by Manitoba Hydro since 2015, which has provided a big boost to real GDP growth. However, with the development of the Keeyask generating station still under way and construction of the Bipole III transmission line moving ahead, investment in the province is expected to peak in 2018 and their completion will be a headwind to growth in 2019. A second blow to economic growth are the large declines in metal mining production expected from now until the end of the decade. Overall, real GDP in Manitoba is expected to expand by 2.9 per cent in 2017, before slowing to 1.3 per cent next year.

A cooldown in consumer spending will hold economic growth to just 2.0 per cent in Central Canada next year. Ontario's economy is expected to grow at a robust pace of more than 3 per cent this year, but difficulties on the trade front, as well as slowdowns in the housing market and consumer spending will limit growth to 2.0 per cent in 2018. Ontario's increase in the minimum wage will temper the pace of job growth. The higher cost of labour with reduce the pace of employment growth by 29,000 positions in 2018 and an additional 12,000 in 2019.

While the compensation increases will give more than one million workers earning less than $14 per hour more money to spend, consumer demand is expected to grow at a slower pace next year due to elevated consumer debt. Meanwhile, more stringent mortgage-qualifying requirements and rising mortgage rates will cut into new housing construction in 2018–19.

Quebec's economy saw significant improvement this year, with the provincial economy forecast to grow 3.2 per cent in 2017. The province did well on several fronts, but it was solid consumer demand that was the decisive factor behind the renewed strength and optimism in the province. The recent strong economic momentum is expected to lose speed quickly, however, as the pace of consumer demand is forecast to weaken. Overall, real GDP growth is expected to slow to a still-solid 2.0 per cent in 2018. The province could also be facing challenges on the trade front. With 70 per cent of exports destined for the U.S market, the renegotiation of NAFTA could change the playing field for many exporters, and that provides risks to the outlook.

The Atlantic provinces are experiencing economic growth well below the national average this year, as the region is hurt by weak job creation and the aging of the population. Next year, growth will be even more modest in all of the Atlantic provinces, with the exception of Newfoundland and Labrador. Newfoundland and Labrador's economy will contract by 3.1 per cent this year, but is forecast to see real GDP growth of 2.4 per cent in 2018 thanks to new oil production at the Hebron platform.

Underpinned by a competitive Canadian dollar, Prince Edward Island's tourism and export sectors are expected to grow at a solid pace, bolstering overall economic growth by 2.3 per cent this year. However, P.E.I.'s economic growth is expected to dip to 1.3 per cent next year as construction of the electric transmission line to New Brunswick is completed.

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have some of the weakest near-term growth prospects in the country. Both provinces will see health care spending grow at a strong pace, while at the same limited gains in employment will hold back household spending. In Nova Scotia, real GDP growth is forecast at 1.3 per cent in 2017 and 1.0 per cent in 2018. With the delivery of the first vessel under the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS) program scheduled for 2018, activities at the Halifax shipyard will continue to support growth in the manufacturing sector. International immigration has been exceptionally strong in recent years, and that has boosted the labour force numbers in Nova Scotia. As for New Brunswick, the decline in the labour force is limiting economic growth to 1.5 per cent this year and just 0.8 per cent in 2018. The prospects for the mining sector are favourable over the near term, but the forestry sector faces more difficulties with trade tariffs.

The Conference Board of Canada will host its Western Business Outlook tour in five western cities this February and March: Vancouver, Nanaimo, Calgary, Red Deer, and Edmonton.

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SOURCE Conference Board of Canada

NEW $155-MILLION CLEAN GROWTH PROGRAM LAUNCHED TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Building a clean-growth economy starts with sustainable and globally-competitive natural resource sectors that create good, middle-class jobs and prosperity for Canadians. Smart investments in clean technology can build on this Canadian advantage, ensure we meet our climate change commitments and create new opportunities and markets for our ingenuity and know-how.

The Honourable Jim Carr, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, today announced a $155-million program that will fund clean technology projects in the areas of energy, mining and forestry, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve environmental outcomes.

