

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release:**

**Athabasca Oil Sands Corp.**  
**Closes \$400 million Debt Financing**  
**July 30, 2008**

Athabasca Oil Sands Corp. ("AOSC") is pleased to announce today that it has completed a \$400 million secured debt financing (the "financing"). The proceeds of the financing will fund AOSC's development and appraisal activities over the next two years.

The financing was led by GMP Securities L.P. and Lehman Brothers Canada Inc. (as co-lead agents) and included a syndicate of agents comprised of FirstEnergy Capital Corp., Raymond James Ltd., Blackmont Capital Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., Tristone Capital Inc. and Acumen Capital Finance Partners Limited.

AOSC is among the largest lease holders in the Athabasca region, with a 100% working interest in over 700,000 acres of oil sands leases near Fort McMurray, Alberta. AOSC's business plan currently includes: drilling a total of 200 to 250 evaluation wells during the 2009 and 2010 drilling seasons; developing and constructing two in-situ (steam assisted gravity drainage or SAGD) pilot projects, which are expected to be located on AOSC's Dover Central and Thickwood/MacKay properties; and continuing planning work for AOSC's first phase of commercial production.

AOSC is also pleased to advise that it has received independent engineering reports for all of its major areas including Dover Central, Dover West, Dover East, Thickwood/MacKay, Hangingstone and its undisclosed areas D4 and A4 following last winter's 231 well drilling program.

Total best estimate (most likely) recoverable resources are now at 7.05 billion barrels, of which 6.55 billion barrels have been classified as contingent resources. The remaining 0.5 billion barrels are classified as prospective resources. High estimate (optimistic) contingent resources are 10.0 billion barrels with an additional 1.3 billion barrels of high estimate prospective resources.

The evaluators' reports also include calculations of net present value of future cash flows for each area. The pre-tax net present value of the contingent resources, discounted at 8%, is \$17.2 billion and \$33.6 billion for the best estimate and high estimate, respectively. These values exclude any prospective resources.

GLJ Petroleum Consultants Ltd. performed the engineering for areas containing approximately 80% of the contingent resources while the remaining assets were evaluated by DeGolyer and MacNaughton Canada Limited.

Please visit [www.aosc.com](http://www.aosc.com) for more information about AOSC.

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**Reader Advisory**

*Certain information set forth in this press release contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial known and unknown risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, most of which are beyond the control of Athabasca Oil Sands Corp., including but not limited to, the impact of general economic conditions, industry conditions, fluctuation of commodity prices, fluctuation of exchange rates, environmental risks, industry competition, availability of qualified personnel and management, timely and cost effective access to sufficient capital from internal and external sources, regulatory changes and estimates of resources. No assurance can be given that these expectations will prove to be correct and such forward-looking statements included in this release should not be unduly relied upon. Actual results, performance or achievement could differ materially from those expressed in or implied by these forward-looking statements. These statements speak only as of the date of this release or as of the date specified in the documents accompanying this release, as the case may be. Athabasca Oil Sands Corp. undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements except as expressly required by applicable securities law.*