Canada's North -Management Regime for Petroleum Exploration and Development

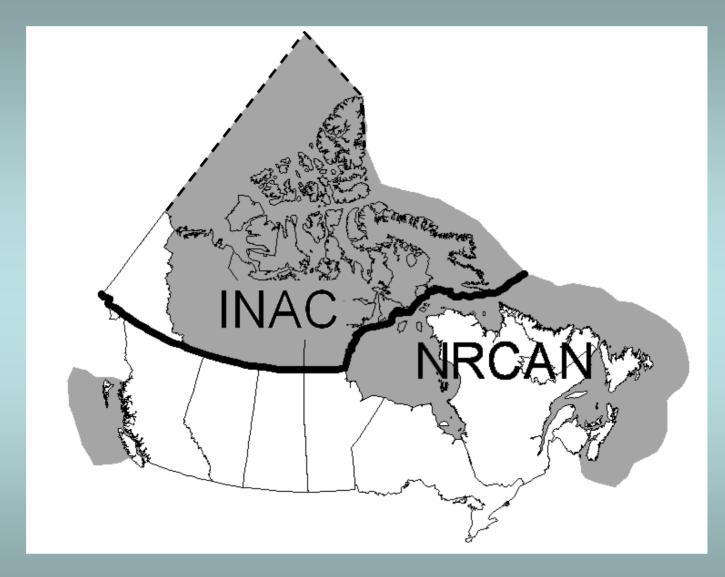
Giles Morrell Northern Oil and Gas Branch Indian and Northern Affairs Canada May 14, 2008 Website: <u>www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/oil</u>

I will speak to...

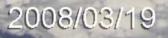
- Federal Jurisdiction
- Geological Potential
- The Oil and Gas Management Regime
 - specifically Leasing and Fiscal
- Challenges and Opportunities
- SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Northern Oil and Gas Annual Report (2007) at http://www.aincinac.gc.ca/oil/ann/ann2007_e.html

Federal Jurisdiction for Petroleum Resources

- 'Frontier Lands' lands belonging to Her Majesty in Right of Canada
- Not within a province or areas under joint federal/provincial management (East Coast Accord areas)
- Onshore lands within the Northwest Territories and Nunavut plus...
- Submarine areas within the territorial sea, exclusive economic zone, continental shelf etc. 2008/03/19



Geological Potential



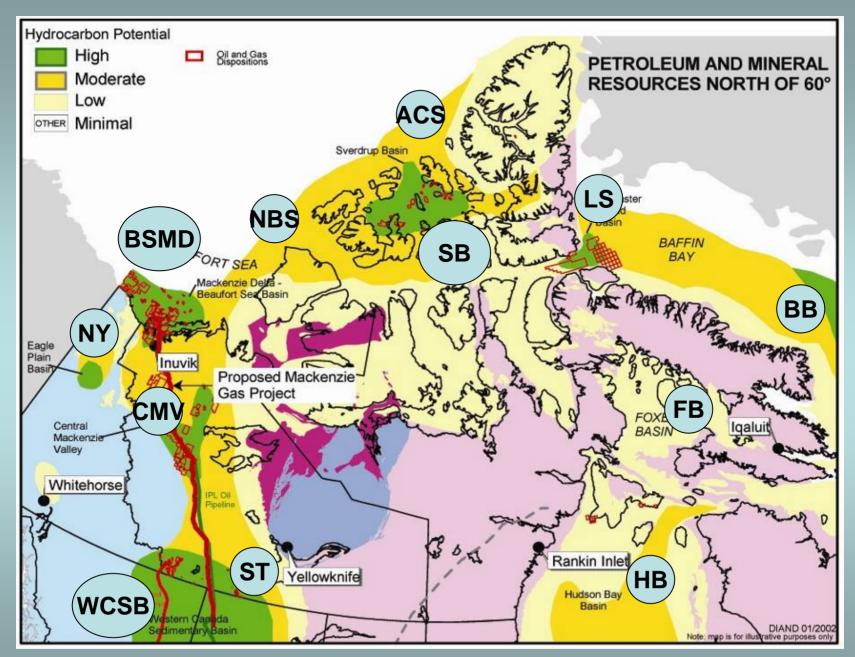
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Canada's North - context

- North is vast* and varied hosting carbon from peat to coal, oil and gas to diamonds
- From "sub-frontier" onshore, to onshore/offshore basins, to remote arctic offshore – all present operational and economic challenges
- But also a spectrum of opportunity from single well gas pools to development of multiple major fields, and still the promise of giants...

