Township of Ignace
34 Highway 17 West, P.O. Box 248 Ignace, ONTARIO P0T 1T0
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| | |
|---|---|
| **Prepared By:** | **Penny Lucas, Mayor** |
| **Report To:** | **Council** |
| **Subject:** | **Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) Conference January 19 & 20, 2022 - Virtual** |
| **Date:** | **February 2022** |

The executive of the Kenora District Municipal Association met on January 19th to finalize the Resolutions to be brought forward to the conference for presentation to the various attending Provincial Ministers.

The subjects of the resolutions included:

1. The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot launched in January 2019.
2. The Northwestern Ontario municipalities current housing shortages across the continuum which is impacting community economic growth.
3. The shift in the funding model for the Northwestern Health Unit made by the Government of Ontario which will result in a large increase to municipalities.
4. The significant high cost of policing in Northwestern Ontario compared to the rest of the Province.
5. That the Provincial Government start planning the twinning of Highway 17 from Kenora to Thunder Bay to be consistent with the rest of the Trans-Canada Highway, for the safety of our residents and those travelling this portion of the highway.

The full resolutions are included in the Council package for your perusal.

The ministers in attendance included: Ministry of Health, Minister Michael Tibollo; Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister Steve Clark; Ministry of the Solicitor General, Minister Sylvia Jones, Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture, Minister Lisa MacLeod and Ministry of Long-Term Care, Minister Rod Phillips.

Reports received included: District of Kenora, Homes for the Aged (included in this Council package) and presented by Kevin Queen, CEO and Kenora District Services Board (presentation by Henry Wall, CAO)

## KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

**SUBJECT:** Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot
**SUBMITTED BY:** City of Kenora
**YEAR:** 2022

**BACKGROUND:**

Announced in January 2019 to support the attraction and retention of skilled immigrants to rural and northern communities as a three year pilot program.
The City of Kenora supported an application by LOWBIC to the program – municipalities were not eligible applicants;
Kenora was not selected as a host community – successful municipalities in Northern Ontario were Thunder Bay, SSM, Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins;
The City of Kenora would be interested in participating in future pilots should the program be extended or re-opened to new host communities to assist in addressing current gaps in the labour force.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Whereas** the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot launched in January 2019 to assist in attracting and retaining skilled immigrants in Canada's rural and northern communities; and

**Whereas** the City of Kenora had supported an application to the program in 2019 but was not successful in becoming a host community; and

Whereas the City of Kenora and other rural and northern communities continue to face gaps in the labour force;

**Now Therefore Be it Resolved That** The Kenora District Municipal Association requests the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot to be re-launched to accept new host communities.

| COMMITTEE ACTION | CONVENTION ACTION |
|---|---|
| **Concurrence**_____ | **Concurrence**_____ |
| **Concurrence as Amended**_____ | **Concurrence as Amended**_____ |
| **Non-Concurrence**_____ | **Non-Concurrence**_____ |

## KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

**SUBJECT:** Housing Development Support
**SUBMITTED BY:** City of Kenora
**YEAR:** 2022

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Kenora has demonstrated housing needs across the continuum;
Current NOHFC programs do not consider support for residential projects to be an eligible activity;
The existing Province of Ontario Site Readiness and Investment Ready: Certified Site Programs support industrial lands only – could there be opportunity for new, similar programs to support investment readiness related to residential development.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Whereas** the City of Kenora and other Northwestern Ontario municipalities are currently experiencing a shortage across the housing continuum which is impacting community economic growth; and

**Whereas** the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) has a mandate to promote and stimulate economic development initiatives in Northern Ontario by providing financial assistance to projects that stabilize, diversify, and foster economic growth in the region; and

**Whereas** current NOHFC guidelines do not support residential projects as eligible activities or core infrastructure that may enable such projects;

**NOW THEREFORE MAY IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Kenora District Municipal Association** requests that NOHFC review and revise its eligibility criteria to consider support for economic development projects related to housing development.

| **COMMITTEE ACTION** | **CONVENTION ACTION** |
|---|---|
| **Concurrence**_____ | **Concurrence**_____ |
| **Concurrence as Amended**_____ | **Concurrence as Amended**_____ |
| **Non-Concurrence**_____ | **Non-Concurrence**_____ |

# KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

**SUBJECT:** Northwestern Health Unit Funding
**SUBMITTED BY:** City of Kenora
**YEAR:** 2022

**BACKGROUND:**

Beginning in 2022 municipalities in Northwestern Ontario will see a significant shift in the funding model for the Northwestern Health Unit due to changes made by the Government of Ontario.

The new cost sharing formula for cost shared programs will result in municipalities funding 30% of costs (up from 25%), and the Government of Ontario funding the remaining 70% (down from 75%). The municipal increase of 5 percentage points from 25 to 30 means an increase of 20% to the municipal cost of cost shared programs. Furthermore, the Province is moving approximately $3 million in program expenses that were previously 100% Provincially funded into the package of programs being cost shared by municipalities. These two changes will result in a total approximate increase of 35% to the NWHU annual levy to municipalities.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has mandated a change to the cost-shared funding formula to a 70% Provincial: 30% Municipal levy effective January 1, 2022; and

**WHEREAS** programs that were previously 100% provincially funded will now be included in the cost-shared formula thereby shifting approximately $3 million in expenses into the cost-shared formula; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Kenora and municipalities in the Kenora District have identified that they cannot afford this 35% increase to their expenses for the provision of public health services due to affordability concerns in their communities:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Kenora District Municipal Association lobby the Government of Ontario to reconsider the changes to the Public Health Unit Funding model to address the affordability concerns identified by municipalities, while recognizing the critical importance that decentralized public health services have on the communities in Northwestern Ontario

| **COMMITTEE ACTION** | **CONVENTION ACTION** |
|---|---|
| **Concurrence**_____ | **Concurrence**_____ |
| **Concurrence as Amended**_____ | **Concurrence as Amended**_____ |
| **Non-Concurrence**_____ | **Non-Concurrence**_____ |

## KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

**SUBJECT:** Reducing OPP Policing Costs
**SUBMITTED BY:** City of Kenora
**YEAR:** 2022

### BACKGROUND:

The City of Kenora has a history of high policing costs, being one of the six communities in all of Ontario where the cost of policing is over $600 per household. Over the last 6+ years, the municipality has been advocating for reduced policing costs, which have included various meetings, letters, and delegations made to several Ministers. There are a number of risk factors that influence the presence of harm, victimization and crime, which relate to the number of calls for service our local OPP detachment attends. These issues facing our community are complex and root causes have to be addressed in order to develop upstream solutions. It is clear that the City of Kenora is facing a unique fiscal burden that is borne from systematic failures in provincial and federal policy relating to criminal justice and the current OPP billing model does not take this factor into account.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**Whereas** the City of Kenora is one of the six communities in all of Ontario where policing costs are well above the provincial average and in 2019 were $789 compared to $359 per household provincially; and

**Whereas** the City now sits at $833 per household which equates to over a 1% tax increase for citizens solely based on policing costs; and

**Whereas** the calls for service are the most significant driver in the continuing increases and the escalating costs are not sustainable to the taxpayers; and

**Whereas** the City of Kenora is the judicial hub of the District with individuals required to travel to Kenora for the judicial system, however, they are not provided with adequate supports to return to their home community or avoid re-offending while on bail; and

**Whereas** it is clear that the City of Kenora is facing a unique fiscal burden that is borne from systematic failures in provincial and federal policy relating to criminal justice and the current OPP billing model does not take this factor into account; and

**Whereas** the City of Kenora has advocated for several years for change to the billing model that accurately reflects the levels of service required for the community that are unrelated to judicial system failures;

**NOW THEREFORE MAY IT BE RESOLVED THAT** the Kenora District Municipal Association Request a meeting with the Solicitor General and Minister Rickford to begin negotiations on a contract with the Ministry that will provide a cap or subsidy on OPP billing.

| COMMITTEE ACTION | CONVENTION ACTION |
|---|---|
| **Concurrence**_____ | **Concurrence**_____ |
| **Concurrence as Amended**_____ | **Concurrence as Amended**_____ |
| **Non-Concurrence**_____ | **Non-Concurrence**_____ |

KDMA
Kenora District Municipal Association

# KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

**SUBJECT:** Highway 17 – Kenora to Thunder Bay
**SUBMITTED BY:** Municipality of Red Lake
**YEAR:** 2022

**BACKGROUND:**

**WHEREAS** Ontario Provincial Highway 17, between Kenora and Thunder Bay, is a major travel corridor for the residents of northwestern Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** there is a growing concern with the winter travel conditions of the highway; and

**WHEREAS** this winter season, there has been an unprecedented amount of road closures, as many as two (2) road closures in a single day; and

**WHEREAS** residents are so concerned with the safety of the roads, they are cancelling medical appointments as a result of poor winter road conditions; and

**WHEREAS** the roads have become progressively worse to travel; and

**WHEREAS** the highway from Kenora to Thunder Bay continues to be referenced as one of the worst and most dangerous highways in Canada to travel; and

**WHEREAS** in addition to the poor winter highway conditions, there are concerns with the level of training, skill and experience truck drivers have when it comes to driving in accordance with winter road conditions;

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**NOW THEREFORE MAY IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Kenora District Municipal Association** hereby petition the Ministry of Transportation as follows:

a) to review the winter highway maintenance program of Highway 17 between Kenora and Thunder Bay, such as reducing the snow clearance

time to 8 hour clearance, as opposed to the existing 16 hour clearance regulation.

b) to review truck driver training for winter highway conditions; and
c) to review alternative supply chain modes of transportation, such as railway; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Provincial Government consider twinning Highway 17 from Kenora to Thunder Bay to be consistent with the rest of the Trans-Canada Highway, for the safety of our residents and those travelling this portion of highway.

| **COMMITTEE ACTION** | **CONVENTION ACTION** |
|---|---|
| **Concurrence**_____ | **Concurrence**_____ |
| **Concurrence as Amended**_____ | **Concurrence as Amended**_____ |
| **Non-Concurrence**_____ | **Non-Concurrence**_____ |

District of Kenora Homes
& Community Support Services
Enriching the lives of those we serve

# DISTRICT OF KENORA HOME FOR THE AGED

## (PINECREST HOME)

## (NORTHWOOD LODGE)

## (PRINCESS COURT)

## (COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES)

## BOARD CHAIR AND ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

## FOR THE

## KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

## CONFERENCE

## DRYDEN

## 19th JANUARY 2022

## ZOOM MEETING

**BOARD CHAIR REPORT FOR THE DISTRICT OF KENORA HOME FOR THE AGED**
**Kenora District Municipal Association Meeting**
**January 19th, 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity for us to provide an update on the status of operations at Pinecrest, Princess Court, Northwood Lodge and Community Support Services.

Last year I reported on how COVID-19 has been the dominant force affecting all of our operations. I wish I could say that the situation has changed, however, the pandemic is still with us as we grapple with the Omicron wave. Although we have not banned all visits, we have found it necessary to severely restrict access by essential care givers and to cancel all general visits. We also made the difficult decision to cancel all day outings days before Christmas. It was an unpopular decision but one we felt necessary to protect the residents in our care. Again, shortly after Christmas the government made the same decision but, unfortunately, it was too late for several homes in the province who are now dealing with outbreaks. Once again, I am pleased to report that despite having cases of COVID-19 appearing in every community in which we operate, we have so far, avoided an outbreak in any of our facilities. I would, once again, like to acknowledge our CEO and his management teams and staff at each of our facilities as well as our community support operations for their diligence and tremendous efforts to protect the vulnerable populations we serve.

Last year, the province aggressively encouraged long-term care homes to have in-room air-conditioning. By aggressive, I mean, we were not allowed to use any of our minor capital funding from the province for anything else, if we did not have in-room air-conditioning. As Princess Court in Dryden and Northwood Lodge in Red Lake are younger homes, they have in-room air-conditioning. Pinecrest in Kenora is a different story. The home does have corridor air-conditioning but not in resident rooms. We are currently working on this project, which we hope to have completed prior to the next cooling season. Most of the cost will be covered by the province.

After adding 32 beds to Princess Court and 10 beds to Northwood Lodge in 2005 the board realized that rebuilding Pinecrest would be prohibitively expensive for the municipalities. This was due to the fact that the municipal share of the costs for the additional beds was between 60 and 70 % when, in the past, it was approximately 40%. In the past costs were shared on a percentage basis. The new formula is per bed based and municipal costs were much higher due to the high cost of building in the north. Fortunately, due to a series of renovation projects prior to 2000 the board decided that Pinecrest was in reasonably good shape, for, what is now, a 65 year old facility. We abandoned any plans to rebuild and upgraded the home to what is classified as a "C" facility. The major short coming at Pinecrest is the core area that was never renovated. This area covers the kitchen, Unit 2 dining room, auditorium, laundry, tuck shop and business offices. With this renovation the home should be able to provide services in the existing structure for one or two decades more. We would, however, not receive any provincial funding for this project, as funding is tied to refurbished or new beds, but the price tag would be significantly less than the cost of rebuilding the entire home. We hope to begin planning on this project this year and plan to finance it without any increase to the current levies with the exception of annual increases due to inflation.

The province has been encouraging the development of additional beds in the province, but the funding formula does not recognize the realities of building in the north. Our CEO will provide possible alternatives to building additional long-term care beds at this time.

We have been advised that our CEO plans to retire this fall. We are sorry to see him leave our organization and we are grateful for his many years of service to our homes and our district. We wish him well in his retirement.

As I reported last year, we are still experiencing some significant increases in operating costs due to the pandemic. A large portion of this is being offset with additional provincial funding but not all costs have been covered. For example, insurance costs have almost doubled.

The board recognizes the value and importance of the municipal support to our organizations. We are proud of the quality of services provided at our facilities, which would not be possible without municipal support. We also recognize the financial impact we represent and how COVID-19 has affected our partners. With that in mind, we have increased our levies by two percent or $85,000. However, the effect of changes in equalization factors will have varying impact on the municipalities.

