

Draft plan for a future community decision

The Township of Ignace and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) continue to explore the Adaptive Phased Management (APM) Project. Community workshops and conversations are also continuing for community members to help guide each aspect of this work. We have worked together over the past 10 years to learn about and understand the APM Project, and work continues. Recently, we have planned together and are implementing community studies. We are also preparing to explore what a hosting agreement would contain, guided by the project vision established by Ignace residents. Now the community is being asked by the Ignace Community Nuclear Liaison Committee (ICNLC) for its thoughts/input on the next steps in our work to assess our community’s willingness.

In late 2022 or early 2023, with information from the current program of community studies and a draft hosting agreement developed with the NWMO in place, we will need to decide if our Ignace community is supportive of implementing the APM Project in our area. We are now developing a plan for how we are going to make that decision. To start the conversation, we propose some thoughts on what a decision-making plan could include. This plan builds on what we heard from our community members and the steps we have built together to lead us here today. Please get involved and share your thoughts as we continue to develop our community’s plan.

Steps	Involves	Includes
<p>1 We will assess the APM Project based on our values.</p>	<p>Examining the project against the objectives and values that community members identified in workshops. We would consider the extent to which the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures safety of people and the environment for our community and communities and people in the area; • Supports the overall well-being of our local, regional and Indigenous communities; • Promotes community growth that celebrates the heritage and culture of our “small-town” community embracing both current and new residents with varying backgrounds, cultures, peoples, and age groups; • Sustains and complements local businesses while supporting the growth of mixed development opportunities for our local economy; • Supports development of infrastructure and services, enhancing, complementing and investing in new and present community facilities/developments; and • Respects Ignace’s strong connection to the outdoors and natural resources, being environmental stewards who protect and enhance the local and surrounding area, as well as support a variety of economic and recreation activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ICNLC reviews and discusses its assessment of the project against our community’s vision and values, and seeks expert support as needed.

Steps	Involves	Includes
<p>2 We will broadly engage Ignace residents on whether we are willing to accept the APM Project through multiple engagement activities.</p>	<p>Discussing the extent to which we are supportive, or not, of the project being implemented in our area, considering the assessment of the project against our community's vision and values.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ICNLC involves community members in assessing the project. • This includes meetings with community groups, interviews with community members, and community workshops. • A third-party consultant team will lead activities and discussions.
<p>3 We will summarize and draw a conclusion on what everyone said.</p>	<p>Comments will be assessed and consolidated. Conclusions will be drawn about whether the comments indicate that the community is willing or not.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the help of a third-party consultant, the ICNLC and the Township of Ignace report on what was said in community conversations, including publishing a summary of comments – both solicited and unsolicited.
<p>4 We will communicate our choice.</p>	<p>Based on the community discussions and conclusions drawn about willingness, the decision will be shared with neighbouring communities and the NWMO.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ICNLC meets to reflect on the consultant summary of what community members have said and makes a recommendation to the Council.
<p>5 We will ask the Ignace Council to review the choice and confirm the choice through a resolution.</p>	<p>The Council determines whether the community supports the implementation of the project in the area. Our decision is reflected in a Council resolution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council passes a resolution and communicates its support, or lack of support, to the NWMO and neighbours.