*total land area approx. 3.8 million km² plus intra-continental seas, continental shelf and slope within exclusive economic zone



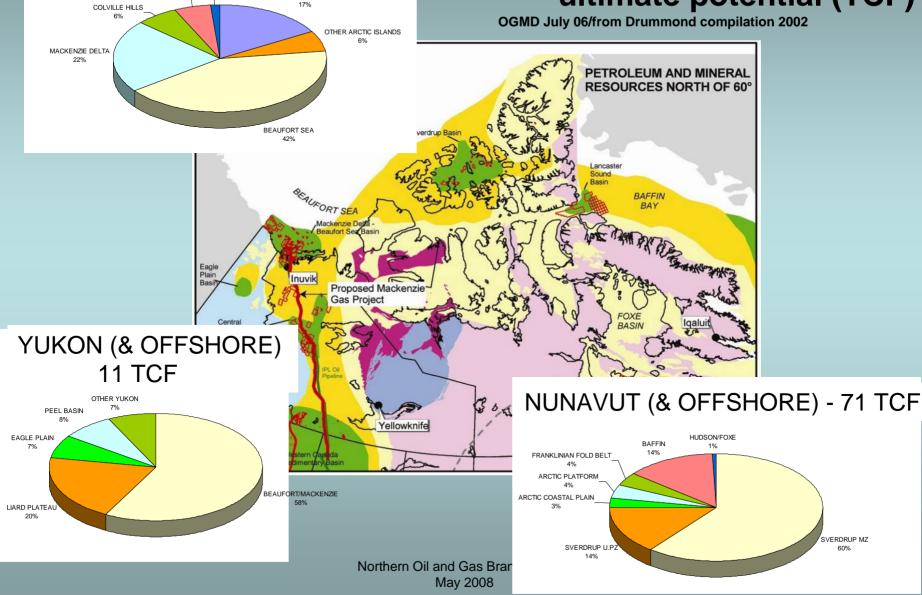
NWT (& OFFSHORE) – 82 TCF

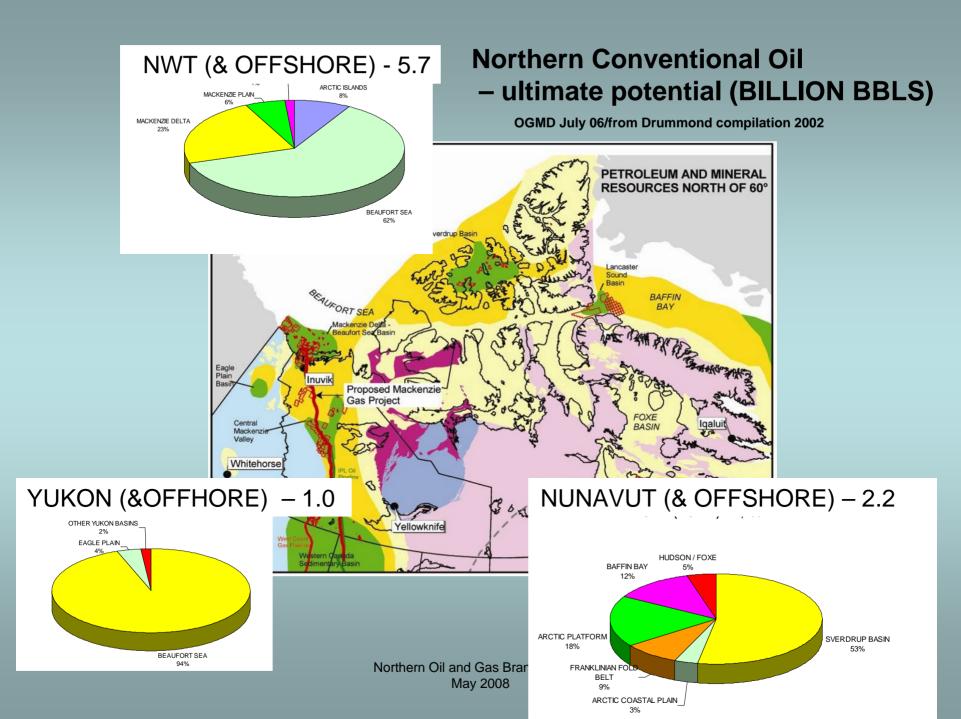
SVERDRUP BASIN

OTHER MAINLAND

LIARD / S. NWT

Northern Natural Gas – ultimate potential (TCF)