In closing and on behalf of the Board of Management, I would like to thank all the municipalities for your continued support.

Norbert Dufresne
Board Chair

**CEO & DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT FOR**
**THE DISTRICT OF KENORA**
**HOME FOR THE AGED**
**Kenora District Municipal Association Meeting**
**January 19th, 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an overview of 2021.

In 2021, Pinecrest, with a 116 bed capacity, provided: 40,053 days of long term care with a 94.6% occupancy rate. Princess Court with a 97 bed capacity, provided 34,318 days of care with a 96.9% occupancy rate. Northwood Lodge, with a 32 bed capacity provided 11,003 days of care with a 94.2% occupancy rate. Occupancy is lower than normal due to delays in filling beds caused by infection control requirements.

We also provide community support services in Kenora, Sioux Lookout and Red Lake as well as supportive housing services in Kenora and Sioux Lookout. In 2021, we provided 2,093 days of adult day care, 946 in Kenora, 993 in Sioux Lookout, and 154 in Red Lake. In our meals on wheels program we provided 11,999 meals, with 7,674 in Kenora, 2,691 in Sioux Lookout and 1,634 in Red Lake. In our congregate dining program we provided 4,079 meals, with 3,027 in Kenora, and 1,052 in Sioux Lookout. We provided 32,797days of supportive housing with 23,130 days in Kenora and 9,667 days in Sioux Lookout. We served a combined total of 639 individuals. Our numbers are lower due to some programs being modified or cancelled altogether due to requirement to avoid congregate situations. In the past these services were augmented by help from a significant number of volunteers. This was not possible last year due to COVID-19.

We sent out resident and family satisfaction surveys from each of our three homes. Overall, satisfaction with services provided, increased last year.

As of June of this year, all six of our union contracts will have expired. We do not have any dates set yet for negotiations at this time. I believe negotiations will be challenging given the PSW wage enhancement that has been in place for over a year, as well as, the high levels of inflation we are currently experiencing.

In last year's report, I had said that 2020 had been the most challenging year of my career due to threat of infection from COVID-19. Unfortunately, 2021 was not much better. We have been very diligent and proactive to do our best to keep the virus out of our facilities. We have been successful thus far, largely due to our amazing management teams and staff. However, this particular variant is extremely infectious which means an outbreak could occur at any time.

The Board Chair made reference to new long-term care beds in the district. Although the funding formula for new builds has improved it is still not adequate, to fairly deal with the cost of building in the north. I do agree that there may be need for more beds in the future but I would like to propose an alternative. We have long heard about the severe shortage of adequate housing in our area. The effect of this is seeing an increasing number of admissions to long term care to resolve some of this shortage. The result is that each of our homes are providing services to individuals who need very little, in the way of long term care services, and who would do very

well in a supportive housing environment. When someone of this nature is inappropriately placed in long-term care they are using up a valuable resource that often results in more pressure on hospitals who are providing services to individuals who would be better served in long-term care. To further exacerbate the problem, the individual may occupy a bed for many years holding up a bed that is meant for a higher level of care. Each bed in our system costs just under $88,000 per year. A supportive housing client currently costs about $12,000 per year. Of the $88,000, the municipalities contribute approximately $14,000 per bed. If additional supportive housing spaces are developed, our long-term care resources could be used more appropriately. Supportive housing is funded by the province, and would not add additional financial pressure to the municipalities. I would encourage municipalities to support the development of supportive housing and remove any barriers that may be holding up or preventing construction. Appropriate supportive housing would serve to increase the number of long-term care beds available without the additional capital and operating costs normally associated with building additional long-term care bed stock.

I have been urging municipalities for years to lobby the province for additional funding to recognize the large unincorporated portion of our district. I would like to thank Roger Nesbitt, CAO, Dryden, who prepared an excellent brief for Minister Rod Phillips, which we presented in August. It was good timing as the province is developing new legislation to replace the long-term care act. We have not had any feedback or questions since but it may be a good thing to bring up with the Minister tomorrow.

As the Chair noted, I will be retiring this fall. I have worked in this industry for forty-three years and it has been a pleasure serving the seniors of our district. I have often referred to working in our industry as more of a vocation than a job. I will miss the people we serve, the staff I have had the pleasure working with and the municipalities and agencies I have collaborated and/or partnered with. The homes and services provided under the Kenora District Home for the Aged are top notch and you should be proud of the organization you help fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this report and I would like to thank you all, for your interest in, and support of Pinecrest Home, Princess Court, Northwood Lodge and the Community Support Services.

Kevin Queen,
CEO & District Administrator

# 2022 BUDGET SUMMARY

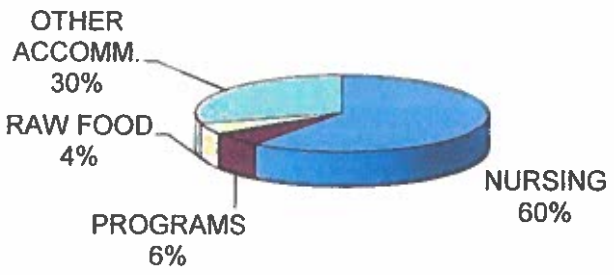
| | PINECREST | NORTHWOOD | PRINCESS COURT | TOTAL | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NURS. AND PERS. CARE | 6,506,727 | 1,561,888 | 4,838,781 | 12,907,396 | 144.34 |
| PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT SERV. | 606,000 | 150,263 | 501,170 | 1,257,433 | 14.06 |
| RAW FOOD | 463,924 | 126,427 | 377,764 | 968,115 | 10.83 |
| OTHER ACCOMM. | 2,962,957 | 872,319 | 2,525,570 | 6,360,846 | 71.13 |
| **OPERATING** | **10,539,607** | **2,710,898** | **8,243,284** | **21,493,789** | **240.36** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **2022 TOTAL EXPENSES** | **21,493,789** |
| **SOURCES OF REVENUE** | |
| PROVINCIAL | 12,354,798 |
| RESIDENT | 4,925,000 |
| MUNICIPAL | 3,459,600 |
| OTHER | 754,391 |
| **2022 TOTAL REVENUE** | **21,493,789** |

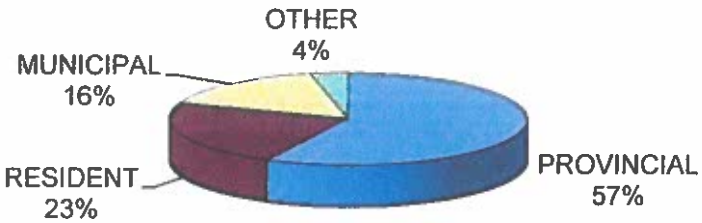
## BREAKDOWN OF MUNICIPAL SHARE BASED ON 2019 EQUALIZATION REPORT

| MUNICIPALITY | | CAPITAL REQUEST | OPERATING REQUEST | TOTAL 2022 REQUEST |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RED LAKE | 13.5155 | 118,261 | 467,582 | 585,843 |
| DRYDEN | 17.6740 | 154,648 | 611,450 | 766,098 |
| KENORA | 42.6092 | 372,830 | 1,474,107 | 1,846,937 |
| SIOUX LOOKOUT | 11.1034 | 97,154 | 384,133 | 481,287 |
| IGNACE | 1.6680 | 14,595 | 57,706 | 72,301 |
| MACHIN | 3.5256 | 30,849 | 121,972 | 152,821 |
| SIOUX NARROWS/NESTOR FALLS | 7.3587 | 64,389 | 254,582 | 318,971 |
| EAR FALLS | 1.8485 | 16,174 | 63,951 | 80,125 |
| PICKLE LAKE | 0.6971 | 6,100 | 24,117 | 30,217 |
| | 100.000 | 875,000 | 3,459,600 | 4,334,600 |

**DISTRICT OF KENORA HOME FOR THE AGED**
**2022 EXPENDITURES**




**DISTRICT OF KENORA HOME FOR THE AGED**
**2022 REVENUE**



Ontario

# SAVE THE DATE

**Northern Municipal Services Office**
**Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

## 5th Annual
## 2022 Northern CAO/Clerks' Forum

**Date:** Afternoon of Wednesday, March 23rd and morning of Thursday, March 24th, 2022 (two half days)
**Location:** Virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams platform
**Cost**: Free

The Northern Municipal Services Office is currently preparing for the 5th annual Northern CAO/Clerks' Forum. Please mark your calendars so you don't miss out on important municipal administrative updates and training.

While the final agenda is still taking shape, it is sure to include a host of interesting topics and dynamic speakers who will discuss relevant and timely issues. Please join us for these two half days of stimulating and engaging discussions.

Registration Form

We look forward to (virtually) seeing you!

**Inquiries:**

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**Email:** Leah.Yakeley@Ontario.ca
**Phone:** 705-280-0334

Bryan Searle, Municipal Advisor
**Email:** Bryan.Searle@Ontario.ca
**Phone:** 705-564-6861

Good Roads
2022 Conference



# Registration

Registration is now open for the **2022 Good Roads Conference.**

To register online please **Click Here** (https://www.ogra.org/courses-and-events/index.html/ogra/event-info/details/id/28519).
For a registration form to email or print **Click Here** (http://ograconference.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-Good-Roads-Conference-Registration-Form.pdf).

| | Good Roads Members | Provincial / Federal Governments | Non-Members |
|---|---|---|---|

141

| | **Early Bird** Before Mar. 4 | **Regular** After Mar. 5 | **Early Bird** Before Mar. 4 | **Regular** After Mar. 5 | **Early Bird** Before Mar. 4 | **Regular** After Mar. 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A** Full Registration | $700 | $750 | $770 | $820 | $875 | $925 |
| **B** One Day – Monday | $400 | $430 | $440 | $470 | $500 | $530 |
| **C** One Day – Tuesday | $400 | $430 | $440 | $470 | $500 | $530 |
| **D** Half Day – Wednesday | $200 | $220 | $220 | $240 | $250 | $270 |

## Registration

Why Attend? (http://ograconference.ca/reg-fees/why-attend/)

## VENUE

**Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto ON.**

## QUICK LINKS

Accommodations (http://ograconference.ca/accommodation/)

Agenda (http://ograconference.ca/agenda/)

Virtual Kit Bag (http://ograconference.ca/virtual-kit-bag/)

Privacy Policy (http://ograconference.ca/privacy-policy/)

