



**LOCAL STOCKS**

	CLOSE	CHNG.	VOL. (00'S)
Altius Mineral	11.67	-0.08	149
Bayswater Uran	0.38	0.00	71
Bell Aliant In	27.83	-0.12	2401
Buchans Minera	0.07	-0.01	390
Canadian Imper	0.06	0.00	3607
Cornerstone Ca	0.37	-0.01	214
Crosshair Expl	0.70	-0.01	1324
Fortis Inc.	33.28	+0.19	6217
Golden Dory Re	0.13	-0.01	325
Husky Energy I	28.11	+0.15	16912
Labrador Iron	73.85	-0.95	378
New Island Res	0.02	0.00	0
Newfoundland C	8.10	+0.06	24
Northstar Elec	0.08	0.00	0
Nwest Energy C	0.30	+0.02	5
Paladin Energy	3.29	0.00	10212
Rambler Metals	0.60	0.00	52
Rutter Inc.	0.07	+0.01	17054
Silver Spruce	0.11	0.00	181
Vulcan Mineral	0.28	+0.01	25

**COMMODITIES**

	CLOSE	PREVIOUS
Gold	\$1,513/oz	\$1,493/oz
Silver	\$35.16/oz	\$34.83/oz
Nickel	N/A	\$24,205/t
Copper	N/A	\$9,006/t
Brent Crude Oil	\$112.39	\$111.42
West Texas Crude	\$100.10	\$98.82

	MARKET CLOSE	CHNG.	VOL.
TSX 60	781.64	0.66	82.9M
S&P/TSX	13,652.27	1.05	350.3M
TSKV	2,031.44	29.22	238.3M

See Stocks page C4

**The Dollar**  
\$102.77  
May 20 up .51¢

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**Crude Oil Barrel Price\***  
\$112.39 USD/barrel  
May 20 up \$0.97  
\*Brent Crude as of 8 p.m.

**BRIEF**

**Hydro-Quebec's Q1 profit dips slightly to \$1.4 billion on lower exports**

**Montreal (CP)** — Hydro-Quebec's net profit slipped slightly to \$1.4 billion in the first three months of 2011 due to lower exports in cold winter temperatures.

The public utility's net income dropped by just \$37 million from the same period in 2010.

The colder winter temperatures prompted its production division to slightly reduce its net export volume in order to meet electricity demand in Quebec. Hydro-Quebec Production earned \$782 million, down \$42 million from the same period in 2010.

The \$156-million decrease in net electricity exports was partly offset by a \$136-million increase in revenue from electricity sales to Hydro-Quebec Distribution.

The distribution division earned \$477 million, which was in line with the prior year results. Higher electricity sales was offset by increase electricity purchases.

**EXPLORATION**

## Vulcan turning to potash

*Chance discovery, strong markets spur new exploration company*

By MOIRA BAIRD  
THE TELEGRAM

A chance potash and salt discovery while hunting for oil and gas on Newfoundland's west coast is destined to become a new exploration target for Vulcan Minerals Inc.

The St. John's company took the first steps this week — announcing plans to create a new, publicly traded company focused exclusively on potash and salt exploration.

Potash is a crop fertilizer and rock salt is used for de-icing roads. Vulcan's goal is to turn its early-stage discovery into a larger, commercial find worthy of an underground mine.

First, Vulcan must work through several months of regulatory hurdles to create a publicly traded company. Then, it goes to the market to raise exploration dollars.

If all goes well, the company could start drilling this fall.

"We'd like to shoot for that," said Pat Laracy, president and CEO of Vulcan. "Initially, I would estimate a four-well program."

Laracy expects Vulcan will retain 20 per cent of the new, unnamed company.

Vulcan has hired geologist David Carter to assess its resource potential and lend his expertise to the company.

Carter, a consultant with Halifax-based Hy-Grade Geoscience, has also worked with Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan, one of the largest producers of potash in the world.

"He's doing a resource assessment for us and he's agreed to stay on a retainer basis to provide us with the expertise in this area," said Laracy.

Vulcan has staked 1,100 mineral claims spanning 300 square kilometres along the Bay St. George coastline south of Stephenville and extending as far as the highlands near Robinsons.

"We've staked a large area based on our geological experience in this region where we think the highest potential for a deposit exists," said Laracy.

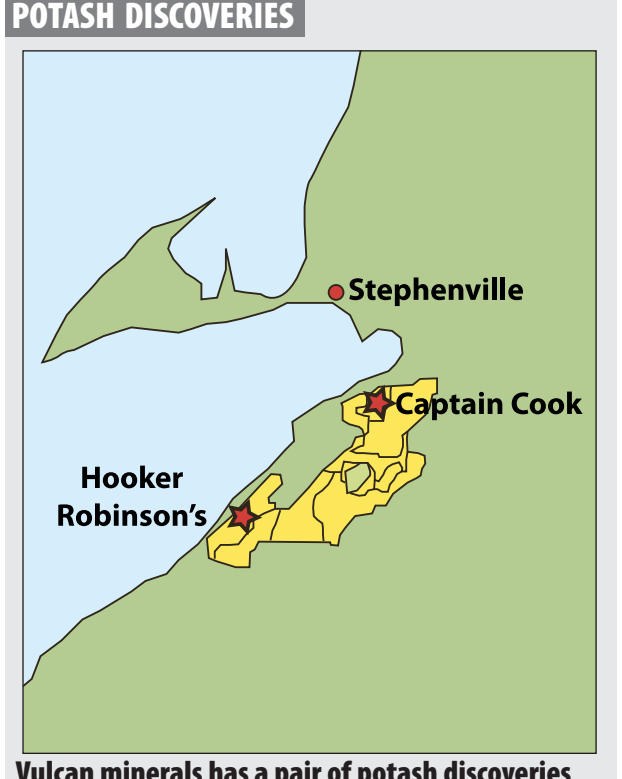
"We encountered potash through the course of our drilling ... that was interesting and intriguing."