The new Clean Growth Program is the first of its kind to promote and require collaboration with the provinces and territories. It will focus on five areas:

Reducing greenhouse gas and air emissions from natural resource operations;

Minimizing landscape disturbances and improving waste management in natural resource operations;

The production and use of advanced materials and bioproducts in natural resource operations;

Efficient energy use and productivity in natural resource operations; and

Reducing water use and impacts on aquatic ecosystems from natural resource operations.

The program will build on the momentum of last month's cutting-edge Generation Energy forum in Winnipeg, where the public, top experts, industry representatives, traditional and emerging energy sectors, and Indigenous and community leaders from across Canada and around the globe discussed their vision for Canada's low-carbon energy needed for future generations.

It is an example of our Government's new collaborative approach, which involves leveraging investment in publicly funded research, laboratories and programs to better promote clean technologies.

Budget 2017 committed $200 million to encourage clean technology in the natural resource sectors. Natural Resources Canada will deliver $155 million of this funding under the Clean Growth Program. The remaining $45 million will support clean technology research and the development, demonstration and adoption of clean technology through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Funding is open to natural resources and clean technology firms, federal researchers, Indigenous organizations and groups, and post-secondary institutions. For more information, visit https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/20254.

Quotes

"Clean growth is good for our planet and our economy. It also plays to Canada's competitive advantage with the clean technology innovation that will make our country a global leader in the transition to a low-carbon economy. Strategically developing and using clean technologies in our natural resource sectors is one more way we can make Canada stronger and more sustainable, future-proof our economy and create new opportunities for generations to come."

Jim Carr

Minister of Natural Resources

"Canadians understand the need to protect the environment and strengthen the economy today and for our children and grandchildren. And through smart and strategic investments like these, Canada is reducing carbon pollution, spurring the clean-growth economy and creating middle-class jobs that pay well."

Catherine McKenna

Minister of Environment and Climate Change

"Canadian farmers are great stewards of the land and the environment. Our government is committed to helping our farmers be world leaders in the use of clean and sustainable technology."

Lawrence MacAulay

Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

"From our biggest cities to our most remote communities, our investments in green infrastructure aim to rebuild Canada. We're helping Canadian businesses grow and innovate by funding clean technology initiatives, and, together, we're building a hub where clean tech businesses can find the support they need."

Amarjeet Sohi

Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

Associated Links

Clean Growth Program video

Clean Growth Program web page

Generation Energy

SOURCE Natural Resources Canada

STATEMENT FROM THE HONOURABLE JIM CARR ON THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

"Nebraska's decision today to approve the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline will result in good, middle-class jobs for workers on both sides of the Canada–U.S. border.

"Our government has always supported the Keystone XL project. With Nebraska's decision, the project has now secured all the required approvals in both Canada and the U.S. The Keystone XL pipeline will create thousands of good jobs for Canadians during construction, mostly in Alberta, while strengthening the Canadian resource industry as a whole. The project also bolsters North American energy security and economic competitiveness.

"Our government's support of this important project, along with our approval of the Line 3 replacement and the increased capacity on the Alberta Clipper Project (Enbridge's Line 67), is creating almost 10,000 well-paying, middle-class jobs and will further strengthen the cross-border energy relationship. Combined with the thousands of jobs created during the construction of the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion, these energy projects will bring significant economic benefits to Canada for years to come.

"Canada and the United States share a highly integrated energy market in which environmental and energy security interests are closely linked. U.S. consumers benefit from having a secure and reliable supply of energy at their doorstep. Canada is that source.

"Canada is a leader in the safe and responsible transportation of our natural resources and has strong safety standards for federally regulated pipelines."

SOURCE Natural Resources Canada

KRUSE ENERGY CONDUCTS ITS LARGEST AUCTION OF 2017 IN ODESSA, TX

Kruse Energy Auctioneers, a Ritchie Bros. solution, conducted its largest auction of the year last week, selling more than 1,500 equipment items and trucks for US$25+ million in Odessa, TX.

The two-day auction (November 15 – 16, 2017) attracted bidders from 14 countries, including Thailand, Egypt, the Philippines and the Ukraine. Online bidders purchased approximately 30 percent of the equipment in the auction.