**Name** *

First

Last

**Email** *

142

## 2022 Good Roads Conference Program at a Glance

Current as of February 3, 2022

| Session Name | Date | Start Time | End Time | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Meeting of OGRA Board of Directors | 10-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:30 PM | Algonquin Room |
| OGRA Advisory Board of Past Presidents | 10-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:30 PM | Quebec Room |
| Joint Meeting of OGRA Board of Directors and Advisory Board of Past Presidents | 10-Apr-22 | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | Quebec Room |
| Registration | 10-Apr-22 | 1:30 PM | 6:30 PM | Convention Level |
| Emerging Municipal Leaders Forum | 10-Apr-22 | 2:00 PM | 5:00 PM | |
| Get Your Gravel On: Breakthroughs & Best Practices in Gravel Roads - Sponsored by Da-Lee | 10-Apr-22 | 2:00 PM | 5:00 PM | |
| Trade Show | 10-Apr-22 | 3:00 PM | 7:00 PM | |
| Opening Reception | 10-Apr-22 | 5:00 PM | 6:30 PM | |
| Registration | 11-Apr-22 | 7:30 AM | 4:30 PM | Convention Level |
| Trade Show | 11-Apr-22 | 8:30 AM | 4:30 PM | |
| Opening of 2022 Good Roads Conference | 11-Apr-22 | 8:45 AM | 9:00 AM | Canadian Room |
| Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario (Scheduled) | 11-Apr-22 | 9:00 AM | 9:10 AM | Canadian Room |
| Bruce Katz, The New Localism | 11-Apr-22 | 9:10 AM | 10:10 AM | Canadian Room |
| Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation | 11-Apr-22 | 10:10 AM | 10:30 AM | Canadian Room |
| Coffee Break/Time With Exhibitors - Sponsored by Stinson Owl-Lite | 11-Apr-22 | 10:30 AM | 11:00 AM | |
| Improve Your Funding Applications | 11-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Attracting and Retaining Top Talent to Your Community | 11-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| A Stronger Future: Affordable Energy in Ontario's North - Presented by the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers | 11-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Choosing the Right Asset Management Tool | 11-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Becoming a Truly Smart and Connected Community | 11-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Lunch | 11-Apr-22 | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | |
| Lunch & Learn: NWMO's Approach to Transportation Planning: A Process Guided by Indigenous, Social and Technical Science (Presented by NWMO) | 11-Apr-22 | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | |
| Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs | 11-Apr-22 | 1:15 PM | 1:25 PM | Canadian Room |
| Lisa Kimmel, Chair & CEO, Edelman Canada & Latin America | 11-Apr-22 | 1:25 PM | 2:10 PM | Canadian Room |
| Chief Cadmus Delorme | 11-Apr-22 | 2:10 PM | 2:35 PM | Canadian Room |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Panel: Truth & Reconciliation at the Municipal Level | 11-Apr-22 | 2:35 PM | 3:00 PM | Canadian Room |
| Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Official Opposition | 11-Apr-22 | 3:00 PM | 3:10 PM | Canadian Room |
| Ontario (Labour) v. Sudbury (City), 2021 | 11-Apr-22 | 3:10 PM | 4:05 PM | Canadian Room |
| Panel: The Future of Work | 11-Apr-22 | 4:05 PM | 4:45 PM | Canadian Room |
| Wrap Up | 11-Apr-22 | 4:45 PM | 4:50 PM | Canadian Room |
| Registration | 12-Apr-22 | 7:30 AM | 2:30 PM | Convention Level |
| Trade Show | 12-Apr-22 | 8:30 AM | 12:00 PM | |
| OGRA Annual General Meeting | 12-Apr-22 | 8:45 AM | 9:00 AM | Canadian Room |
| Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure | 12-Apr-22 | 9:00 AM | 9:10 AM | Canadian Room |
| Charles Marohn, Strong Towns | 12-Apr-22 | 9:10 AM | 10:10 AM | Canadian Room |
| Joanne Vanderheyden, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities | 12-Apr-22 | 10:10 AM | 10:20 AM | Canadian Room |
| Steven Del Duca, Leader, Ontario Liberal Party | 12-Apr-22 | 10:20 AM | 10:30 AM | Canadian Room |
| Coffee Break/Time With Exhibitors - Sponsored By TELUS FOCUS | 12-Apr-22 | 10:30 AM | 11:00 AM | |
| Open Streets | 12-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Cybersecurity: Protecting Your Municipality From Bad Actors | 12-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Developing a Vision Zero Speed Reduction Strategy | 12-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Ensuring Compliance with Regulation Deadlines | 12-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Collaboration for Community: The Harvie Road Crossing (Presented by Colliers Project Leaders) | 12-Apr-22 | 11:00 AM | 12:15 PM | |
| Lunch | 12-Apr-22 | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | |
| Lunch and Learn: Smart Roads AI Technology – Helping Municipalities Avoid Costly Claims and Hazards (Presented by IRIS Inc.) | 12-Apr-22 | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | |
| Hon. Stan Cho, Associate Minister of Transportation | 12-Apr-22 | 1:15 PM | 1:25 PM | Canadian Room |
| Smart Solutions Chamber | 12-Apr-22 | 1:25 PM | 2:15 PM | Canadian Room |
| Coffee Break (in concurrent session rooms) | 12-Apr-22 | 2:15 PM | 2:25 PM | |
| Green Infrastructure | 12-Apr-22 | 2:25 PM | 3:40 PM | |
| Extending Budgets and Improving Infrastructure Performance with Geosynthetics (Presented by Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc.) | 12-Apr-22 | 2:25 PM | 3:40 PM | |
| Project Bundling | 12-Apr-22 | 2:25 PM | 3:40 PM | |
| Smart Infrastructure for Resilient Communities | 12-Apr-22 | 2:25 PM | 3:40 PM | |
| Innovations in Asset Management | 12-Apr-22 | 2:25 PM | 3:40 PM | |
| Plenary Speaker TBD | 12-Apr-22 | 3:50 PM | 4:10 PM | Canadian Room |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Panel: Inequality and Road Violence | 12-Apr-22 | 4:10 PM | 4:45 PM | Canadian Room |
| Wrap Up | 12-Apr-22 | 4:45 PM | 4:50 PM | Canadian Room |
| Registration | 13-Apr-22 | 7:30 AM | 10:00 AM | Convention Level |
| Installation of OGRA President | 13-Apr-22 | 8:50 AM | 9:00 AM | Canadian Room |
| Mike Schreiner, Green Party Leader | 13-Apr-22 | 9:00 AM | 9:10 AM | Canadian Room |
| Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (Invited) | 13-Apr-22 | 9:10 AM | 9:30 AM | Canadian Room |
| What Comes After the Gas Tax? | 13-Apr-22 | 9:30 AM | 10:00 AM | Canadian Room |
| The Final Word Panel | 13-Apr-22 | 10:00 AM | 11:15 AM | Canadian Room |
| Closing Session | 13-Apr-22 | 11:15 AM | 11:30 AM | Canadian Room |

psdcitywide user group 2022

# Save the date!

PSD Citywide is hosting our annual User Group in 2022! This event will be a hybrid of in-person and virtual with educational presentations and workshops available for all participants. We will be closely monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to the in-person option of this conference.

**June 15th - 17th, 2022**
**in London, ON or virtual**

Stay tuned for more information.

**Rewatch Last Year's Sessions**

## Why attend User Group 2022

We host our annual User Group events to celebrate the advancements each year brings and as an opportunity to engage with our users, hear your feedback, and help you get the most out of your solutions. We want to showcase how technology can improve the lives of your community and make your day-to-day operations easier.

**At User Group 2022, you will:**

146

- See the newest enhancements to PSD Citywide modules
- Watch sessions to appeal to every department in your organization
- Participate from anywhere you have an internet connection
- Network virtually or in-person with like-minded people in the industry

**Have a topic you'd like us to cover? Reply to this email to submit your ideas.**



147

# cna2022

TOGETHER FOR NET ZERO

**april 12–14** Westin Hotel

New dates for CNA2022 announced!

The health and safety of participants is our top priority and will guide the planning and delivery of every part of CNA2022.

Our team has been closely monitoring the Omicron variant and all existing and emerging regulations, precautions and protocols both provincially and across Canada. As a result, we have decided to **reschedule the upcoming CNA Conference and Trade Show from our February dates to Tuesday, April 12 – Thursday, April 14, 2022**, in hopes that public health restrictions will allow us to meet in person.

To ensure the well-being of attendees, the CNA team is committed to adhering to all Canadian and local government laws, implementing appropriate health and safety measures in consultation with healthcare authorities and experts, and applying best practices as required at the date of the in-person event. We understand that these requirements may evolve, and we will ensure that all attendees are kept informed of any new developments ahead of the event.

We also understand the appetite to get together in person after all this time, and we will be taking that into consideration in our planning.

***

**CNA2022: Together for Net Zero.**

Canada has pledged to phase out coal by 2030, reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% to 45% below 2005 levels by 2030, create a net-zero electricity grid by 2035 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. This means that Canada will need to triple the amount of electricity it produces over the next thirty years. To address the climate emergency and meet growing energy demands, we need all available sources of clean energy – including nuclear energy. There is no realistic pathway to net-zero emissions by 2050 without nuclear. Net zero needs nuclear due to the scale of the challenge to decarbonize our

148

# cna2022

TOGETHER FOR NET ZERO

april 12–14 Westin Hotel

## Registration

**Full Conference - CNA Member**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| $895 | $1,075 | $1,245 |

In order for the member fee to apply, the registrant's organization must be a member of CNA at the time of the Conference.

**Full Conference - Non-Member**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| $1,190 | $1,365 | $1,480 |

**Full Conference - Government, Academia**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| $895 | $1,075 | $1,245 |

**Full Conference - CNA Member Young Professional**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| $490 | $565 | $650 |

WATCH CNA2021 VIDEOS

149

**Full Conference - Retiree, Student**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| **$315** | **$385** | **$495** |

**Welcome Reception Only (excluding Government)**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| **$230** | **$230** | **$285** |

**Bruce Power Supplier Forum Only**

| EARLY | REGULAR | LATE |
|---|---|---|
| **$230** | **$230** | **$285** |

**Welcome Reception - Government**

| EARLY |
|---|
| **$195** |

**Pre-Conference Seminar - Member Attendee**

| EARLY |
|---|
| **$150** |

As of March 14, 2022 the remaining seats in the seminar will be open to all other registration categories and/or unregistered conference participants wishing to attend, until the room capacity has been reached.

Registration is now open! Click here to register today.

**Please note**: All registrations for the February event date will be carried over for the rescheduled event dates of April 12-14, 2022. If you have any questions, please email us at conference@cna.ca.

CNA2022 Registration Terms and Conditions must be agreed to prior to registering and is available here.

***

**Payment Terms**

To qualify for the **Early Bird** fee, registration and payment must be received by CNA by December 20, 2021, 5:00 pm (EST).

To qualify for the **Regular** fee, register by March 21, 2022, 5:00 pm (EST) and payment is received between December 20, 2021, 5:01 pm (EST) and March 21, 2022, 5:00 pm (EST).

The **Late** Registration fee will apply to all payments received after March 21, 2022, 5:00 pm (EST).

***

**Pre-Conference Seminars**

Attendance at the pre-Conference Seminars is first and foremost a benefit for employees of CNA member companies who are fully registered for CNA2022. As of March 14, 2022 the remaining seats in the seminars will be open to all other registration

economies. Nuclear can provide the clean electricity needed to decarbonize electricity grids and power the electrification of transportation and buildings. It also has the potential to decarbonize heat and power in Canada's industrial sectors. CNA2022 will bring together industry experts to explore and advance nuclear's role as an essential partner in achieving Canada's climate targets and reaching Net Zero.

***

# Program

Program subject to change.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022

| | |
|---|---|
| **12:00 - 20:30** | Conference and Trade Show Registration |
| **13:00 - 16:00** | Public Affairs Seminar |
| **13:00 - 16:00** | Regulatory Affairs Seminar |
| **14:00 - 16:00** | Bruce Power Suppliers Forum |
| **15:00 - 20:30** | Opening of the CNA Trade Show |
| **18:00 - 20:30** | Welcome Reception |

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022

# Registration

Registration is now open. Click here to register today!

economies. Nuclear can provide the clean electricity needed to decarbonize electricity grids and power the electrification of transportation and buildings. It also has the potential to decarbonize heat and power in Canada's industrial sectors. CNA2022 will bring together industry experts to explore and advance nuclear's role as an essential partner in achieving Canada's climate targets and reaching Net Zero.

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# Program

Program subject to change.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022

| | |
|---|---|
| **07:30 - 08:30** | Breakfast and Introductory Remarks |
| **08:30 - 08:45** | Opening Prayer |
| **08:45 - 09:00** | Welcome Remarks from CNA Board Chair and CNA President and CEO |
| **09:00 - 09:15** | Minister of Natural Resources (invited) |
| **09:15 - 09:45** | Keynote Speaker followed by Fireside Chat |
| **09:45 - 10:30** | Refreshment Break |
| **10:30 - 11:30** | Panel Discussion |
| **11:30 - 12:00** | Fireside Chat: Jill Baker in conversation with JP Gladu |
| **12:00 - 14:00** | Lunch and Keynote |
| **14:00 - 15:00** | Nuclear Industry Executive Panel |
| **15:00 - 15:45** | Refreshment Break |
| **15:45 - 16:15** | Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Update |
| **16:15 - 17:15** | Panel Discussion: SMRs |
| **17:15 - 19:30** | Trade Show Reception and Prize Draw |

152

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THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022

| | |
|---|---|
| **07:30 - 08:00** | Breakfast |
| **08:00 - 09:00** | Panel Discussion: Supply Chain |
| **09:00 - 10:00** | Panel Discussion: Innovation |
| **10:00 - 10:30** | Refreshment Break |
| **10:30 - 11:30** | Panel Discussion: Pathways to Net-Zero |
| **11:30 - 12:00** | Ontario Minister of Energy: The Honourable Todd Smith |
| **12:00 - 13:00** | Lunch |

# Registration

153

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The Late Registration fee will apply to all payments received after March 21, 2022, 5:00 pm (EST).

# Sponsors

Click here for CNA2022 sponsorship opportunities and contact us today!

**URANIUM**

BrucePower
Innovation at work

**PLATINUM**

ONTARIOPOWER GENERATION

**DIAMOND**

HITACHI

154

# cna2022

TOGETHER FOR NET ZERO

**april 12–14** Westin Hotel

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155

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022

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The Late Registration fee will apply to all payments received after March 21, 2022, 5:00 pm (EST).

156


# Accommodations

## Hotel Reservation Information

**The Westin Ottawa**
11 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1N 8S7
Tel.: (613) 560-7000 or 1-800-937-8461
Fax: (613) 234-5396

****Hotel Notification regarding CNA2022 Rescheduling**: For those with hotel reservations within the CNA group block for the February event dates, please note that all reservations within the block have been cancelled by the hotel directly. Guests will not receive a cancellation email regarding their hotel cancellation, however, if guests are BonVoy members, you will see the cancellation via the mobile app.

A **NEW** block of rooms has been set aside at Westin Ottawa Hotel at a special conference rate of $235 single/double occupancy, plus taxes and fees for a traditional room; deluxe rooms are $285 per night and suites start at $389. Your hotel accommodation can be booked directly with the Westin Ottawa, by either:

1) Linking to the hotel's online reservation system: Canadian Nuclear Association.

2) Or by calling the Central Reservations Systems toll free number (1-888-627-8528) and **requesting the Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA) group block** to ensure that you receive the special conference rate.

Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card and must be received no later than March 14, 2022 to receive the special conference rate. Reservations are subject to availability.

A non-refundable deposit equal to one night's room and tax will be charged to the credit card on file on March 7, 2022, for those that have used the conference rate and have a reservation.

**Please note:** any multiple reservations with duplicate names will be released on February 18, 2022, therefore please ensure that individual guest names are used for booking prior to this date.

# Deposits, Changes and Cancellations to Reservations

***SCAM ALERT:*** *If you are contacted by Exhibitor Housing Services to book your room for the CNA conference please note The Westin Ottawa and the CNA conference planners are NOT affiliated in any way with this company. The CNA does not utilize a housing service.*

Cancellations to reservations must be received **before March 7, 2022.** Following this deadline all reservations will be charged a non-refundable deposit equal to one night's room and tax. Each subsequent night may be cancelled at no penalty until 4pm of your arrival day. Please note all changes and/or cancellations to reservations are the responsibility of the individual guest and

**To:** Lynda Colby <clerk@ignace.ca>
**Subject:** Municipal Energy Symposium - Registration is Open



Association of Municipalities Ontario

January 19, 2022

# Registration is Open

## AMO – LAS Virtual Municipal Energy Symposium
## March 31st & April 1st, 2022

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Local Authority Services (LAS) ***Municipal Energy Symposium*** will be held virtually March 31st and April 1st, 2022.

This in demand event will bring thought leaders, municipal experts and key stakeholders together for action on energy, climate change and planning in a post-COP26 world.

The Symposium will dig into energy generation, consumption and the ever-evolving impact of climate change on Ontario's communities and explore catalysts for change on some of the most pressing issues of our time.

Don't miss this important opportunity to rethink your municipal operations and strategies.