Discovered Resources

Region	Crude Oil 10 ⁶ m3	Million Barrels	Natural Gas 10 ⁹ m3	Trillion Cubic Feet
Northwest Territories (and offshore Beaufort Sea)	253.5	(1,597.0)	345.6	(12.2)
Nunavut (and offshore)	51.4	(324.0)	543.9	(19.2)
Totals	304.9	(1,929.0)	889.5	(31.4)

From: Drummond, K.J. 2005, updated to December 31, 2007: Canada's Discovered Oil and Gas Resources North of 60, www.drummondconsulting.com/Canada60North07.pdf

What is the "Oil and Gas Regime"?

Based in specific oil and gas legislation...

- The Canada Petroleum Resources Act (CPRA)
 - Land issuance and tenure (exploration licences which confer rights to exploration companies)
 - Royalties a generic Royalty regime
 - Benefits
 - Some science research; funds levied from licence holders (ESRF)
- The Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act (COGOA) regulates operations on federal Crown onshore and offshore and private lands onshore)/suite of technical regulations
- National Energy Board Act (transmission pipelines engineering and economic regulation)

Statutory Responsibilities split

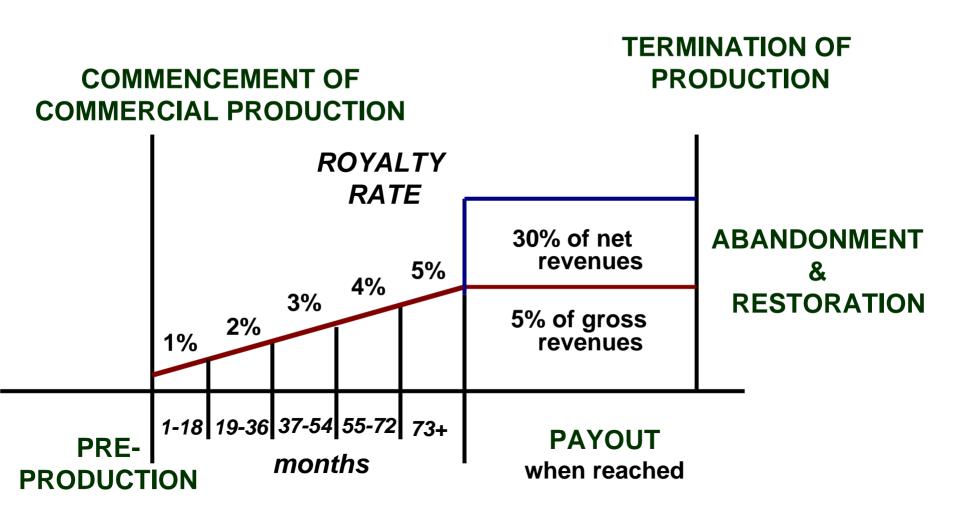
 Northern Oil and Gas Branch of INAC (Ottawa) – CPRA matters (land issuance, registry, administration, benefits, royalty and overall management/policy)

 National Energy Board (Calgary) – COGOA matters (regulation of operations)

Fiscal Regime

- Currently no front end cash bonus, refundable rentals
- Royalty on production profit sensitive and project based
- Federal corporate taxes (19% dropping to 15% in 2012) and Territorial corporate tax (11.5%*)
- % of economic rent taken 60%

* Northwest Territories



Generic Royalty Structure

Leasing

2008/03/18

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Oil and gas interests issued under CPRA