More than 180 items in the auction were sold for BJ Services, North America's largest pure-play pressure pumping services company. Increasing focus on its hydraulic fracturing and cementing service, BJ Services recently decided to close its U.S. coil tubing division, choosing to sell all its coil tubing assets with Kruse Energy.

"This auction really showcased the power of the combined Ritchie Bros. company," said Greg Owens, Group President (New Sectors & Ventures), Ritchie Bros. "By working together, we were able to leverage the energy sector expertise and reputation of Kruse, the innovative online solutions of IronPlanet, and the marketing prowess and strong customer relationships of Ritchie Bros. to provide strong results for sellers."

David Long, President of Kruse Energy Auctioneers, added, "We attracted hundreds of new bidders for this auction, participating both onsite and online, helping us achieve stronger equipment pricing and ultimately, record-breaking results."

Equipment highlights in the auction included 24 drilling rigs, 15 coiled tubing units, 15 double pumpers, 35 nitrogen pump units, six boom truck cranes, 120+ trucks, as well as gas compressors, water and well service equipment, vacuum trucks and trailers, and more.

"BJ Services is very pleased with the results from last week's auction," said Warren Zemlak, President & CEO of BJ Services. "The Ritchie Bros./Kruse team was very supportive and informative from the point of consignment up to the point of sale, ensuring we were aware of the marketing efforts to make this a success."

Kruse Energy's next auctions will be held in Oklahoma City, OK on December 6 – 7 and Montgomery, TX on December 14. For more information, visit KruseEnergy.com.

About Kruse Energy Auctioneers:

Kruse Energy Auctioneers is a Ritchie Bros. solution, focusing on energy equipment-related auctions. As a full-service travelling auction company, it brings its services to the assets to help sellers avoid transportation costs. Throughout its over 25-year history the company has conducted auctions across the United States and 31 other countries. Kruse Energy maintains offices in Texas and Oklahoma and conducts approximately 30 auctions each year. For more information, visit KruseEnergy.com

About Ritchie Bros.:

Established in 1958, Ritchie Bros. (NYSE and TSX: RBA) is a global asset management and disposition company, offering customers end-to-end solutions for buying and selling used heavy equipment, trucks and other assets. Operating in a multitude of sectors, including construction, transportation, agriculture, energy, oil and gas, mining, and forestry, the company's selling channels include: Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, the world's largest industrial auctioneer offers live auction events with online bidding; IronPlanet, an online marketplace with featured weekly auctions and providing its exclusive IronClad Assurance® equipment condition certification; Marketplacee, an online marketplace offering multiple price and timing options; Mascus, a leading European online equipment listing service; and Ritchie Bros. Private Treaty, offering privately negotiated sales. The company also offers sector-specific solutions including GovPlanet, TruckPlanet, Kruse Energy Auctioneers, and Cat® auctions, plus equipment financing and leasing through Ritchie Bros. Financial Services. For more information about the unprecedented choice provided by Ritchie Bros., visit RitchieBros.com.

Photos and video for embedding in media stories are available at rbauction.com/media.

SOURCE Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers

DETAILED ROUTE HEARINGS FOR TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE EXPANSION PROJECT BEGIN NEXT WEEK

The National Energy Board (NEB) will hear from Alberta landowners who have raised concerns with the detailed route of the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project.

The 1,147 km pipeline project was approved by the Government of Canada in November 2016 along an approximate 150 metre wide pipeline corridor. The detailed route approval process will determine the exact placement of the new pipeline within the approved corridor. It is a key regulatory step required by the NEB before construction can begin on the new pipeline.

The NEB has scheduled hearings in three locations to accommodate local participants:

Hinton, AB – November 20 – November 22, 2017

Edson, AB - November 24 – November 29, 2017

Spruce Grove, AB – December 1 – December 2, 2017

Details of these hearings and a daily schedule of appearances are available on the NEB website at www.neb-one.gc.ca/TransMountainExpansion. Live audio from the hearing will be streamed through the NEB website.

Media accreditation is required for all journalists, photographers, and videographers who wish to attend the hearing in-person. Media must be able to present government issued photo ID along with a business card and/or a letter requesting accreditation on official letterhead of a media organization, signed by the Publisher, Editor-in-chief, or Assignment Editor (along with their contact information). More information on media accreditation is available on the NEB website.