Register today.

### Call for Proposals

New to the 2022 ***Municipal Energy Symposium*** is an opportunity for municipalities and stakeholders to showcase your innovation and initiative in addressing the issues to be explored and how they have been applied to daily operations.

AMO and LAS are asking municipalities, partner organizations and key stakeholders to be a part of supporting municipal colleagues as they look for practical solutions for addressing energy consumption, climate change and planning as intersections for change.

Sales promotions will not be considered.

All submissions will be reviewed by the **Municipal Energy Symposium Planning Committee.**

**Submissions**

The deadline to submit proposals is **February 4, 2022**

For more information and to submit your proposal click here

## Sponsorship Opportunities

The ***Municipal Energy Symposium*** will attract elected officials, senior staff, and decision makers from across Ontario who are looking for solutions in addressing municipal energy and climate change issues. If your company can be part of providing solutions to municipalities in planning for the future and addressing daily operations, a sponsorship opportunity to get your services front and centre is available for you. For more information, contact AMO's Training and Events Coordinator, **Christine Gallagher at cgallagher@amo.on.ca**.

Questions? Contact events@amo.on.ca

-------- Original message --------
From: "Radwastereview / Examendechetsradioactifs (NRCAN/RNCAN)" <radwastereview-examendechetsradioactifs@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca>
Date: 2022-02-01 3:20 p.m. (GMT-06:00)
To: sdeon@deepriver.ca, skinnerb@pinawa.com, mayor@kincardine.ca, mayor@porthope.ca, mayor@clarington.net, mayor@pickering.ca, chair@durham.ca, warden@brucecounty.on.ca, jjackson@brucecounty.on.ca, MMeade@brucecounty.on.ca, mayor@saintjohn.ca, donna.reardon@saintjohn.ca, lallard@ville.becancour.qc.ca, mayor@laurentianhills.ca, RBuckle@brucecounty.on.ca, Penny Lucas <plucas@ignace.ca>, gglover@kincardine.ca, "Foster, Adrian" <mayorfoster@clarington.net>, "MacLean, Justin" <JMacLean@clarington.net>, "Allison, Andrew" <AAllison@clarington.net>, John Henry <John.Henry@durham.ca>, Patricia Nokes <Patricia.Nokes@durham.ca>, Donna Van Wyck <dvanwyck@brucecounty.on.ca>, Christine Drimmie <Christine.Drimmie@Durham.ca>, Michael Kirkpatrick <MKirkpatrick@brucecounty.on.ca>, "Burke, Amy" <ABurke@clarington.net>, "Pickles, David, Councillor" <dpickles@pickering.ca>, Carly Craig <cacraig@kincardine.ca>, Sharon Chambers <schambers@kincardine.ca>, r.ludwig@estevan.ca
Cc: "Radwastereview / Examendechetsradioactifs (NRCAN/RNCAN)" <radwastereview-examendechetsradioactifs@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca>, "Delaney, Jim" <jim.delaney@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca>, "Wilkinson, David" <david.wilkinson@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca>, "Yuen, Pui Wai" <puiwai.yuen@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca>
Subject: Release of a Draft Modernized Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning / Publication de l'ébauche de la Politique modernisée en matière de gestion des déchets radioactifs et de déclassement

***Le français suit...***

Dear all,

We hope you are all well and healthy. We would like to share with you the news below we recently provided to our subscribers on the posting of our draft policy for public comment and the final What We Heard Report. This is an important milestone. Please distribute this message within your network and with those who participated in the roundtable on modernizing Canada's radioactive waste policy we held in early 2021.

We look forward to receiving your written comments on the draft policy. Thank you for your continued participation in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

NRCan Radioactive Waste Policy Review Engagement Team

Good afternoon,

Thank you for taking an interest in modernizing Canada's radioactive waste policy.

During a public engagement period of November 2020 to May 2021, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) connected with a wide range of organizations, Indigenous peoples, and interested Canadians. We wanted to hear from them directly on how they would like to be engaged in modernizing Canada's radioactive waste policy and what they would like to see in a modernized policy. NRCan has led the engagement sessions with the support of other federal government departments with responsibilities for the management of radioactive waste in Canada.

We invite you to read the final What We Heard report, which is reflective of what we heard from interested participants throughout the engagement process. This report sets out the context for the management of radioactive waste and decommissioning in Canada, the oversight regime that applies, and the main points of feedback we heard on modernizing Canada's policy for radioactive waste management and decommissioning. You can find the comments received on the forums and other feedback received from Canadians on the What We Heard webpage. We received views on:

- values and principles to modernize the policy
- the roles and responsibilities of government, the regulator, industry and others
- Canadians' perspectives for the policy as it relates to several topics, including radioactive waste minimization, storage, decommissioning, and disposal

After taking into account the views of participants in the process, and considering international standards based on the best available science, we have drafted a modernized policy. We now seek your written feedback on the draft Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning. The public comment period will be 60 days, from February 1, 2022 to April 2, 2022.

The draft Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning comprises a set of policy principles for radioactive waste management and decommissioning that sets out the federal government's direction. These principles advance three key federal commitments:

- health, safety, security and protection of the environment
- openness, transparency and public engagement
- global excellence in the fields of radioactive waste management and decommissioning

We want to establish a modernized policy so that Canada can continue to meet international standards based on the best available science, while also reflecting the values and principles of Canadians. Your views are a vital part of the process, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Please visit the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website for other information on this initiative, including timelines.

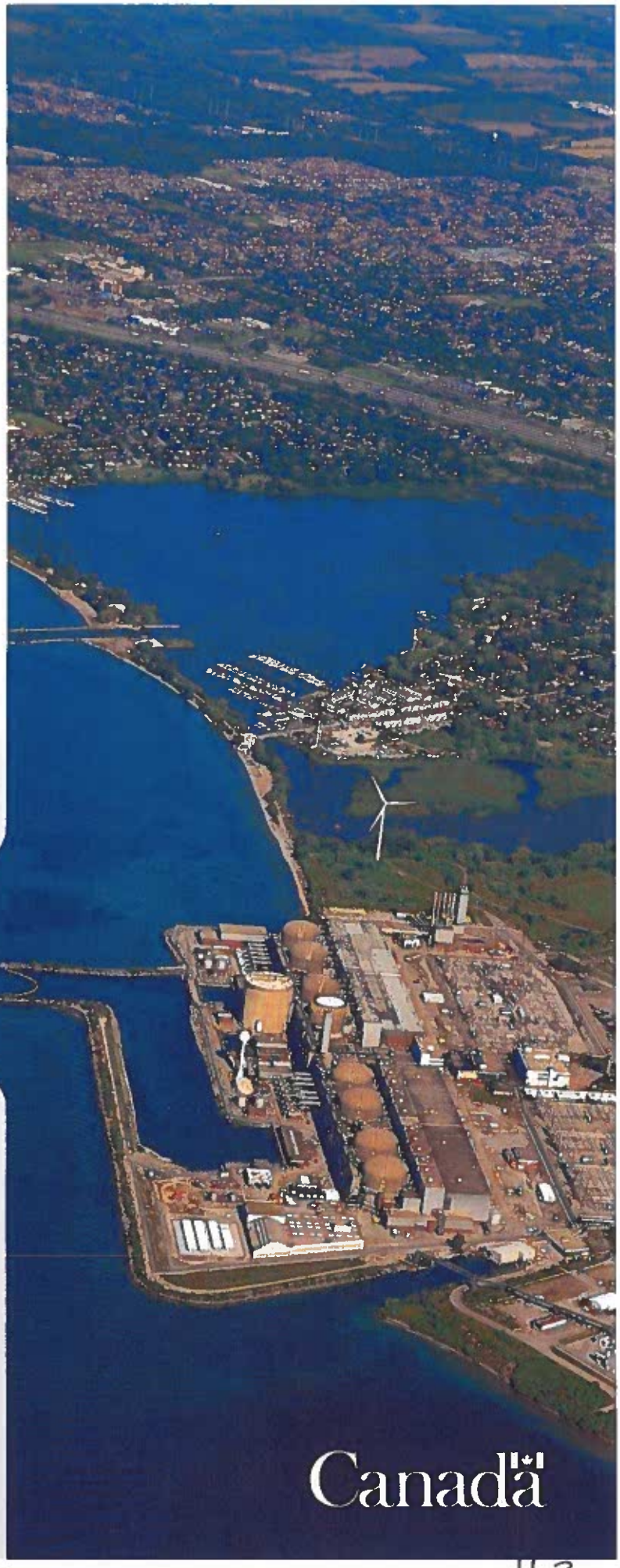
We look forward to your continued participation in the review and modernization of Canada's radioactive waste policy.

Sincerely,

NRCan Radioactive Waste Policy Review Engagement Team

Natural Resources Canada | Ressources naturelles Canada

# What We Heard: Modernizing Canada's Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning



Canada

*Aussi disponible en français sous le titre :* Ce que nous avons entendu : Modernisation de la politique canadienne en matière de gestion des déchets radioactifs et de déclassement

Cat. No. M4-217/2-2022E-PDF (Online) / ISBN 978-0-660-41732-5

# Table of Contents

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Review and Modernization of Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy

On November 16, 2020, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources launched the process to review and modernize Canada's policy for radioactive waste. The objectives of this initiative are to:

- elaborate on the existing radioactive waste policy, and to provide clearer direction and greater leadership on radioactive waste management;
- stimulate and facilitate progress on the safe, effective and environmentally acceptable management of radioactive waste in Canada; and
- continue to meet international standards based on best available science, and to reflect the values and principles of Canadians.

Protecting the health, safety and security of Canadians and the environment is the Government of Canada's top priority when it comes to nuclear energy and radioactive waste. To this end, we are committed to continuous improvement with respect to ensuring that safe solutions are in place for managing radioactive waste and decommissioning for generations to come.

All radioactive waste in Canada is currently being safely managed and regulated in compliance with Canadian legislation and according to international standards at facilities that are licensed by our independent nuclear regulator—the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

The review and modernization of Canada's radioactive waste policy is applicable to all of Canada's existing and future radioactive waste, including waste that arises from normal operations and from emergency scenarios. This report sets out the context for the management of radioactive waste and decommissioning in Canada, the oversight regime that applies, and the main points of feedback that we received on modernizing Canada's policy for radioactive waste.

## 1.2 Canada's Evolving Landscape

Canada is a different place today as compared to 1996, when the Policy Framework for Radioactive Waste was created, and much has changed over the years. Interested Canadians, such as Indigenous peoples, members of public interest groups, people living in nuclear host communities and those involved in industry are seeking more policy clarity and transparency for continuing to manage radioactive waste and decommissioning in a responsible, safe, secure and environmentally friendly way.

Looking at the nuclear industry and the evolving Canadian society, we can point to some changes that make the context for a modernized radioactive waste policy different today:

> **Climate Change** | Climate change has emerged as perhaps the single most important global policy issue, affecting every country, and every sector of society. Moreover, climate change is not a theoretical concept: the effects are real and happening now, with extreme weather and disruptions to social and economic activity already taking a toll on Canadians. How we think about nuclear energy and radioactive waste must be understood in the context of climate

change, the use of nuclear energy as an emissions-free source of energy, and efforts to decarbonize energy production.

**Indigenous Involvement** | The Government of Canada is deeply committed to advancing reconciliation and a renewed relationship with Indigenous peoples, based on the recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership. No relationship is more important to Canada than the one with Indigenous peoples. As laws and policies are developed and reviewed, Canada recognizes that Indigenous perspectives and rights must be respected.

**Openness, Transparency and Public Engagement** | Societal expectations, modern environmental standards, data management and communications have evolved, and today's citizens expect a degree of engagement and transparency greater than what was expected at the time of the 1996 Policy Framework.

**Aging Infrastructure** | Canada's principal nuclear infrastructure is aging and reaching a point where planned life extension programs are needed to extend the safe operating life of the facilities for another generation, which means that considerations around refurbishment (which can extend the life of some facilities), decommissioning and disposal have greater importance. The decommissioning of older infrastructure facilities that are to be closed will require better understanding regarding timing, preferred approaches, and the availability of waste management infrastructure.

**New Technologies** | New technologies, particularly Small Modular Reactors, have the potential to transform the future of what nuclear energy could look like. While not in place in Canada now, these technologies may reorder how we think about and manage radioactive waste across Canada, including in regions that do not currently have nuclear power. This could challenge existing radioactive waste management models that are based on a small number of large nuclear generating sites.

# 2. Canada's Radioactive Waste

Source: Western Waste Management Facility, Ontario Power Generation

**What is radioactive waste?**

Radioactive waste consists of a gas, liquid, sludge or solid that has been declared as waste and contains a nuclear substance in excess of the clearance or exemption criteria, and is without foreseeable use.

Radioactive waste has been produced in Canada since the early 1930s, when the first radium mine in Canada began operating at Port Radium in the Northwest Territories. At present, it is generated in Canada from a variety of activities, including the following: uranium mining, milling, refining and conversion; nuclear fuel fabrication; nuclear reactor operations; nuclear research; industrial applications; medical applications that support life-saving procedures; facility decommissioning; and the remediation of contaminated sites. Canada's approach to radioactive waste management is founded upon the Government of Canada's 1996 Radioactive Waste Policy Framework.

## 2.1 The 1996 Radioactive Waste Policy Framework

Canada's Policy Framework for Radioactive Waste (1996), which is the subject of this review and modernization initiative, consists of a set of principles governing radioactive waste management and the institutional and financial arrangements for disposal of radioactive waste by waste producers and owners. It reads as follows:

- The federal government will ensure that radioactive waste disposal is carried out in a safe, environmentally sound, comprehensive, cost-effective and integrated manner.
- The federal government has the responsibility to develop policy, to regulate, and to oversee producers and owners to ensure that they comply with legal requirements and meet their funding and operational responsibilities in accordance with approved waste disposal plans.
- The waste producers and owners are responsible, in accordance with the principle of "polluter pays," for the funding, organization, management, and operation of disposal and other facilities required for their wastes. This recognizes that arrangements may be different for nuclear fuel waste, low-level radioactive waste and uranium mine and mill tailings.