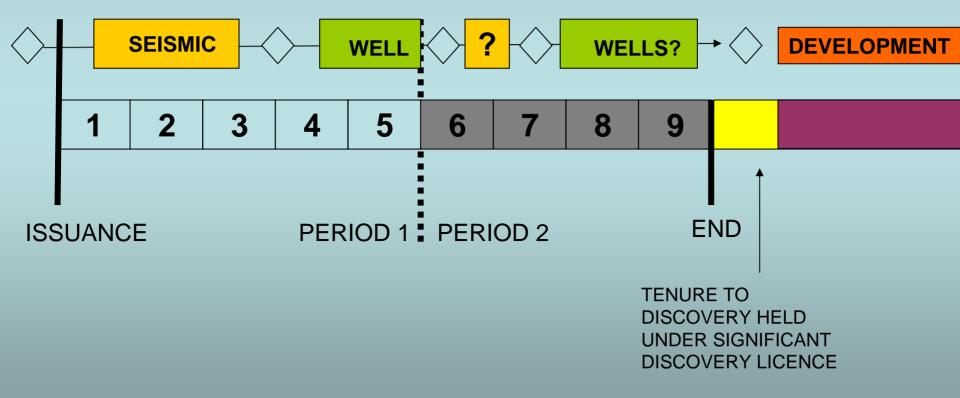
- Exploration Licence (term up to 9 years, split into two periods with drilling requirement in first period)
- Significant Discovery Licence (indefinite tenure over lands declared a discovery by the National Energy Board)
- Production Licence (25 years) over lands declared commercial by the National Energy Board

The exploration licence confers...

- (a) the right to explore for, and the exclusive right to drill and test for, petroleum;
- (b) the exclusive right to develop those frontier lands in order to produce petroleum, and
- (c) the exclusive right, subject to compliance with other provisions of (the CPRA), to obtain a production licence

NINE YEAR CYCLE – EXPLORATION LICENCE

= DECISION REQUIRED

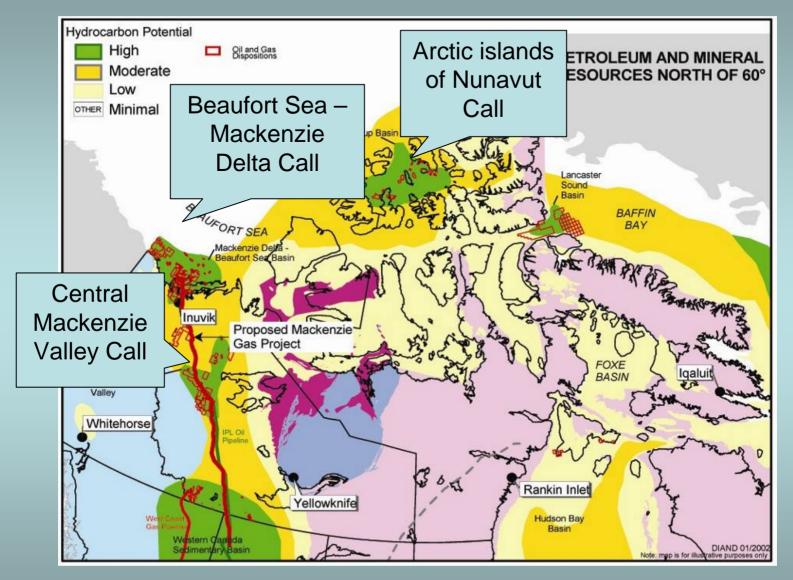


Leasing Cycles under CPRA

- Annual cycles of rights issuance, currently in three regions (Central Mackenzie Valley, Beaufort Sea-Mackenzie Delta, Arctic islands).
- Cycles of issuance include preliminary consultations and identification of areas of environmental and socio-cultural concern; call for nominations of lands of exploration interest, followed by call for bids.
- Auction system based on work expenditure bid market-driven with no state subsidy or participation. \$1 million minimum bid with 25% deposit, worked off through allowable expenditures based on actual cost.
- Large exploration blocks offered for terms up to nine years. Rents taken through royalty and tax regimes, not through cash bonus

