

Oil Sands vs Williston Basin

Don Thompson¹

The intense amount of research needed to develop Canada's oil sands and the technology needed to produce the oil, means there are valuable lessons to be learned and shared. This presentation discusses the connection between oil sands operations in northern Alberta and the development of the Williston basin in terms of environmental challenges, stakeholder relations, regional impacts and technology development.

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Don Thompson is President of The Oil Sands Developers Group (OSDG). Don, with his Board, determines the group's position on various issues brought forward by members for collaborative consideration, action and resolution.

Don is also the external voice for OSDG, presenting OSDG members' actions and ideas to external audiences primarily across Canada and in the United States – industry, community and government. As a result of his outreach program Don has established strong working relationships with business, industry and government leaders within Canada and internationally. As a 32-year veteran of the oil sands industry, Don serves in his capacity with OSDG through the support of Syncrude Canada Ltd. where he has worked since 1979.

On behalf of OSDG, Don has travelled extensively to speak in major cities and smaller communities that contribute to and benefit from oil sands development. Over the past three years he has delivered the oil sands facts to more than 150 audiences and over 700 media interviews around the globe.