Related Documents:

Procedural Direction #4 [Filing A87804]

SOURCE National Energy Board

SNC-LAVALIN AWARDED MIDSTREAM OIL AND GAS PROJECT IN THE DELAWARE BASIN OF THE UNITED STATES

SNC-Lavalin (TSX: SNC) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the fabrication and supply of modular gas processing equipment for Producers Midstream LP (PMLP). The Maverick Gas Plant will be located in the Delaware Basin.

SNC-Lavalin's scope includes a state-of-the-art modular 60 million standard cubic feet/day (MMscfd) cryogenic gas plant capable of 99%+ propane recovery, mechanical refrigeration, condensate stabilization, tri-ethylene glycol (TEG) dehydration, amine treating, compression and associated balance of plant equipment. The facility is expected to commence operation in the first quarter of 2018.

This is the sixth gas processing plant SNC-Lavalin has built for the Delaware Basin in the last two years and its 40th gas plant since 2011.

"This award to deliver a modular solution for PMLP not only provides industry leading Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) recoveries, but also achieves speed to market by utilizing our robust, pre-designed gas plants. These allow our clients quicker returns from their assets," said Christian Brown, President, Oil & Gas, SNC-Lavalin. "We are especially pleased with the success we've found in the heart of the Permian Basin, the most active shale play in the US market."

About SNC-Lavalin

Founded in 1911, SNC-Lavalin is a global fully integrated professional services and project management company and a major player in the ownership of infrastructure. From offices around the world, SNC-Lavalin's employees are proud to build what matters. Our teams provide comprehensive end-to-end project solutions – including capital investment, consulting, design, engineering, construction, sustaining capital and operations and maintenance – to clients in oil and gas, mining and metallurgy, infrastructure and power. On July 3, 2017, SNC-Lavalin acquired Atkins, one of the world's most respected design, engineering and project management consultancies. www.snclavalin.com

SOURCE SNC-Lavalin

CEDA ACQUIRES JOE LOOMIS TRUCKING LTD.

Alberta – CEDA, a leading provider of maintenance and turnaround services in the upstream and downstream oil & gas and petrochemicals market has completed the necessary steps to acquire Joe Loomis Trucking Ltd. (JLT). JLT operates a high quality fleet of hydro vacuum and combination vacuum units out of Dawson Creek, British Columbia in the heart of the prolific Montney natural gas formation.

Since 2006, JLT has built a strong and established market position in production and completions work with blue chip oil and gas operators in the region. The combination with CEDA will provide JLT with an expanded suite of maintenance and turnaround services and technical resources for significant growth opportunities in the Montney region that currently produces one third of Western Canada's natural gas.

"Joe Loomis Trucking has built an excellent reputation around safety, service quality and client satisfaction," said Kevin Fleury, President and Chief Executive Officer of CEDA. "We have pursued this acquisition with great enthusiasm and we are confident that it will provide CEDA an opportunity to expand our respective offerings to existing clients, as well as a stronger capability and track record for us to pursue new clients in the prolific Montney/Deep Basin play."

JLT Chief Executive Officer Joe Loomis, who will become the operational Vice President of this new region for CEDA, said: "We are excited to announce this transformational deal with CEDA. Our business in the Dawson Creek area becomes a key part of a highly respected North American group, offering exciting opportunities for a suite of new services to our current customers and growth opportunities for the talented team here at Joe Loomis Trucking."

About CEDA

With approximately 2,000 employees, CEDA is a leading industrial services company providing maintenance, turnaround, construction and project services to clients in the oil & gas, pipeline, power, pulp & paper, chemical, mining, municipal and steel markets for over 44 years. CEDA has offices throughout North America, and delivers more than 120 distinct services to support critical operations at its clients' facilities. CEDA is committed to delivering world-class solutions through innovative technologies, equipment and processes, always with safety top of mind. For more information, visit www.ceda.com.

About Joe Loomis Trucking Ltd.

