

MEMBERS IN THE SCENE

January, 2005

Article By: Korinda Tetz

Edmonton Petroleum Club

<http://www.edpetclub.ab.ca/>

"Your life really doesn't mean a lot if you don't have a stable family and a strong sense of community involvement". A wise quote from the content, family and community - oriented Cal Nichols, President of Gasland Properties Ltd.

Mr. Nichols is best known for his continued involvement in the Edmonton Oilers. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of the Edmonton Investors Group (owners of the Oilers) as well as the Oilers' Governor to the NHL. He co-chaired the Friends of the Oilers ticket drive campaign in 1996. As hockey fans well remember, the campaign was a phenomenal success. Season ticket sales more than doubled to 13,000 season tickets. When the franchise was put up for sale a year later, Nichols spearheaded the bid from a local ownership group to purchase the team and worked to raise the \$60 million in equity required to keep Edmonton a "Major League City". As Chairman and Governor of the franchise he continues to devote half of his day to Oilers business as well as countless hours to fundraisers and charity golf tournaments.

Cal believes success doesn't mean anything if you fail to take the time for your family. He humbly credits his wife Edna with "quarterbacking" the domestic scene when she selflessly gave up a nursing career to raise their two children, Ken and Kris. Together the couple worked hard to provide their children with good coaching and meaningful direction. Obviously Cal and Edna have done an excellent job with their children, as both Ken and Kris are successful individuals who are both graduates of the University of Alberta. Ken is involved in several entrepreneurial ventures headquartered in Edmonton including Cash 'N' Go. Kris is an Occupational Therapist at the Glenrose Hospital in Edmonton.

Cal has been a good role model for his family and has always been a community leader. While living in St. Walburg Cal served as a Town Councilor and President of the Chamber of Commerce. He was also captain of the senior hockey team, and in December 2002, the St. Walburg community honored him by retiring his jersey.

Cal Nichols' company Gasland Properties Ltd. has evolved from its predecessor Gasland Oil which had over fifty branded petroleum outlets in Western Canada. In 1996, Cal decided to sell off virtually all of Gasland's petroleum marketing business. Since then the focus of the company has become its various holdings including strip malls, gas bars, food stores, and a number of warehouses.

Despite his success Cal is still humble and says his philosophy is to remain progressive - doing the right things not only for himself and his family but also for his community. He exudes a quiet, satisfied and happy perspective when he explains, "I'm not in a race to see how big I can get or how many assets I can file; it's become more of 'enjoy it, be comfort-able and stay active'."

In May 2002, Cal was inducted into the Alberta Business Hall of Fame. In May 2003, Lois Hole, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, awarded Cal the Queen's Gold Jubilee Medal for his exemplary service to his community.