The company's potash and salt discovery dates back to 2002, when it drilled the Capt. Cook well.

For more than a decade, Vulcan has been hunting for oil and gas on the island's west coast, a petroleum frontier where the company has made two natural gas discoveries in recent years.



Patrick Laracy



Vulcan minerals has a pair of potash discoveries on Newfoundland's west coast.

A combination of higher prices and anticipated long-term demand for agricultural fertilizer piqued Vulcan's interest in potash.

"Potash, because it's an agricultural product, is going to have legs going into the future — the demand for fertilizer is expected to grow significantly," said Laracy.

Another factor in Vulcan's decision is a \$1.67-billion expansion of Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan's New Brunswick mine.

Potash Corp. produces 20 per cent of the world's potash supply, and its key markets include India, China, the rest of Asia, Latin America and North America.

Laracy figures Vulcan's spinoff company will have a good starting point for its exploration efforts — its west coast discoveries share similar geology with Potash Corp.'s mine in Sussex, N.B.

"We're in the same sedimentary basin. ... We're in the same geological environment, the same age of rocks."

"It's logical to assume that we have a similar potential to find a scale of potash that will be commercial."

Exploration drilling will help prove its potash and salt resources. If those efforts succeed, Vulcan's spinoff probably won't be the company that develops a mine.

Laracy expects a larger company would buy it out.

"We know they're out there. We've got to do the hard lifting. They don't mind buying it once you prove it, but you've got to prove it first."

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## Accolades and awkwardness at gala

Great job by Junior Achievement Newfoundland and Labrador for the Business Hall of Fame gala Thursday night at the Convention Centre. The food was great — particularly the smoked salmon salad rolls — and the video tributes to the laureates — Kevin and Susan Sexton, Capt. Sid Hynes and Dr. Angus Bruneau — admirably performed the unenviable task of compressing successful, lengthy careers into five-minute overviews.

There was a bit of an awkward moment, though, when the video tribute for the Sextons featured a colleague commending the couple for the obstacles they've overcome as successful owners and operators of their Bloomfield sawmill. One of the obstacles, said the colleague, was having to deal with Marine Atlantic.

That provoked a little murmur in

**Minding Your Business**  
Daniel MacEachern

the crowd, given that Hynes was formerly Marine Atlantic's acting CEO and president.

... Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board CEO Max Ruelokke has been invited to speak about offshore helicopter safety at a seminar in Aberdeen on June 8.

Ruelokke is scheduled to discuss the key findings from the S-92A Cougar crash in 2009 at the one-day seminar, which aims to bring together leading figures in the oil and gas and aviation industries to

discuss offshore helicopter safety.

... To mark its 40th anniversary, **The Keg** is donating 40 grants of \$25,000 apiece to fund community-based projects in communities where the restaurant has franchises.

Four projects in St. John's are among the finalists vying for the "Thanks a Million" grants: **Scouts Canada's Camp Morrissett**; women's shelter **Marguerite's Place**; the **Rovers Volunteer Search and Rescue Response Facility**; and the **Y Strong Families Campaign**.

The public can vote at [kegsteakhouse.com](http://kegsteakhouse.com) on which projects should receive the grants, which will be announced June 29.

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**EDUCATION**

## MUN business dean eyes tuition increase

By DANIEL MACEACHERN  
THE TELEGRAM

Memorial University's dean of business administration says an increase to the faculty's master's program would help MUN compete for more international students and help build new and better facilities.

Speaking to the Rotary Club of St. John's monthly luncheon Thursday, Wilfred Zerbe responded to a question from the audience about how Memorial University's business program competes with other universities with deeper pockets by saying the university could do better on that score.

"Our MBA program is an excellent program, but 90 per cent of our students are from here, and so we are not attracting students from other parts of Canada and the world," he said. "And when we try to market our program and they ask, 'How much does it cost,' and we say, 'Well, it's \$4,400,' they say, 'Is that per year?' and we say, 'No, that's the whole program,' they say, 'What's wrong with it? There must be a quality problem.'"

See TUITION, page D2

**PUBLISHING**

## New head announced for Western Star

THE TELEGRAM

Trina Burden has been appointed to the position of publisher and general manager of The Western Star newspaper, it was announced Friday.

Charles Stacey, Group Publisher-Transcontinental Media for Newfoundland and Labrador, said Burden will take up her duties May 30.

According to a news release, Burden holds a bachelor of science degree from Acadia University, a master of science degree from the University of Guelph and, in 2003, was awarded a master of business administration from York University.

Currently the business resource manager for the City of Corner Brook, Burden becomes the first female publisher in the paper's 111-year history.

Burden is active in the community and has served on the Greater Corner Brook Board of Trade since 2007. She has held the position of chair of the board of directors for the Dietitians of Canada and served on the Corner Brook Winter Carnival Committee and the 2009 East Coast Music Association Event Committee.

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Trina Burden

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