The Policy Framework is supported by primary pieces of legislation that govern the management of radioactive waste in Canada:

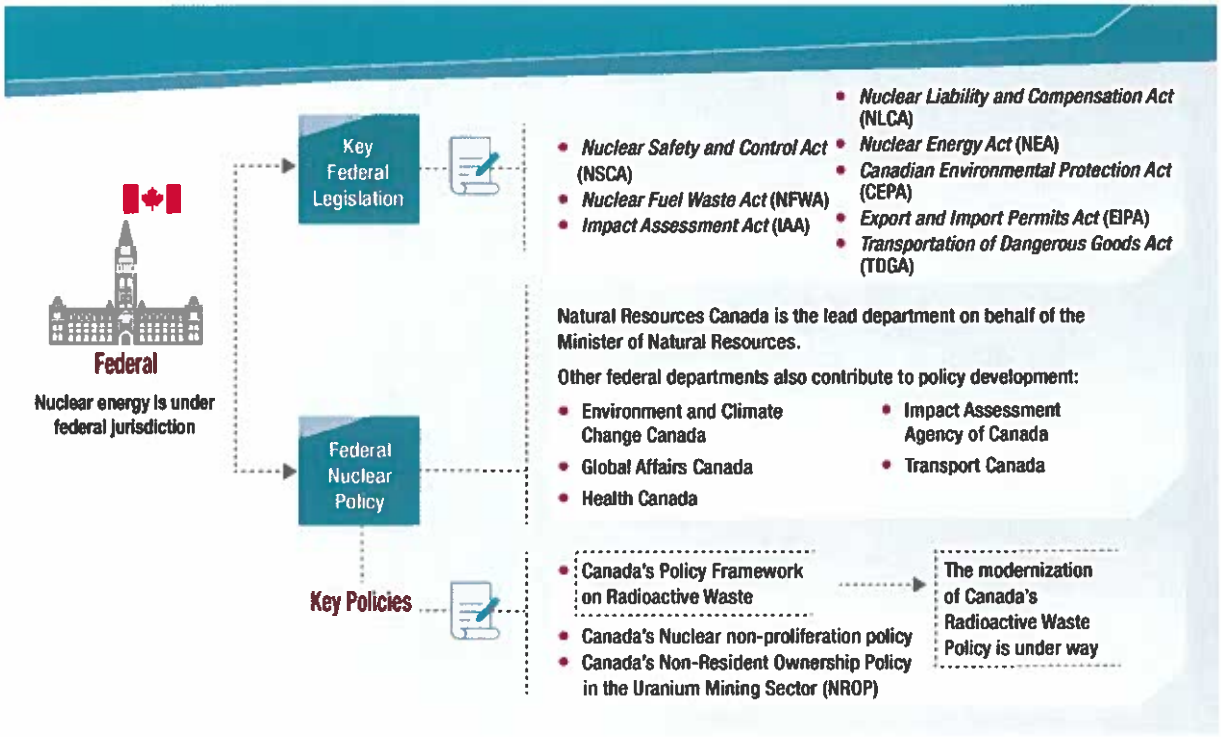
- the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, which sets out the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's mandate, responsibilities and powers;
- the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*, which provides the framework for progress on a long-term strategy for the management of nuclear fuel waste, and led to the establishment of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, a not-for profit agency responsible for designing and implementing Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel; and
- the *Impact Assessment Act* (and previously, the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, 2012, now repealed), which, while not being specific to radioactive waste management, establishes the legislative basis for the federal impact assessment process.

Other key pieces of federal legislation pertaining to nuclear energy include:

- the *Nuclear Liability and Compensation Act*, which establishes a compensation and liability regime in the unlikely event of a nuclear accident resulting in civil injury and damages. Nuclear fuel waste processing, nuclear fuel waste management and radioactive waste management facilities are all designated installations under the NLCA, each facility with a liability limit proportional to its respective risk. Operators have absolute and exclusive liability for any third-party damages resulting from an incident, and are required to maintain adequate financial security to meet their respective liability limits.
- the *Nuclear Energy Act*, which addresses the development and use of nuclear energy in Canada;
- the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA), whose primary purpose is to protect the environment, and the health and well-being of Canadians. A major part of the Act deals

with sustainable development, pollution prevention, and enabling instruments to prevent the release of dangerous chemical substances, such as radioactive waste, into the environment. The Act enables federal programs and includes activities related to: air and water pollution, hazardous waste, greenhouse gas emissions; ocean disposal; and environmental emergencies;

- the *Export and Import Permits Act*, which pertains to the export, transfer and brokering of goods and technology, and the import of goods; and
- the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992*, promotes public safety in the transportation of dangerous goods, and includes references to nuclear substances that are regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.




## 2.2 Federal Organizations

In Canada, while the decision to invest in electric generation rests with the provinces and territories, constitutionally nuclear energy falls within the jurisdiction of the federal government. The federal government's role encompasses Research and Development (R&D), as well as the regulation of all nuclear materials and activities in Canada. A number of federal organizations have different areas of responsibility in leading policy, regulating industry, environmental protection, and nuclear security, health, and safety:

**Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)** is the lead government department responsible for developing and implementing federal nuclear energy policy across the nuclear supply chain, from uranium mining to the final disposition of waste. It administers and oversees the

*Nuclear Fuel Waste Act*. NRCan also provides expert technical, policy and economic information and advice to the Minister of Natural Resources and the Government of Canada on issues regarding radioactive waste.

The **Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)** is Canada's nuclear regulator. It is responsible for the following: regulating the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment; implementing Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy; and disseminating objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public. More specifically, it regulates all radioactive waste management facilities and activities, including, as applicable, the generation, handling, processing, transport, storage and disposal of radioactive waste. The Commission is an independent entity that reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources. The Minister has no role in CNSC decision making; the decisions made by the CNSC are reviewable by the Federal Court of Canada.

**Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL)** is a Crown corporation whose sole shareholder is the Government of Canada. It reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources. Its mandate is to enable nuclear science and technology, and to manage the federal government's decommissioning and radioactive waste liabilities.

In addition, several federal departments have important roles to play in contributing to federal nuclear policy, managing aspects of the nuclear industry, managing radioactive waste, and protecting people and the environment. These include:

**Environment and Climate Change Canada**: protects and conserves our natural heritage; ensures a clean, safe and sustainable environment for present and future generations; preserves, enhances and protects the natural environment (water, air, soil, flora, fauna, species at risk and migratory birds). Provides expertise to NRCan and the CNSC on radioactive waste matters to ensure environmental protection and compliance with regulatory requirements.

**Global Affairs Canada**: manages Canada's relationship with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is the lead government department responsible for nuclear non-proliferation policy, and ensures that Canada upholds its international legal obligations (e.g., Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management; Additional Protocol with the IAEA).

**Health Canada**: in the area of radiation protection, Health Canada contributes to maintaining and improving the health of Canadians by investigating and managing the risks from natural and artificial sources of radiation.

**Impact Assessment Agency of Canada**: is responsible for administering the *Impact Assessment Act*, the primary federal legislation that defines the requirements for assessing the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of proposed projects.

**Transport Canada**: Transport Canada's mission is to serve the public interest through the promotion of a safe and secure, efficient and environmentally responsible transportation system in Canada. Its oversight covers the transportation of dangerous goods, including nuclear substances such as radioactive waste.

## 2.3 Canada's Plan for Nuclear Fuel Waste

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is a not-for-profit organization established in 2002 by Canada's nuclear electricity producers in accordance with the *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act* (NFWA).

Funded in trust by Ontario Power Generation, the New Brunswick Power Corporation, Hydro-Québec and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, the NWMO is responsible for designing and implementing Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

This plan, known as **Adaptive Phased Management**, requires used fuel to be contained and isolated in a deep geological repository in an area with suitable geology and an informed and willing host. It calls for a comprehensive solution that is socially acceptable, technically sound, environmentally responsible and economically feasible for Canadians. It also involves the development of a transportation system to move the used fuel from the facilities where it is currently stored to the new site.

APM emerged from a three-year dialogue with both scientific specialists and the general public. It is consistent with long-term management best practices adopted by other countries with nuclear power programs, such as Finland, France, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

**Nuclear Fuel Waste Trust Funds**

The *Nuclear Fuel Waste Act* requires Canada's nuclear electricity producers to establish trust funds to finance the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. These funds will accumulate and may only be used for the purpose of implementing the management approach selected by the Government of Canada, once a construction or operating licence has been issued under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.

Each year, the NWMO makes public the audited financial statements of the trust funds when they are provided by the financial institutions. At the end of 2020, trust fund balances were at $5.4 billion. The NWMO's Annual Report provides the latest numbers, projections and financial reports.

The federal government selected APM as Canada's plan in June 2007. The NWMO is now responsible for implementing APM, subject to all necessary regulatory approvals.

## 2.4 Radioactive Waste Management: Canada's International Commitments

Canada is a member country of both the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the two foremost international organizations that deal with the safe use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

### Joint Convention

Canada is a signatory of the *Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management*. This Joint Convention is an international agreement governing all

aspects of spent fuel and radioactive waste management, and is the first legally binding international treaty on safety in these areas. It fosters an international approach to spent fuel and radioactive waste management, and encourages the sharing of expertise in these areas.

The Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention have made a commitment to apply stringent safety measures, to prepare a national report on the measures applied, and to submit it for review by the other Contracting Parties. In addition, they will actively participate in the review meetings of the Contracting Parties. The peer review process for each signatory occurs every three years. The IAEA website provides reports from the 6th Review Meeting 2018, as examples of past reports from Canada and other countries.

The objectives of the Joint Convention are to:

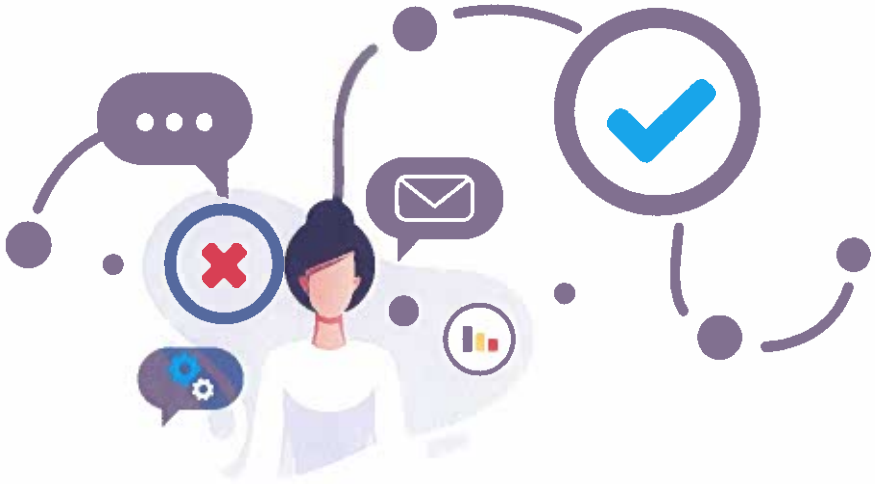
- achieve and maintain a high level of safety worldwide in spent fuel and radioactive waste management
- ensure that there are effective defences against potential hazards in the course of such activities
- prevent accidents with radiological consequences and mitigate these consequences should they occur at any stage of spent fuel or radioactive waste management

The Joint Convention applies to:

- spent fuel arising from the operation of civilian nuclear reactors
- radioactive waste arising from civilian applications
- uranium mining and milling wastes
- discharges from regulated activities
- specific provisions on disused sealed sources

The IAEA serves as the Secretariat for the Joint Convention. The responsibility of implementing the obligations of the Convention on behalf of the Government of Canada has been delegated to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

# 3. What We Did – Inclusive Engagement

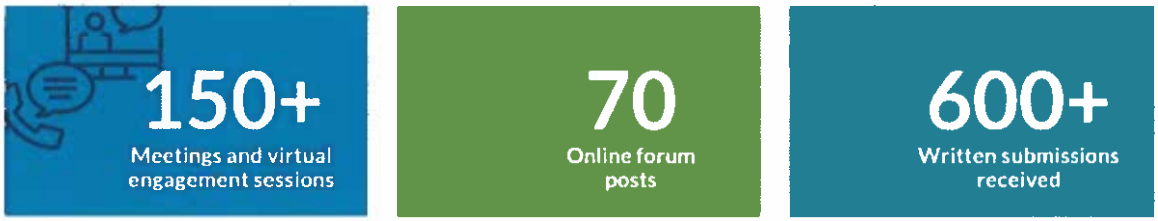


## 3.1 The Process to Date

Engagement with interested Canadians on modernizing Canada's radioactive waste policy took place virtually from the Fall of 2020 to the Spring of 2021 through various online forums and activities, and by telephone. The engagement approach was designed to help ensure public safety during the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Engagement activities were led by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) with the support of federal departments that have responsibilities for radioactive waste in Canada. The avenues of engagement were:

- An online engagement and policy modernization website at http://www.radwastereview.ca/ featuring discussion papers on key topics, including waste minimization, waste storage facilities, decommissioning and waste disposal, and an open forum available to all Canadians to suggest ideas and discuss topics.
- Written submissions from individuals and organizations—NRCan received over 600 written submissions and 70 online forum posts, which are available for review at http://www.radwastereview.ca/.
- A series of over 150 meetings and virtual engagement sessions, including 24 round tables, with participants from organizations such as environmental and public interest groups, interested citizens, Indigenous peoples, the industry sector, other levels of government, youth, and academics.

