



- ★ **Family:** Married to Sara, daughter Sophie (3), son Luke (1)
- ★ **Education:** University of Calgary Marketing Management Certificate through Continuing Education
- ★ **Favourite charities:** Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada, Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation, Foothills Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

- ★ **First job:** Carpenter's assistant when I was 12
- ★ **If not for your current career, what would you be doing?** If I never got into the oil and gas industry, I would probably be either working with computers or working in some aspect of construction.
- ★ **Best advice received:** My dad taught me that anything worth doing is worth doing right. Also, "If you fall down, you get back up and try again."

- ★ **Favourite pastime:** Spending as much time as possible with my wife and kids
- ★ **Favourite movie:** National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation* (Everybody loves the Griswolds.)
- ★ **Other passions:** Golf on Saturday mornings. (The first tee time of the day is the best time to be out.) Curling in the winter. Cheering on the Calgary Flames and the Calgary Stampeders.

Mike Nielsen, 39

Enviro Vault Canada Ltd., General Manager

Like many small-town kids, Mike Nielsen dreamed of working in a big-city glass office tower one day. What wasn't clear was what he'd be doing there.

Towards the end of high school, he was accepted at SAIT Polytechnic in electrical engineering and his ambition was starting to take shape. The first year went well enough. He planned to return the next year, but a trip to Australia with some friends got in the way.

"Of course, I ended up not going back to school," he says and laughs.

After that, he bounced from job to job in his hometown of Brooks, in the midst of the shallow oil and gas fields of southeastern Alberta, before landing in energy services. He started doing grunt work but later plugged into sales where found his footing. People skills and hard work saw him climb the ranks and, eventually, he got his Calgary office tower job, overseeing the Universal Industries group of six companies as sales manager.

Then one day, looking across at the Calgary Tower, he thought, "Hmm, here I am. Childhood dream. Check." His position at Universal had maxed out. He and his wife, Sara, were planning another child. And a former client and friend, Russ Hebblethwaite, founder of Enviro Vault, happened to call, looking for a general manager.

"I don't even know if he had me in mind, but as soon as he said that, I thought, 'Hey, wait a minute. Let's talk about that.'"

In the wheelhouse of Enviro Vault since 2009, Mike has developed an aggressive new marketing campaign for the company's environmental oil storage products, contributing to record sales months. He's also helped obtain an important regulatory approval for Enviro Vault's patented DuoVault oil storage tank system.

For Mike, sales tended to be a pedal-to-the-metal affair, but, in his role as general manager, he's come to a new understanding of the work-life balancing act. "It can still be tough finding the right balance between your family and your work," he says. "But at the end of the day, your family is who you're going to spend the rest of your life with." ■



**ENERFLEX
MS WALK**
EVERY STEP MATTERS.

Walk with us to end multiple sclerosis in your community. Every step you take will help someone living with MS.

Alberta MS Walk Dates

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| April 16 – Lethbridge | May 7 – St. Paul |
| April 16 – Lloydminster | May 15 – Edmonton |
| April 30 – Grande Prairie | May 29 – Medicine Hat |
| May 1 – Drumheller | May 29 – Red Deer |
| May 1 – Fort McMurray | June 5 – Brooks |
| May 1 – St. Albert | June 5 – Calgary |

Register today at www.mswalks.ca

The MS Society of Canada, Alberta and NWT Division would like to acknowledge and thank our partner Enerflex Ltd. for their continued support as Provincial Title Sponsor.

Enerflex aligns with organizations and invests in programs that provide support to and enhance the lives of Albertans requiring health care and wellness support.

The Single Source

Enerflex's single source solutions combine proven processing, refrigeration, compression and power generation systems with over 30 years' experience operating across the world to engineer and construct the facilities you need.

ENERFLEX

1.800.242.3178 • www.enerflex.com