For details see web site at www.inac-ainc.gc.ca/oil

Approximate Call for Nomination Areas



BEAUFORT SEA LEASING – CURRENT DISPOSITIONS

Tuktoyaktuk

T

Inuvik

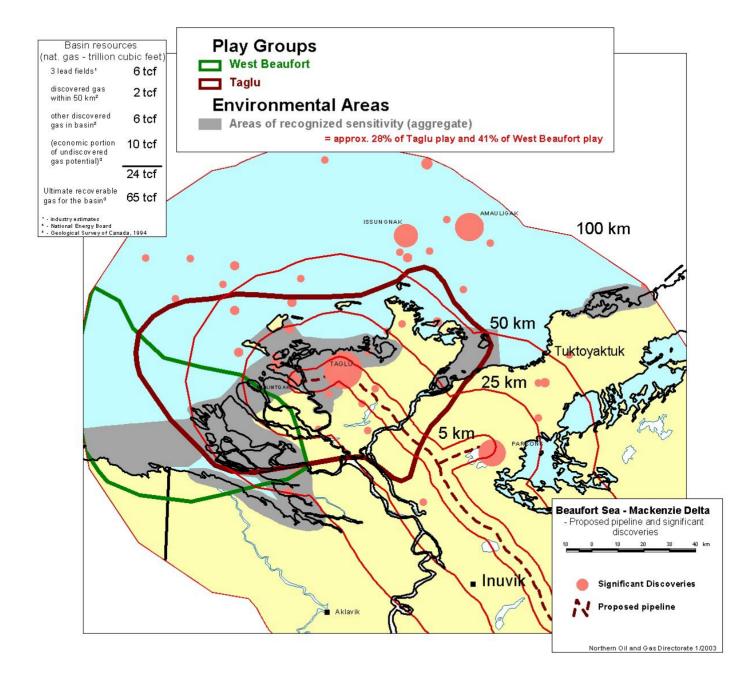
Aklavik

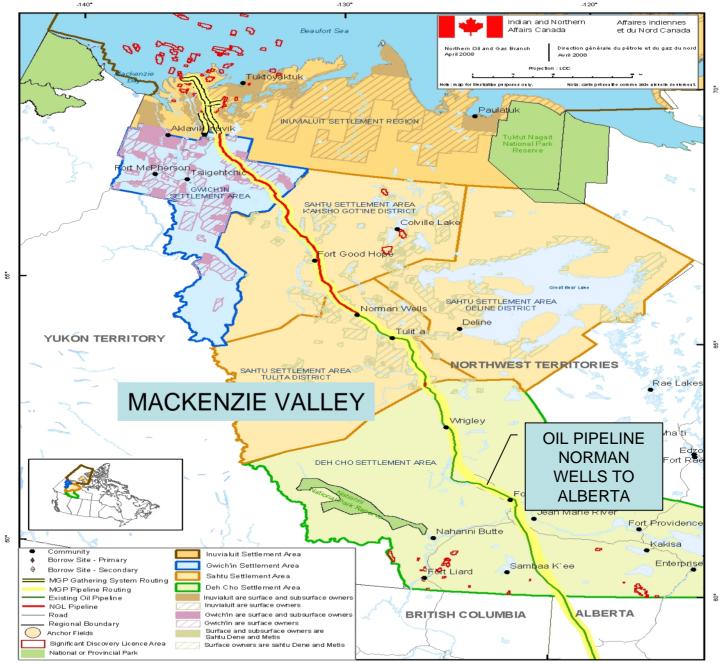
WEST BEAUFORT LLICENCES UNDER WORK PROHIBITION

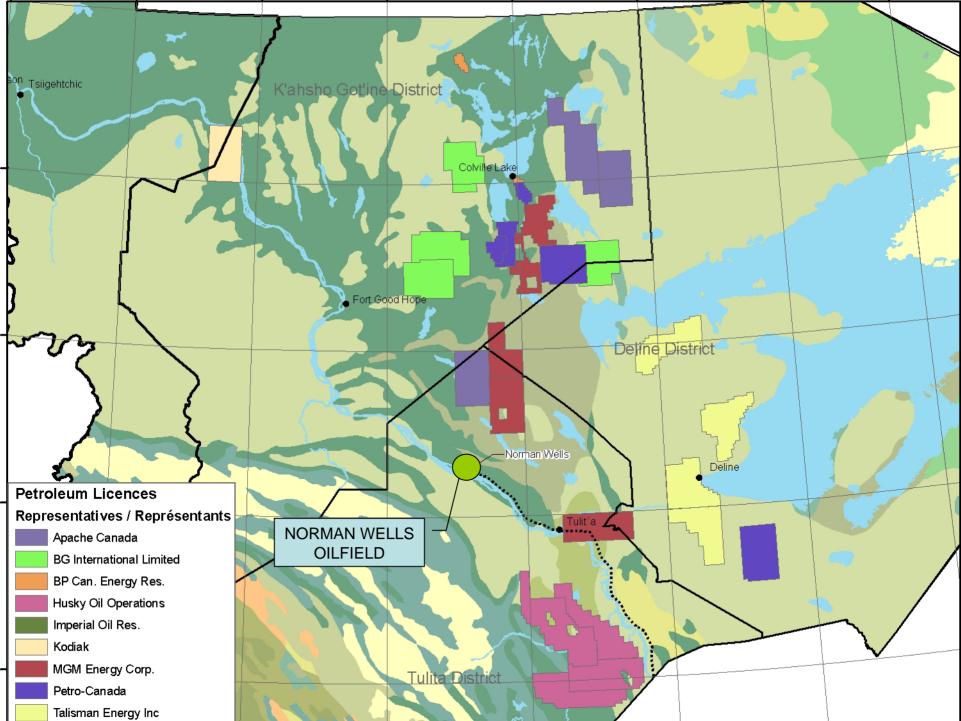
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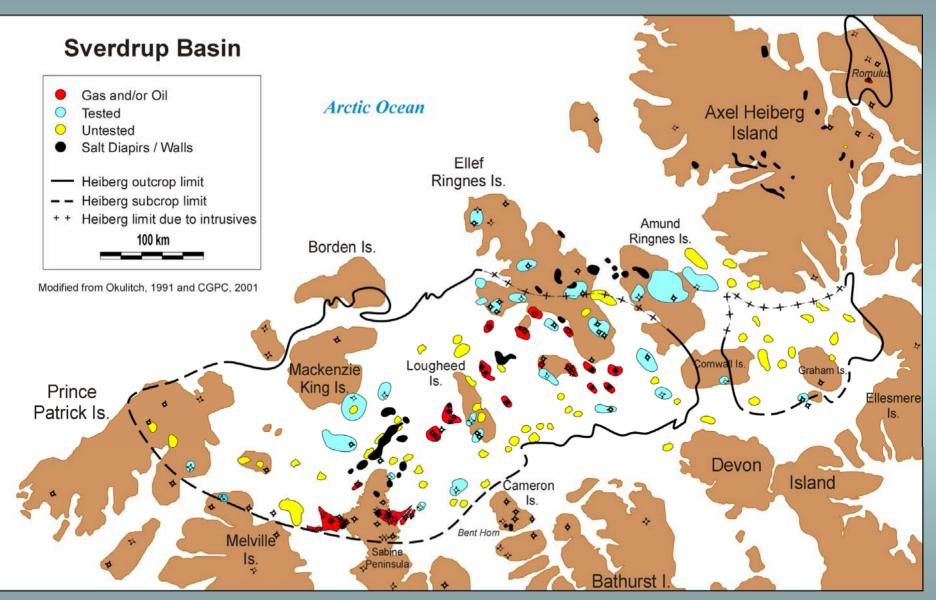
- Altagas Marketing BP Can. Energy Co. BP Can. Energy Res. Chevron Canada Chevron Canada Limited Conoco Can. (North) ConocoPhillips Res. Devon ARL Corp. EnCana Corporation Imp Oil Res Ventures Imperial Oil Res. MGM Energy Corp. Nytis
- Petro-Canada Shell Canada











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Challenges and Opportunities

SDC in the Beaufort Sea

Challenges

- High Cost, difficult physical environment with restricted operating seasons; lack of infrastructure.
- Managing development within the arctic environment, respecting the economic, environmental and sociocultural pillars of Sustainable Development, and keeping all these balls in the air.
- Ensuring that aboriginal and northern communities are informed, their views respected, with fair access to training, employment and business opportunities.

Conclusion

to meet these challenges, Canada's northern oil and gas regime provides for...

- Opportunity for entry under established leasing terms and conditions tailored to frontier operations
- Fair process with stringent efforts towards regulatory improvement
- Opportunity for regional scale land acquisition and exploration
- Appropriate fiscal terms for production
- Chance of first entry into unexplored basins?



CANADIAN ARCTIC BASINS - KEY TO SLIDE

BB – Southern Baffin Bay, Davies Strait and northern Labrador Sea (sub-basins include Lady Franklin basin – one stranded gas discovery)
LS – Lancaster Sound and NorThern Baffin Bay – undrilled
ACS – Arctic Continental Shelf and Slope (unexplored)
SB – Sverdrup Basin of the High Arctic (20 discoveries O&G)
ACP – Arctic Continental Platform (sparsely drilled)
NBS – Northern Beaufort Sea (undrilled)
BSMD – Southern Beaufort Sea and Mackenzie Delta (57 discoveries)
NY – North Yukon interior basins (3 discoveries, renewed exploration)
CMV – Central Mackenzie Valley (6 discoveries, renewed exploration)
ST – Southern Territories (about 20 discoveries, producing)
WCSB – Western Canada Sedimentary Basin