

Industry Fast Facts: Ontario

Number of wells

More than 50,000 wells have been drilled in Ontario since 1858

In 2003, 90 wells were drilled to a total depth of 55,249 metres

In 2003, 140 well licenses were issued

1,189 onshore oil wells are currently producing

891 onshore natural gas wells are currently producing

478 offshore natural gas wells are currently producing

162 wells plugged in 2003

Oil and Natural Gas Production

In 2003, 1.2 million barrels of oil were produced

Value of oil production was \$50.2 million in 2003

83.4 million barrels of cumulative oil production

Ontario oil supplies 1% of provincial requirements

In 2003, 13.4 billion cubic feet of natural gas was produced

Value of natural gas production was \$112.5 million in 2003

1.23 trillion cubic feet of cumulative natural gas production

Ontario natural gas supplies 2% of provincial requirements

Natural Gas Storage

30 designated natural gas storage pools in Ontario

Total capacity of 242 bcf (60% of the total storage in Canada)

Salt Solution Mining

Salt solution mining is occurring at Goderich and Windsor

Annual production averages 250,000 tonnes

Liquefied Petroleum Product Cavern Storage

73 solution-mined salt caverns for liquefied petroleum product storage

Located in the Sarnia and Windsor areas

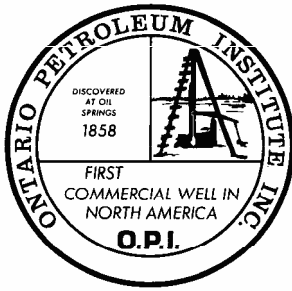
Total storage capacity of 3.5 million m³ (22 million barrels)

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Ontario Petroleum Institute

Founded in 1963, the Ontario Petroleum Institute Inc. (OPI) is a non-profit industry association which represents explorationists, producers, contractors, geologists, geophysicists, petroleum engineers and other professionals, individuals or companies directly related to the oil and natural gas exploration, production and storage; hydrocarbon storage and solution mining of Ontario.

OPI Objectives

- To foster and advance the interests of those who are directly or indirectly connected with the exploration and production of oil and natural gas; hydrocarbon storage and solution-mining in Ontario, and to encourage responsible exploration and development;
- To engage in the study, research and communication of matters relevant to industry;
- To operate as a forum for industry to furnish it with knowledge of important developments concerning governmental activities pertaining to laws, orders, rules and regulations, interpretations and decisions;
- To coordinate with government, industry stakeholders, and the public in the development of legislation and regulations affecting the oil and gas industries;
- To inform and educate government, industry stakeholders, and the public on the significance of the industry in Ontario.

In the Beginning...

OPI is proud to have its roots where the industry began. North America's first commercial oil was produced at Oil Springs in 1858, when James Miller Williams dug a discovery well. The first integrated oil company, processing oil through Williams' refinery, was formed in 1857. Fairbank Oil Properties Ltd. at Oil Springs have been producing crude oil continuously since 1861. In 1913, the first offshore well was drilled in Lake Erie. Since the discovery of the first commercial oil well, exploration for oil and gas in Ontario has continued by large and small companies, utilities and independents, resulting in the discovery and development of many oil and natural gas fields in various geological formations.