



# COLLABORATING FOR SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

## A CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2026 - 2028

### Introduction

In early 2020, Newfoundland and Labrador's offshore operators embarked on a collective journey. In addition to individual efforts to continue to improve environment, health and safety performance, operators saw an opportunity to enhance information sharing and collaboration across the industry to facilitate continuous improvement. Six years later, the operators have re-confirmed their commitment to this initiative and developed a series of objectives to guide their collective work, through CAPP, for 2026-2028.

The purpose of this document is to summarize key achievements from the last iteration of the plan (2023-25) and set the stage for the next phase of Collaborating for Safety and Environmental Sustainability.

## **Vision:**

Atlantic Canada strives to be the safest and most environmentally responsible offshore oil and natural gas operating region in the world.

## **Purpose:**

To enhance collaboration and information sharing across the offshore oil and natural gas industry, and facilitate continuous improvement in support of safe, responsible, and reliable operations.





## Key Collective Accomplishments 2023 – 2025\*

- **Enhanced safety and environmental protection through the transition to performance-based regulations.**
  - » Held eight contractor workshops on safety themes, including mental health awareness and dropped objects prevention.
  - » Developed seven best practices to support transition to performance-based regulation.
  - » Held workshops with various government departments and agencies to clarify processes and discuss research priorities to facilitate the transition to performance-based regulation.
- **Collaborated to evolve industry’s collective understanding of current and future oil and gas industry workforce recruitment and retention challenges; enhanced training and competence for offshore workers.**
  - » Re-established a joint committee with Energy NL to promote energy careers, including launching a new website for students, teachers and parents.
  - » Streamlined common training amongst operators to reduce training fatigue for offshore workers.
  - » Worked to align required offshore training with international standards to promote consistency.



- **Mitigated potential impacts of oil and gas activity through effective communication with contractors and other ocean users, and through enhanced spill prevention and preparedness.**
  - » Launched the Safety Share page ([www.capp.ca/safetyshare](http://www.capp.ca/safetyshare)) to provide a forum for information sharing.
  - » Developed 12 safety moment videos, to provide contractors and workers with easy access to meaningful safety moments to share information and provoke discussions about safety.
  - » Held annual offshore environmental forums to bring together industry, government, regulators, researchers, the fishing industry and Indigenous groups to share information and learn from each other.
  - » Advocated for new spill treating agents to be added to regulation.

- **Supported industry and stakeholder collaboration and education related to emission-reduction efforts. Enhanced communication with government regarding emission reductions.**
  - » Developed a video series with Energy Research and Innovation NL to increase awareness of offshore emissions reduction research.
  - » Broadened the theme of the Offshore Environmental Forum to include presentations focused on emissions reduction.
  - » Engaged with the Government of NL on its development of Climate Change Action Plans.

*\*Reflects the collaborative work in this initiative, through CAPP, but does not reflect individual operator safety and sustainability programs.*



## Objectives and focus areas:

The following objectives have been established for 2026- 2028 as part of this initiative:

- **Identify trends/areas for improvement based on submitted safety alerts, and increase education/awareness on identified themes.**

- » CAPP will work to increase awareness and education around best practices identified through safety alerts submitted on CAPP's Safety Share page on its website. CAPP will host a series of workshops with the contractor community and various stakeholders on key themes, including best practices for materials handling.
- » CAPP's Atlantic Canada Safety Committee will review safety alerts annually to identify future workshop themes/additional initiatives to enhance safety.

- **Apply learnings and identify alignment opportunities with other jurisdictions to promote consistency and enhance safety.**

- » CAPP will review international requirements for minimum hearing thresholds for fitness to work and update relevant industry best practice as required.
- » Following a United Kingdom review of the weight of offshore workers, CAPP will conduct a statistical analysis of weight in NL offshore personnel and identify any required changes to personal protective equipment, lifeboats and other equipment based on results.
- » The Atlantic Canada Training and Qualifications Committee, of which CAPP is the secretariat, will work with Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organization (OPITO) on mutual recognition of use of the Helicopter Underwater Emergency Breathing Apparatus in the Helicopter Underwater Escape Trainer.

- **Improve oil spill preparedness and communications.**

- » CAPP will organize a regular regional meeting of emergency response personnel within industry, regulators and government to share information and maintain relationships.
- » CAPP will continue to advocate for the addition of new dispersants to regulation to augment response capability and input into federal consultations on Alternative Response Measures.
- » CAPP will enhance education and awareness related to spill response through One Ocean (the liaison organization between the fishing and petroleum industries in NL) and direct engagement with the fishing industry.

- **CAPP will continue promoting collaboration and information sharing by:**

- » Augmenting the CAPP Safety Share Site (including developing new safety moment videos).
- » Hosting the Offshore Environmental Forum and participating in other forums related to environment, health and safety.
- » Collaborating with relevant international organizations:
  - › Sharing information with members on relevant work of the International Oil and Gas Producers, the International Regulators Forum and other international groups.
  - › Providing input to relevant global standards and best practices as they are developed/reviewed to ensure they consider the Canadian offshore operating environment.

- **CAPP will support emissions reduction efforts through enhanced communications and improved understanding of the policy environment surrounding industrial carbon pricing in Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada.**



## Conclusion

*Collaborating for Safety and Environmental Sustainability* is a living document which will continue to be reviewed and revised annually.

For this phase of *Collaborating for Safety and Environmental Sustainability*, progress will be measured based on an assessment of whether the following indicators were achieved:

- **Demonstration of increased collaboration and communication amongst operators and between operators and other stakeholders, thereby enhancing safety and incident prevention.**
- **Better communication around industry efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and clarity in the policy environment surrounding industrial carbon pricing.**
- **Completion of workshops, education and/or communications campaigns with contractors and the workforce on specific safety themes.**
- **Enhancements to spill response capability and related communications with those involved in spill preparedness and response.**
- **Alignment with other jurisdictions on safety training, policies and procedures.**

In addition to the objectives and focus areas outlined in this plan, individual operators each have their own comprehensive health and safety management systems. These systems incorporate all policies and programs related to safety and environmental protection into their business processes and continuously identify opportunities for improvement.

Offshore operators are committed to continuing their collective work through CAPP to enhance collaboration and communication on environment, health and safety.

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The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) represents companies, large and small, that explore for, develop and produce natural gas and crude oil throughout Canada. CAPP's member companies produce about 80 per cent of Canada's natural gas and crude oil. CAPP's associate members provide a wide range of services that support the upstream crude oil and natural gas industry. Together CAPP's members and associate members are an important part of a national industry with revenues from oil and natural gas production of about \$101 billion a year.

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