



For Immediate Release

January 23, 2004

Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada announces opening of New Brunswick office

Halifax, NS - Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC) announces the opening of its third regional office at the University of New Brunswick (UNB) in Fredericton. This office compliments PRAC's current offices in St. John's, NL, and Halifax, N.S.

Along with its expansion into New Brunswick, PRAC is pleased to welcome Elliott Keizer as Industry Outreach Officer. Mr. Keizer, who has been seconded from UNB on a part-time basis, will oversee the PRAC outreach program in New Brunswick by promoting the interaction between industry and researchers to support the development and growth of the oil and gas industry in Atlantic Canada.

"I will be helping researchers throughout New Brunswick to identify opportunities in the oil and gas sectors where their expertise can be used to solve real-world problems," says Mr. Keizer.

Lee Shinkle, Executive Director of PRAC agrees and adds, "We view PRAC's expansion into New Brunswick as a key initiative in our efforts to ensure that we engage all stakeholders within Atlantic Canada who are working towards growing the petroleum industry — both onshore and offshore."

Greg Kealey, a member of PRAC's board of directors and UNB's vice-president (research), says that Mr. Keizer's appointment with PRAC is tangible evidence of the solid links the university has with industry, especially when it comes to research and development.

Mr. Keizer is located on the Fredericton campus of UNB. He can be reached at 506- 453-3558.

Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada is a federally incorporated, not for profit, public-private partnership that began operations in 1999. PRAC is committed to increasing the capacity and scale of petroleum related research in Atlantic Canada. PRAC has 38 members drawn from academia, federal and provincial governments and industry. **Visit PRAC online at www.pr-ac.ca.**

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Amanda Barrett at 902-449-0446, amanda.barrett@pr-ac.ca

Sandra Howland at 506-458-7968, showland@unb.ca