

Breaking into Calgary's Oil and Gas Industry: An Aussie's Perspective

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Abstract

Calgary attracts people from all over the world, and I am one of them. As an Australian geologist who graduated in 2004 I quickly learned that no two geoscientist's career paths are alike, mine has been no exception. Geoscience has taken me from working within one kilometre of my house in Brisbane to working in the middle of Mongolia's Gobi desert. Each experience brought forth its own challenges and rewards and the transition into Canada's oil and gas industry has been just that – a rewarding challenge.

This presentation seeks to provide my experiences of schooling in Australia, transitioning into the workforce and the path that has led me to working in Calgary. I believe there are many parallels that can be drawn between my recent experience and that of many young professionals in the industry today. My intent is to share my perspective as I discuss working abroad, the myths surrounding 'our industry' and the tough lessons that I have learned along the way. I will also talk about my own experiences in dealing with unemployment as well as the do's and don'ts when trying to find the right job.