



PRESS RELEASE

December 1, 2005

## Connacher Announces Appointment of New Director

Calgary, Alberta – Connacher Oil and Gas Limited (CLL – TSX) announced today the appointment of Mr. D. Hugh Bessell, FCA to its Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Mr. Bessell is a native Calgarian who now resides in Toronto, Ontario. He retired as a partner of KPMG LLP on December 31, 1999 after holding the position of Deputy Chairman & Chief Operating Officer, which position he held for approximately six years. He spent a total of 33 years with KPMG and its predecessor firms, and was Managing Partner of the firm's Calgary office immediately prior to assuming the role of Deputy Chairman in 1993.

Since retirement from KPMG, Mr. Bessell has been retained as a consultant and for expert witness assignments, including issues related to deregulation of electrical energy in Ontario. He is very familiar with the oil and natural gas industry, having spent most of his career in Calgary as an Assurance partner, serving major Canadian corporations in the financial services, transportation and energy industries.

In addition to a long record of service to the communities in which he lives or has lived, Mr. Bessell served as a member of the Senate of the University of Calgary, has been a member of the Accounting Advisory Council to the School of Accountancy, University of Waterloo and he is currently a member of the Board of Trustees and Treasurer of Wycliffe College, which is affiliated with the University of Toronto.

He was a member of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta and served as its President in 1982-1983. He has been a member of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and chaired committees on Education and Specialization. He also served as a member of the Legal Liability Task Force from 1997 until 2000.

He has been granted the FCA designation by both the Alberta and the Ontario Institutes of Chartered Accountants in recognition of his support and contributions to his profession and community.

As a financial expert, Mr. Bessell has agreed to become Chairman of Connacher's Audit Committee, which will also include current members Colin M. Evans and Stewart D. McGregor, Connacher's Lead Director. Connacher's Audit Committee is composed of independent directors in keeping with prevailing governance practices.

Connacher Oil and Gas Limited is a Calgary-based oil and natural gas exploration and production company primarily focused on its Great Divide oil sands property. Connacher also holds producing properties in the Province of Saskatchewan and owns 35 percent of the equity of Petrolifera Petroleum Limited (PDP – TSX).

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