How you joined our discussion




This report presents the main points of feedback received throughout the entire engagement process, from November 16, 2020 to May 31, 2021. During the engagement process, NRCan also prepared two Engagement Summary reports, both published on the policy modernization website. These reports provide a summary of feedback received at different stages of the engagement process (from November 16, 2020 to February 19, 2021, and from February 20 to May 14, 2021, respectively). This final report builds on those points of feedback, as well as capturing views from written submissions, emails and online discussion forums.

We received comments and feedback on a wide range of issues, some of which are more or less relevant to modernizing Canada's radioactive waste policy. Some comments touched on elements of policy implementation, waste management, and other aspects of nuclear waste. We have included this wide range of feedback as it is instructive beyond the limited scope of the policy modernization exercise itself.

## 3.2 The Process: Next Steps

The engagement period was designed for NRCan and other federal departments to hear the views and input of interested parties on a wide range of topics, and to help guide us in modernizing the existing radioactive waste policy. Based on this feedback, NRCan has prepared a draft Policy on Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning and is interested in receiving your written comments and feedback.

- As of the publication date of this report, the draft Policy for Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning is available on the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website for public comment. All Canadians, including Indigenous peoples and representatives of organizations are invited to provide input.

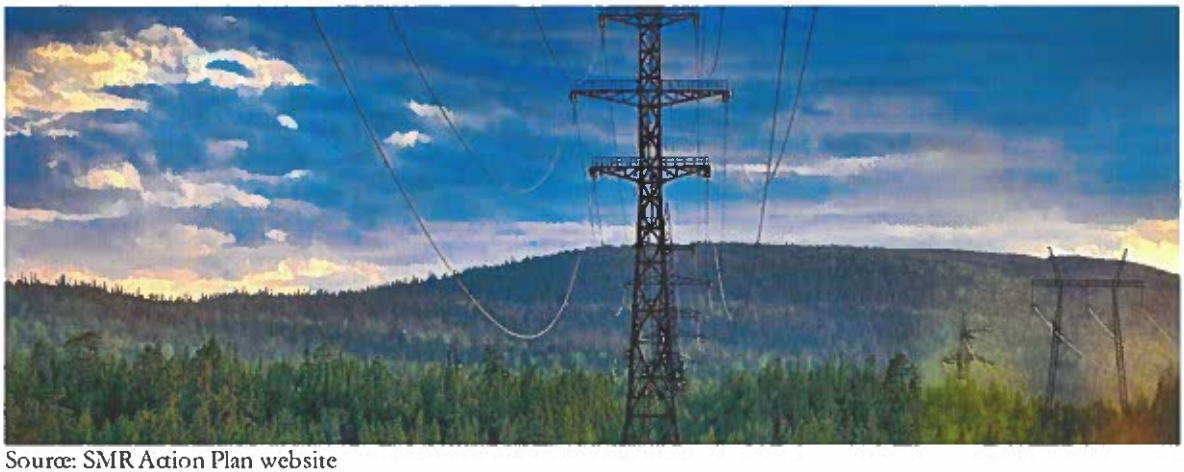
Following the comment period, NRCan plans to finalize the policy in 2022.

# 4. What We Heard: Summary of Major Points of Feedback

***The feedback in this report is reflective of what we heard from interested participants throughout the engagement process, but does not reflect policy direction or Natural Resources Canada's intent.***

*The Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website features the full text of all written submissions received during the engagement process, as well as summaries of feedback from roundtable discussions. Readers interested in seeing more detail are encouraged to review those sources.*

## 4.1 High-Level Feedback



Source: SMR Action Plan website

*Role of Nuclear Energy in Canada's Energy Mix*

While the subject of the engagement process was the management of radioactive waste, this of course included a discussion of the role and value of nuclear energy and nuclear products (e.g., emissions-free energy, medical isotopes, research). High-level questions about whether Canada should have a nuclear industry and/or what type of nuclear industry Canada should have are outside of the scope of this exercise. However, since we heard views and perspectives on these topics, they have been included. In this regard, we heard a wide range of differing views, and it is important for opposing views to be acknowledged, on this subject as well as others. On the one hand, we heard from those who view nuclear energy, and the expansion of the industry into the next generation, as a powerful force for social good, particularly as a non-emitting energy

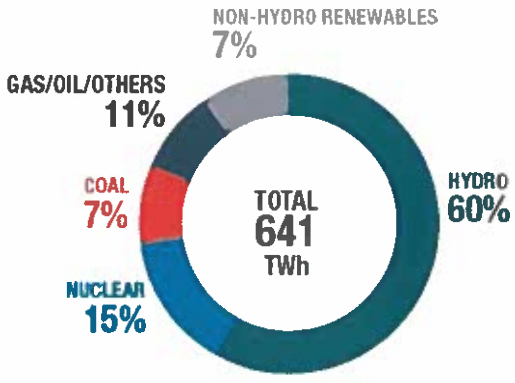



*Figure 1 Electricity Generation by Source, 2018, NRCan Energy Fact Book*

source in the era of climate change. Nuclear energy offers benefits to many Canadians today, and some participants view its role as positive, and see a clear role for nuclear energy in the years to come.

**Uranium and Nuclear Energy in Canada**

After raw uranium is mined and milled, it is processed to make fuel for nuclear reactors to generate electricity.

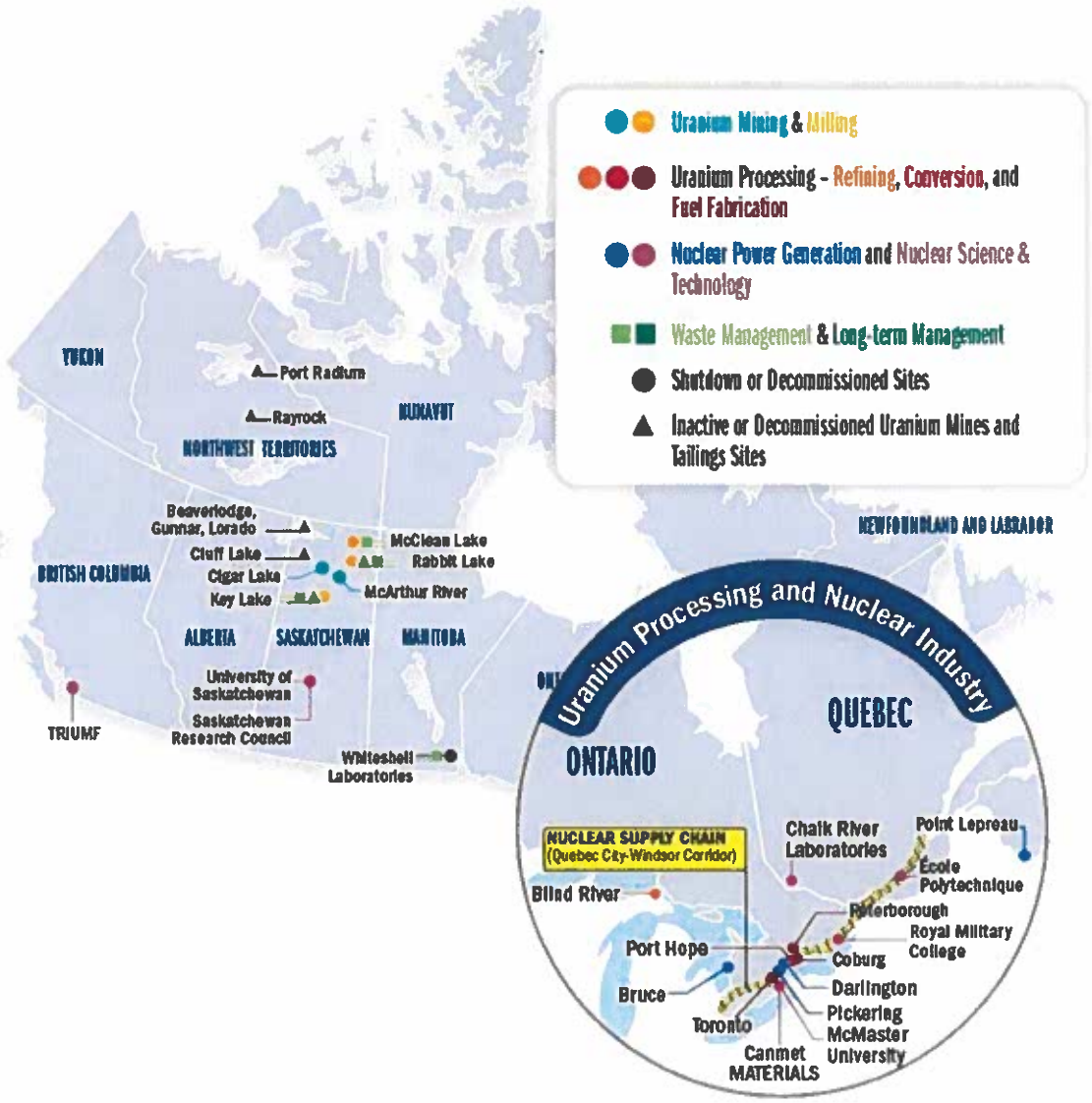
Nuclear technologies are a major part of the Canadian landscape. Canada has a strong nuclear science and technology presence, covering research and development activities, production and use of isotopes for medical and industrial applications, and nuclear power stations that operate in Ontario and New Brunswick. Uranium mining, refining and fuel fabrication steps are completed in Saskatchewan and Ontario.

**Key facts**

- Canada is one of the largest producers and exporters of uranium in the world, and was responsible for 13% of global production in 2019.
- Nuclear power generation accounted for approximately 15% of Canada's electricity in 2018. Nuclear power is a source of energy that does not emit greenhouse gases.
- Under Canada's nuclear non-proliferation policy, Canadian uranium may be used only for peaceful purposes.

These respondents told us that radioactive waste is indeed a regrettable feature of the industry, but expressed confidence that the risks can be managed effectively, and that future technologies will help us do an even better job of minimizing waste generation and managing waste. Some people suggested that other forms of energy have inherent health and environmental risks and challenges, and that some of these contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, but are not subjected to such a rigorous management regime. We heard that the policy should clearly take into consideration the nuclear context, especially as it relates to climate change, and should make it clear that radioactive waste is not the sole output of nuclear energy generation, and that several societal benefits exceed the risks.

On the other hand, we heard from people who have concerns about the industry as a whole, and who believe that the best solution is to declare a moratorium on all nuclear development and to wind down existing nuclear generation facilities. These respondents felt that the risks of radioactive waste are simply too great to bear and that, in order to keep radioactive waste contained and isolated from the biosphere, these risks need to be managed over a very long period. We heard that the current practice is creating an unfair burden for future generations. There were also those who expressed doubts about the existing safety and security regimes, and about our ability to manage these risks over the very long term since, of course, no evidence of managing radioactive waste over hundreds of years exists. It was suggested that Canada should convene a national debate on the role of nuclear energy to decide on its course for the next generation.




*Scope of the Policy*

We heard expectations that the modernized radioactive waste management policy should elaborate on principles, roles and responsibilities, and should account for changes that are under way now and those that are likely to occur over the next several years. In other words, the respondents were expressing that the policy should not be written in a way that stifles the adoption of new approaches or technologies (provided that they are safe and effective). We heard that the policy should provide a strong framework, but should not try to be prescriptive about specific practices, especially as the context for those practices may well change. In addition, with respect to scope, participants expressed the view that Canada's new policy should be broad, and not limited to just energy generation and subsequent waste. This means being inclusive of radioactive wastes from uranium mining and milling, storage, transportation, decommissioning, disposal, and other steps in the chain.

Flexibility was a concept that entered the discussion repeatedly. Participants want to see a policy that is nimble and results-oriented, more than just a set of inflexible rules.

*Inclusion and Public Engagement*

Views were expressed that Canada should have a policy and regulatory environment based on inclusion and engagement of a broad set of interested parties with a stake in radioactive waste management. We heard that a wide range of groups and individuals would like to play some sort of role, and would like to see policy guidance on how that should work.

**Joint Engagement Table**

During the engagement process, NRCan convened two Joint Engagement Tables (JETs), which brought together stakeholders and interested parties representing industry, Indigenous communities, academia, public interest groups, youth, and the health and safety sector. In addition to the rich feedback on the issues that we received from the JET process, we also received positive feedback on the format itself.

JET participants told us that bringing together individuals and groups from different backgrounds allows people from different constituencies holding different views to dialogue with one another and share perspectives. Participants felt that this was a good model to use in the future.

*Effectiveness of the Policy*

We heard suggestions that the policy should include specific provisions for policy evaluation and information sharing. It was noted that the current policy has been in place for over two decades, but does not provide guidance on when or how to evaluate its effectiveness. It would therefore be helpful for a modernized policy to provide clarity on policy goals, and some means by which the achievement of those goals will be evaluated. This includes provisions for information collection and sharing to allow those outside of government—such as scientists, Indigenous communities, host municipalities and interested citizens—to understand what is happening and how Canada is doing, and to assess results for themselves.

*End-State Objectives*

We heard that the policy should be as clear as possible about the objectives that it aims to achieve, not just principles or process. As an example, when we talk about radioactive waste disposal sites, what do we intend as the end-state objective? For some participants, targeted end-state objectives are full, remediated green spaces, integrated back into communities. For others, end-state objectives are more closely linked to the re-use of a site for various industrial purposes (especially in light of the fact that some sites will be located near transmission and other important infrastructure). Desired

end-states also vary according to the location and nature of a specific site. There are many different views about what end-states might look like, and policy clarity would be helpful. This is not to say, however, that the policy should be so specific as to make implementation difficult or incapable of being adapted to change.

*Clear Definitions*

Radioactive waste management involves numerous terms, ideas and classifications in a highly technical context. We heard that the policy should clearly define important concepts like minimization, disposal, retrieval, stewardship, reprocessing, recycling and more. During the engagement process, it was noted that such terms may mean different things to different people, necessitating debate and clarification. In order for parties from different disciplines and perspectives to communicate and collaborate effectively, shared terminology will be important.