Joe Loomis Trucking, based in Dawson Creek, British Columbia, owns and operates a high quality fleet of hydro vacuum and combination vacuum units. The team at Joe Loomis Trucking is dedicated to providing a first class customer experience based on safety and integrity to oil and gas operators throughout the region. For more information, visit www.joeloomistrucking.com.

SOURCE CEDA

1391-100th Street
North Battleford, SK S9A 0V9
Email: remax.nb@sasktel.net

www.remaxbattlefords.com

Office: 306-446-8800

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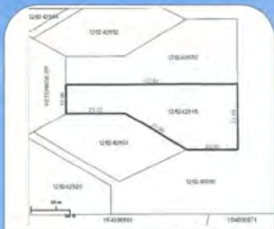

BRIGHTSAND LAKE
110 Peterson Way - Eastview Beach
$104,900
Total of .29 acre water front lot
Amazing view & Easy Access to the Lake
Buyer Responsible for GST
MLS ® SK598567

TURTLE LAKE
Rm of Mervin
$249,000
1,208 sq. ft. bungalow home
2 bedrooms, 1 bath
Bright cozy sunroom 16x6
Oak kitchen cabinets &
built in china cabinet
MLS ® SK585316

TURTLE LAKE
808 Lakeshore Drive
$215,000
Year round 2 bedroom cabin
Large 73x103 ft. fenced lot
Open floor plan
32x8.5 ft. deck
Attached storage shed
MLS® SK612359

TURTLE LAKE
608 Kenderdine
Sunset View Boulevard
$325,000
Lakefront property
56 x 136 ft. lot
2 bedroom cabin
Potable water & nat gas
MLS® SK612899

TURTLE LAKE
Foley Williams
$499,900
5 bedrooms, 3 season cabin
Sandy BEACH FRONT with
amazing views & beautiful sunset
Fully furnished, open concept
Deck in front and back
Double detached garage
MLS® SK612899

Turtle Lake
1 ZULYNIK-KIVIMAA
MOONLIGHT BAY PLACE
$245,600
768 sq. ft. cabin
1 bedrooms, 1 bath
Open floor plan
F / S & storage included
MLS® SK606156

Turtle Lake
216 Bruce
$212,500
600 sq. ft. cabin
2 bedrooms, 1 bath
Large 95 x 143 ft. lot
Close to playgrounds,
beach & boat launch
MLS ® SK605867

TURTLE LAKE
1308 Kewatin Lane
$119,000
Lot & Garage
24x26 built in 2001
Electric Heat and 16ft Door
Plus 10x10 Coverall
MLS® SK700896

Brightsand Lake
114 Peterson Way - Eastview Beach
$99,900
.22 acre water front lot on the
west side os Brightsand Lake
Amazing View & Easy
Access to Lake
Buyer Responsible for GST
MLS® SK598570

Turtle Lake
1313 Kewatin Drive
Sunset View
$279,000
Cozy 1296 sq ft
2 beds, 2 baths
Laminate flooring & Carpets
Huge front & back deck
MLS® SK608094

TURTLE LAKE
2406 Spruce-Indian Pt
Golden Sands Crescent
$439,900
1,340 sq. ft. year round cabin
3 bedrooms, 2 baths
Deck and fire pit in private backyard
F/S/W/D & storage shed included
MLS® SK600788

Turtle Lake Lot 1
Sunshine Kivimaa
Moonlight Bay Place
$130,000
65 x 130 ft bare lot
Corner of Sunshine Place
&
Lake Shore Drice
MLS® SK600788

RE/MAX OF THE BATTLEFORDS
REMAX OF BATTLEFORD
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Wally Lorenz - Agent
Tel: 306-843-3296
Cel: 306-843-7898
email: znerol.w@sasktel.net
http://wallylorenz.point2agent.com

RE/MAX OF THE BATTLEFORDS
REMAX OF BATTLEFORD
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Dorothy Lehman- Agent
Tel:306-446-8800
Cel: 306-441-7782
Fax: 306-445-3513
email: jd.leh@sasktel.net

RE/MAX OF THE BATTLEFORDS
REMAX OF BATTLEFORD
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Kayla Petersen - Agent
Tel: 306-446-8800
Cel: 306-481-5780
email: kmb@sasktel.net