

Research chairs, scholarships and home-building kudos

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Memorial University has been awarded a Canada Research Chair in Petroleum Geoscience.

Industry Minister Allan Rock announced the awarding of the chair to Andrew Pulham, associate professor with the Department of Earth Sciences.

"These Canada Research Chairs will enable Canadian universities to achieve the highest levels of research excellence and become world-class leaders in the global knowledge-based economy," Rock said.

"Not only will we attract and retain excellent researchers, but Canadian students will be able to work alongside the best and the brightest Canada and the rest of the world have to offer."

Pulham's research examines the principle controls affecting fluid flow in oil and gas sandstone reservoirs, particularly those having relevance to Atlantic Canada, the university said.

"More specifically, his research aims to decipher the depositional history and paleo-biology of reservoirs and to quantify what physical and biological structures and fabrics are most important to the recovery and injection of fluids."

Pulham completed his undergraduate degree in physical geography and geology at Liverpool University.

His PhD, from the University of Wales at Swansea, focused on ancient deltas.

He has been an associate professor at Memorial's Earth Sciences Department since June 2001.

Christopher Loomis, Memorial's vice-president, research and international relations, said Pulham "brings with him a wealth of research experience acquired through his 12 years in the oil and gas industry and five years as a research associate at the University of Colorado."

He said the research also supports Memorial's goal of becoming a world-class centre of research in oil and gas development.

DEVELOPMENT HEROES

Two St. John's brothers who have brought their renovation, new home building and real estate development company to annual sales of \$10 million in three years have received high profile recognition from the Canadian industry.

Bill and Randy Clarke, who own and operate Myles-Leger Ltd., are featured on the cover and in a two-page article in the May 2002 edition of Home Builder, the magazine of the Canadian Home Builders' Association.

Describing the Clarkes as "hometown heroes," and their business as an Atlantic success story, the magazine article, by Frank O'Brien, says they have launched "the most startlingly successful start-up in Newfoundland history."

The article says they "hit back-to-back annual sales of \$10 million in a multi-tiered renovation, manufacturing, new home building and real estate development company."

The company holds seven and a half acres of prime downtown St. John's real estate and is developing four residential subdivisions.

"It also owns more than 50 high-end rental apartments and is the second largest cabinet manufacturer in Newfoundland and Labrador," the article reads.

"In addition, it is completing two leasehold commercial projects as long-term investment."

Myles-Leger (which uses each of the brothers' middle names) developed the Belvedere property and converted a 90-unit apartment block into a high-end 24-suite condominium complex, which overlooks Quidi Vidi Lake.

GOLDEN JUBILEE SCHOLARSHIP

The Newfoundland branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) has launched a scholarship fund in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

The branch has formed a scholarship committee chaired by John Fleming of Cornerstone Resources Inc. and comprised of representatives from the mining, exploration, petroleum production, legal and service sectors.

The goal of the fund is to establish an annual \$5,000 scholarship -- with the first to be awarded this fall -- to a student at Memorial University who is entering the final year of undergraduate studies in a field of studies such as geology, geophysics, geography, mechanical and petroleum engineering, economics, business, commerce, environmental science or any other area of study that is covered by the fields of interest of the CIM.

Donations to the fund can be made through Memorial University.