*Policy Design: Bias Towards Strongest Protection*

It was suggested that, in some cases, there are jurisdictional overlaps within Canada, as well as between Canada and international regimes. It was recommended that the policy could explicitly state that, in such cases, the highest safety or health protection should take precedence, to ensure that Canadians are subject to the highest standards, and to help eliminate jurisdiction confusion or ambiguity.

*Acknowledging the Limitations of Our Knowledge*

For some participants it was important to acknowledge that neither the government, the industry sector or public interest groups know all of the answers. When considering the very long life of radioactive materials, in comparison to the over-70-year history of nuclear energy in Canada, it is entirely plausible that we have gaps in our collective knowledge. Thus, while we should be guided by science, some feel that we should not assume that science is 100% correct, and that policy should adopt a precautionary approach.

*Risk Management but Not Risk Elimination*

Radioactive waste will likely always entail some degree of risk to the environment and human beings. Our collective goal, we heard, should be to reduce that risk as much as possible. However, some respondents emphasized that this does not entail setting the goal of simply eliminating all risk entirely (largely because doing so is impossible). Thus, it was suggested that some reasonable degree of safety and precaution be obtained, but that there is a point beyond which further investment in risk mitigation is simply not warranted. Others disagreed with this view, finding it difficult to identify specific criteria that might define how much risk mitigation is enough.

*Implications of Small Modular Reactors*

**Small Modular Reactors**

Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are a new class of nuclear reactors:

**Small:** in both power output and physical size;
**Modular:** meaning that they are factory-constructed, portable and scalable;
**Reactors:** using nuclear fission to produce energy for electricity, hybrid energy systems, district heating, water desalination and high-quality steam for heavy industry applications.

This technology has the potential for a range of applications, from grid-scale units that can provide non-emitting reliable electricity to smaller units suitable for heavy industry, and powering remote communities. Several provinces are actively pursuing SMRs, and Canada's first SMR could be in operation as early as the mid-to-late 2020s.

Canada's SMR Action Plan is the result of a pan-Canadian effort bringing together key enablers from across the country, including the federal government, the provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples and communities, power utilities, the industry sector, innovators, laboratories, academia and civil society.

Source: https://smractionplan.ca/

Participants had much to say about SMRs and their implications for waste management. Some stated that SMRs have the potential to repurpose existing waste for new energy uses, while reducing Canada's radioactive waste. For those excited about this potential, it is important that the modernized policy not create unintentional roadblocks to innovation. For example, it might be desirable to store or dispose of waste far from where SMRs are deployed, in consolidated sites, which would require a flexible approach around waste management and transportation.

We also heard from those who view this emerging technology as unfounded, and saw risks in SMR technologies that could require the importing of new fuels or potential reprocessing of used nuclear fuel from Canada's conventional reactors. Rather than reducing the overall volume of existing nuclear fuel waste, some contend that SMRs could create new waste streams that are more difficult to manage than those that currently exist. Others contend that Canada needs extensive consultation in the communities where SMRs may be deployed, including emergency response plans for communities without road access. The communities must be made aware of the potential risks of SMRs.

In addition, some respondents raised concerns that SMRs will entail new security risks, especially if they are located in remote areas and are not subject to the same type of institutional controls and security as those for traditional facilities.

*Reprocessing and Proliferation Risks*

We heard mixed views on the proliferation risks associated with the reprocessing of used nuclear fuel via Small Modular Reactors (SMR). Some view this technology as a potential proliferation risk. The design and implementation of SMRs are still in the early phases, but some respondents expressed concern that accessibility of used fuel, particularly in remote locations, could create new

risks for proliferation. Others view this risk as minimal and see reprocessing as a way of reducing radioactive waste, at least over the long term. They see the design phase of SMR deployment as the place to ensure that proliferation risks are addressed. Ultimately, Canada has long been committed to nuclear non-proliferation, and we heard a strong consensus that the policy should affirm and support non-proliferation goals.

**Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty**

The Government of Canada remains deeply committed to the 1970 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which remains the only legally binding global treaty promoting nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

The NPT has 191 members. At its core, the NPT outlines a three-part bargain: states not possessing nuclear weapons commit not to acquire them; the five "Nuclear Weapons States" (the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France and China) agree to pursue good-faith negotiations aimed at nuclear disarmament; and all NPT States Parties undertake to facilitate international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, fully in line with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

Source: Global Affairs Canada

## 4.2 Governance and Structure

*As with other topic areas, some feedback received on governance pertains to aspects of the nuclear regulatory system and is outside of the scope of radioactive waste policy in particular. We have included this feedback because it provides useful information that goes beyond just this review.*

*Governance and the Importance of Independence*

Some participants had questions concerning the current governance structure for the nuclear industry, and particularly expressed their view that the present system does not adequately allow for input or participation from groups outside of the industry. It was noted that NRCan is responsible for overall policy direction, but that, at the same time, the Department also plays a role in promoting Canadian industry internationally, and promoting investment in Canada. To some, this has the appearance of a conflict of interests, with the policy centre seemingly having an interest in industry promotion as well. Similarly, we heard concerns that the CNSC and the NWMO appeared to have an overly close relationship with industry, making their roles difficult to accept for some. Others felt that the Government has not done enough to communicate how the entire system is organized and regulated, and that the complex network of complementary organizations and areas of responsibility can be difficult to navigate.

The overriding theme running through much of this feedback centered on real and perceived independence. It was important to all parties that decisions around radioactive waste management be made based on the facts, and from an independent point of view. We heard governance structure suggestions such as the creation of another body for nuclear policy/oversight, or a separate

regulatory body, as well as parliamentary inquiries and more. Some asked for an agency independent of government and the nuclear industry with the sole mandate of managing radioactive waste. They also asked that scientific, technical and social advisory groups, including representation by Indigenous peoples, should be created to support this agency for the sake of transparency.

*"Polluter Pays" Principle*

The "polluter pays" principle—i.e., that waste producers and owners are responsible for the funding, organization, management and operation of disposal and other facilities required for their wastes—is enshrined in the current policy, and we heard that, on its face, this principle is a sensible approach. However, we also heard that, in practice, because nuclear energy is integrated into our electricity system, the paying "polluter" is also the power utility ratepayer. In this sense, the public is not insulated from the cost of radioactive waste management because it ultimately pays.

*Roles and Responsibilities: Indigenous Peoples and Public Interest Groups*

We heard a desire to see a clearer role for interested parties and rights holders within the policy, beyond the roles of government, waste owners and regulators. It was noted that Indigenous peoples and public interest groups have important perspectives and unique knowledge that can help Canada do the best possible job in managing radioactive waste. Resourcing and funding are critical to make meaningful participation possible on a sustainable basis. This is especially true for smaller communities and Indigenous communities, where technical and scientific expertise must often be contracted out to help inform analysis, and where a lack of both financial resources and time can make full and meaningful participation difficult (i.e., bringing in relevant expertise on an unplanned basis can take a long time, and communities can miss their window to provide input into decision making). Some interveners indicated that Sweden is a good model in terms of its funding towards participation.

*Roles and Responsibilities: Other Key Federal Government Departments*

We heard that other entities within the federal government have important roles to play in terms of radioactive waste management, notably Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. With respect to ECCC, we heard that the Government should consider using provisions under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* to regulate and control radioactive waste, either as an alternative or in addition to the present regulatory regime. With respect to Impact Assessments, we heard questions about how Impact Assessments and radioactive waste-producing projects are approved, and what provisions apply. It was suggested that the policy should be clear in defining roles for the many federal players with an interest in aspects of radioactive waste, from pollution prevention to transportation, to Indigenous consultation and engagement, to non- proliferation, to name a few.

*Host Communities*

We received input to the effect that nuclear host communities want to be more engaged in decision making and communication. We heard that host communities require funding to address the specific challenges that they face, which are often beyond the available resources of most municipal governments. Communities that host nuclear and/or radioactive waste facilities assume long-term risks more so than do other communities (while millions of Canadians outside of such host

communities benefit from nuclear energy). Thus, host communities require additional expertise and communications support to address these risks. Moreover, some find that the role of municipalities is unclear in a system designed around federal and provincial governments and waste owners.

*Funding for Participation*

We heard that limited funding resources can be a major barrier for participation in engagement, monitoring and other activities. The issues involved are complex and highly specialized. Meaningful input is dependent on an understanding of the issues, informed by deep expertise. The big players in the nuclear space have scientists, engineers and vast resources at their disposal. Smaller groups do not enjoy these advantages, and it can be difficult for them to engage at a high level, or to delve into the important technical details that can be so decisive. Thus, it was suggested that the Government should seek ways to enable the participation of a wider variety of interested parties through a stable funding arrangement of some sort.

*Trusted Science*

We heard that decisions around radioactive waste management must be made on a sound basis of scientific analysis and evidence. No single system is perfect, nor is any source trusted by all parties, but there is an important role for government to play in presenting factual information clearly and openly, so that all concerned parties can draw conclusions from a shared evidence base. If trust in the underlying science is eroded or lost, it will be difficult to make decisions that address the fundamental needs and interests of most parties. We also heard that funding for all research and academia related to radioactive waste should be independent and funded through the federal granting councils to ensure independent peer review.

## 4.3 Indigenous Rights and Perspectives

*In addition to feedback from Indigenous peoples on all issues, we received input on considerations specific to Indigenous peoples and communities.*

*Anishinabek Nation and Iroquois Caucus Joint Declaration*

We heard that government should refer to the 2017 *Joint Declaration on the transport and abandonment of radioactive waste* by the Anishinabek Nation and the Iroquois Caucus.

The declaration identifies five key principles for radioactive waste management. Though it may not speak for all Indigenous communities, we have noted it here because some Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants referenced this document specifically and encouraged the Government to use it as a foundational piece in understanding Indigenous perspectives on radioactive waste management issues.

**Anishinabek Nation and the Iroquois Caucus Principles – In Brief**

For the long-term management of radioactive wastes, the five (5) principles that were all agreed upon are:

1. No Abandonment
2. Monitored and Retrievable Storage
3. Better Containment, More Packaging
4. Away from Major Water Bodies
5. No Imports or Exports

Source: Joint Declaration between the Anishinabek Nation and the Iroquois Caucus on the transport and abandonment of radioactive waste

*Radioactive Waste Management Policy in the Overall Legal and Policy Context for Indigenous Rights*

We heard that any future policy on radioactive waste management should conform to the current and evolving legal context for Indigenous rights, including those enshrined in Treaties and in the Constitution of Canada, and espoused in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples, not just as interested parties, but also as rights holders, must be upheld in the radioactive waste policy. We also heard, specifically, of the importance of the right of Indigenous peoples under the UNDRIP to give or withhold Free, Prior and Informed Consent on decisions affecting them, as well as the importance of ensuring proper Crown-Indigenous consultation and accommodation.

*Impact on Indigenous Communities and Traditional Territories*

We heard that several key aspects of the nuclear industry have a particular impact on Indigenous peoples, because of where these activities take place (or in the case of long-term storage, where sites may be located in the future). Some industry activities may be conducted in remote areas, away from major population centres, and therefore thought of as less risk-laden or intrusive. These lands, participants told us, are not "remote" or "empty," but are vital parts of traditional and contemporary Indigenous ways of life. Risks to water, land, air, animals, plants and the use of traditional territories are therefore especially important to Indigenous peoples, making it even more critical for the future policy to make clear the need to engage or consult with Indigenous peoples on practices that affect them. It was further noted that the potential effects of radioactive waste could be broad and persistent, making the geographic scope of interested parties much greater than just a local community whose legal boundaries are located near a proposed facility, mining operation or transportation route.

*Achieving and Maintaining Balance*

We heard of the importance of achieving and maintaining balance in all natural systems, including air, water, soil, fish, game, medicine and more. There was a suggestion to use the wording "in the balance" as it is closer to this value system instead of "as practicable," which may connote to some that economic considerations are paramount when making decisions. The integrity of the entire natural system is critical to the long-term health of the land and of the people who share in its bounty. Radioactive waste presents a singular challenge to this concept, because it has the potential to unbalance ecosystems for very long periods of time, given its persistence in the environment. Canada, in designing policy, should carefully think through how long-term ecological balance can be achieved while radioactive waste is safely managed. Bringing Indigenous perspectives and knowledge to bear in designing such policy objectives would be helpful and insightful.

*Beyond Seven Generations*

It was noted that radioactive waste is unique for its long lifecycle, especially as compared to other forms of waste or risk to the natural environment. Indigenous teachings tell us to think and plan for seven generations ahead, and that the resources of today are not ours, but are merely borrowed from those yet to come. We heard that radioactive waste management pushes this obligation much further, beyond seven generations. The policy should account for the full life cycle of waste, and include responsibilities for its management over the very long term. Furthermore, we heard that we should not plan to abandon waste or in any way walk away from our obligations to future generations, and that there is a need for proper knowledge management to ensure that our collective responsibility to future generations is upheld. The importance of restoring land that has been used for waste management to its natural environment was stressed.

*Importance of Monitoring and Indigenous Involvement*

Participants told us that monitoring of radioactive waste is critical to ensuring the ongoing safety of people and the environment. Canada's monitoring obligations will extend well into the future, and we heard of the need to work collectively to design monitoring approaches that are sound and complete. Indigenous peoples and communities have an important and unique role to play with respect to monitoring. Indigenous peoples—especially Elders—have traditional knowledge and insight into land, air and water that are distinct from Western knowledge, and enhance our understanding of natural systems significantly. Moreover, Indigenous peoples, as stewards of their land, have opportunities to observe changes that are important elements of any monitoring framework. Thus, we were advised by participants that the policy should make clear the legal requirement and importance of involving Indigenous peoples, especially Elders, in the ongoing monitoring of radioactive waste.

*Social Effect on Indigenous Communities*

We heard that divisive issues, such as energy policy or waste disposal locations, may entail additional harmful effects for Indigenous communities: the fracturing of communities based on project acceptance or not, driven by inequities in economic participation in projects, or the design of consultation processes. Some participants told us that industry practices regarding Indigenous engagement can sometimes feel like the industry sector is using financial resources to buy consent on the part of communities. According to what we heard, there is no simple solution for this issue, but it must be weighed along with the other effects on Indigenous peoples; engagement approaches and governance design should be informed by these considerations.

## 4.4 Minimization


Source: Ontario Power Generation

*We asked Canadians and engagement session participants for their views on the role of radioactive waste minimization in the future policy. This discussion was informed by a short discussion paper, which can be found on the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website. The highlights of the feedback include:*

*Questions of Practicality*

Today's waste management system allows some leeway for waste owners to take action within the realm of what is "practical," and this concept of practicality includes affordability. We heard that safety and security requirements should be defined by science and public interest, and should not be limited by what is deemed practical or affordable. This applies to waste minimization and to all of the other topics, to some degree. There was debate and discussion about how much waste minimization is enough to minimize the radiation risks that need to be managed.

We also heard that the goal of radioactive waste management should not be to simply eliminate all risk at any cost, and that there is a level at which stakeholders and the public can feel that every reasonable precaution has been taken. This raised questions around the most productive use of limited resources—e.g., it may be more beneficial to invest in research to improve waste minimization and other technologies than to make marginal improvements in existing practices. For some people, we heard that minimizing waste as a goal is a good place to start, and that there is an inherent incentive for industry to minimize waste to reduce storage and disposal costs. However, we also heard of the need not to force an undue burden on certain smaller businesses in the industry. For others, we heard expectations that safety and waste minimization should be maximized, regardless of the cost.

*Reprocessing*

We heard from some participants that new nuclear technologies for reprocessing and recycling existing used fuel into new fuel for some Small Modular Reactor designs could reduce the volume and long-term radioactivity of Canada's used fuel waste, while producing non-emitting energy. On this topic, we also heard from other participants that they have reservations as to whether new nuclear technologies—Small Modular Reactors foremost among them—will be capable of repurposing used nuclear fuel. They suggest that doing so could actually increase the challenges of managing radioactive waste due to the emergence of new forms of waste, such as liquid wastes, as well as proliferation risks that raise important international relations issues. Some participants said that commercial reprocessing of CANDU spent fuel would be a significant departure from current federal policy and should require discussion and debate by Parliament.

For some, the terminology is unclear. Some people told us that the idea of radioactive waste "recycling" is misleading, and that this may lean more toward branding than science. Similarly, we heard that terminology such as "recycling" and "reprocessing" should not be conflated. For instance, we heard that recycling processes are currently used to minimize low-level waste, whereas, reprocessing is a different process altogether that pertains to used nuclear fuel.

Some respondents expressed the view that future technology may play an important role in enabling the reuse or recycling of waste in ways that we cannot envision right now. Therefore, the policy should enable the adoption of new technologies, and should not limit Canada to only what is practical today.

**Reprocessing of Used Nuclear Fuel**

The reprocessing of used nuclear fuel is a chemical process for the recovery of fissile nuclear materials (primarily uranium and plutonium) from used fuel. There are currently no reprocessing activities in Canada as part of our nuclear fuel waste management, and this is not part of the current CANDU fuel cycle. However, certain technology developers may propose future reprocessing activities in Canada, as some SMR technologies could operate on reprocessed used nuclear fuel.

The Government of Canada is exploring the science, technologies, benefits and risks associated with any potential technologies that can reprocess used nuclear fuel. Any decision on the deployment of reprocessing technologies in Canada would require a decision by the Government of Canada to address health, safety, security, safeguards, non-proliferation and environmental perspectives and considerations.

Canada remains committed to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including the full implementation of safeguards set by the International Atomic Energy Agency to provide assurances that nuclear materials are used solely for peaceful purposes in Canada.

*Optimizing Waste Generation*

Many participants voiced support for the waste hierarchy as a useful overall construct to guide minimization activity. However, we also heard views that minimization should be understood to mean more than just a drive to reduce volumes of waste. A more accurate but complex answer, we heard, is that Canada needs to optimize its waste management, such that minimization is focused on minimizing risks and hazards, not just waste volumes alone. In discussing the general approach that the Government should take, we heard support for the ALARA—as low as reasonably achievable—principle that currently underlies Canada's approach to radiation.

Should Canada invest in new nuclear generation capacity, we heard that overall volumes of waste may in fact increase or decrease, depending on the approach and the technology used. Therefore, in terms of minimization or optimization, we should consider performance in terms of the nature of the risks involved, and the overall performance of the system from the perspective of protecting human and environmental health.

**Minimization and Optimization**

According to International Atomic Energy Agency guidance:

> The objectives of waste minimization are to limit the generation and spread of radioactive contamination and the activation of materials, and to reduce the volume of waste for storage and disposal, thereby limiting any consequent environmental impact, as well as the total costs associated with the management of such waste and of contaminated materials.
>
> ...implementation of a waste minimization strategy is always an optimization exercise that takes into consideration factors such as worker doses, the cost of recovering materials, the availability of disposal routes for specific types of waste, the quantities of waste generated in each category, and the duration and cost of interim storage of waste compared with the estimated ultimate disposal cost.
>
> The safety measures that are applied to facilities and activities that give rise to radiation risks are considered optimized if they provide the highest level of safety that can reasonably be achieved throughout the lifetime of the facility or activity, without unduly limiting its utilization.

Sources: IAEA, Considerations for Waste Minimization at the Design Stage of Nuclear Facilities, Technical Reports Series No. 460 and IAEA, Fundamental Safety Principles, Fundamental Safety Standards for protecting people and the environment, No. SF-1

*Engagement*

Science and social expectations come together when we talk about minimization—we heard that it is important for Canada to engage with and visibly meet the expectations of Canadians around waste minimization, even if that means going beyond the minimum measures required from a purely scientific perspective. This vision of minimization, then, is a collaborative one, where all parties work together to answer the needs of society and visibly work to achieve as much as possible. This differs from a regime based solely on compliance with basic standards.

*Waste Classification*

We heard that how we classify waste can make an important difference in understanding and achieving minimization goals. Today's definitions of waste streams and types can be difficult to implement at a practical level and can entail an over-classification of waste. We heard in particular that other jurisdictions have done a good job of implementing a "very low-level" waste category that can lead to better outcomes and a clearer focus on higher levels of waste. In addition, we heard that waste streams are not homogenous, and may demand different approaches to minimization. With respect to classification, over-classified waste also entails additional cost; there is an economic benefit to focusing resources where they are most needed. It was suggested that the policy should allow for consideration of the specific nature of waste at a particular site or operation. There is significant variety and one size does not fit all.

Some respondents suggested that if waste minimization is made the goal of the system without proper context and understanding, this could incent waste owners to minimize waste through its reclassification to very low-level waste, and ultimately allow release to landfills. The concern here is that well-meaning policy goals might drive behaviour that does not truly affect the overall volume of waste produced, but moves it around on paper.

**Waste Classification**

In Canada, four main classes of radioactive waste are recognized:

**High-level radioactive waste** (HLW) is used nuclear fuel that has been declared as radioactive waste and/or is waste that generates significant heat via radioactive decay. HLW contains significant quantities of long-lived radionuclides necessitating long-term isolation.

**Intermediate-level radioactive waste** (ILW) generally contains long-lived radionuclides in concentrations that require isolation and containment for periods greater than several hundred years. ILW needs no provisions, or only limited provisions, for heat dissipation during its storage and disposal. Due to its long-lived radionuclides, ILW generally requires a higher level of containment and isolation than can be provided in near-surface repositories.

**Low-level radioactive waste** (LLW) contains material with radionuclide content above established unconditional clearance levels and exemption quantities (set out in the Nuclear Substances and Radiation Devices Regulations), but generally has limited amounts of long-lived radionuclides. LLW requires isolation and containment for periods of up to a few hundred years. An engineered near-surface disposal facility is typically appropriate for LLW.

LLW includes the following sub-classes:

- **Very low-level radioactive waste** has a low hazard potential, but is above the criteria for clearance and exemption levels. Long-term waste management facilities for this level of waste do not need a high degree of containment or isolation.
- **Very short-lived low-level radioactive waste** is waste that can be stored for a decay period of not more than a few years and subsequently cleared for release.

**Uranium mine and mill tailings** are a specific type of radioactive waste generated during the mining and milling of uranium ore and the production of uranium concentrate. In addition to tailings, mining activities typically result in the production of large quantities of waste rock as workings are excavated to access the ore body. The wastes contain long-lived radionuclides that do not decrease significantly over extended time periods.

Source: CNSC REGDOC-2.11.1, *Waste Management, Volume I: Management of Radioactive Waste*

For more information on classification, see IAEA, Classification of Radioactive Waste, General Safety Guide No. GSG-1

## 4.5 Storage


Source: Ontario Power Generation

*We asked Canadians and engagement session participants for their views on the role of radioactive waste storage in the future policy. This discussion was informed by a short discussion paper, found on the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website. The highlights of the feedback include:*

*Transportation*

Waste storage is inextricably linked to transportation, particularly as not all waste may be stored where it is produced. We heard that transportation of waste is of particular interest because it has the potential to affect many communities along the route, as opposed to fixed facilities with a relatively delimited area of direct effect/interest. Some participants had questions about controls for the transport of radioactive waste, and the role of various regulators, most particularly Transport Canada. That said, other respondents pointed to the existing track record of safety in the transport of radioactive waste, and expressed confidence that transportation to storage facilities is currently done safely.

Some expressed a desire for greater engagement with various affected communities along waste transportation routes. Some said that community engagement is, not surprisingly, an area of focus for the immediate areas around generation or storage sites. At such sites, the presence of waste is clear and the interest of the community is obvious. For those along transportation routes, there is less awareness of a need to be engaged, and less engagement overall. Some expressed concern that the public has not been informed about the transport and the routes of nuclear wastes in Canada.

They expressed that there should be no transport of waste from decommissioned facilities and sites unless there has been full public consultation and transparency about a destination for that waste. Interveners also expressed the need for the CNSC to have a public registry for the transportation of radioactive waste in Canada.

**Waste Transportation Safety**

Canada is one of the major producers of nuclear substances (radioactive material) in the world and has an excellent safety record for the transport of these substances. More than a million packages carrying a variety of nuclear substances are transported safely in Canada each year. All nuclear substances can be shipped only by a qualified carrier and can be transported solely in accordance with strict federal regulations. Canada's regulations are based on the IAEA's *Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material.*

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and Transport Canada work together to regulate the transportation of nuclear substances, including used nuclear fuel.

**CNSC** – Through the *Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations* (PTNS Regulations), the CNSC ensures that every package transporting used nuclear fuel conforms to all established safety standards. The CNSC is responsible for certifying the design of the package, verifying that it meets the regulatory requirements, and ensuring that the health, safety and security of the public and the protection of the environment will not be compromised.

**Transport Canada** – Through the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992* and related regulations, Transport Canada also shares in the responsibility of ensuring the safe transport of used nuclear fuel. Transport Canada develops safety standards and regulations, provides oversight and gives expert advice to promote public safety in the transportation of dangerous goods (of all classes) by all modes of transport in Canada.

Source: CNSC website, Transport FAQs on used nuclear fuel

*Transportation and Emergency Preparedness*

We heard that a further consideration pertaining to the transportation of waste to storage or other facilities is the need for emergency preparedness among a large number of jurisdictions and agencies. Participants told us that either the policy or the resulting regulation should take into account the need to both require and support emergency preparedness. This is especially the case in smaller or more remote communities, such as those that might host new Small Modular Reactor development, where the resources found in major centres or existing nuclear host communities may be lacking. This consideration entails resolving a major question: funding for preparedness and planning.

*Small Modular Reactor Implications*

Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) will have important implications for how Canada thinks about radioactive waste storage. We heard that, today, the storage regime is based on a small number of large sites, many of which are proximate to supporting storage infrastructure. In the future, however, SMRs may change this dynamic, given they will have a smaller generating capacity, and be located

across the country, in locations far from existing storage facilities. If this is to become reality (on which there is not consensus, to be clear), Canada will require a vision and enabling policy to deal with the storage considerations. Will waste be stored in communities that host SMRs? Will it be consolidated somewhere? What will be the effect on waste transportation? In short, for waste storage, we heard that the policy should adapt not just to today's situation, but be drafted in a way that responds directly to, or allows for flexibility in responding to a next-generation nuclear industry with many different characteristics compared to today's industry.

*Openness, Transparency and Accessibility of Information*

Earned public trust is a critical feature of the radioactive waste management regime. Doing the right thing is mandatory, but allowing Canadians a window into how waste is managed is equally important. In this vein, we heard that transparent, accessible, detailed and up-to-date inventories of waste in storage are fundamental to gaining trust in the system, and in enabling important oversight. More transparency is needed to ensure that the public understands its liabilities with respect to nuclear waste.

Communities, organizations or individuals wanting to engage and provide input find that there is either a lack of clear information, or that it is challenging to know where to find information, which can be a significant barrier. In particular, participants told us that they would like to be able to easily access information about what waste is stored where, over what period, in what volumes, what classifications are involved, and what the future plans are for management of the waste. Without this information, the engagement that is noted elsewhere in this report as being so important can be difficult at best.

*Understanding Canada in an International Context*

International comparison and context can help us understand the storage issue in Canada, and enable better public debate and decision making. We heard that the government should provide information not just on the Canadian reality, but also on how Canada is performing or what strategies it has adopted, as compared to its international peers. Providing this type of information and comparative analysis can help the public understand risk management in a more complete context, and focus on areas where Canada may differ from other countries.

*Security and Safety of Storage Sites*

There were questions posed about the security, safety and proximity to major water bodies of existing storage facilities. Such questions focused on how waste is moved within facilities, on how releases are monitored and reported, and on overall readiness with respect to natural disasters, attacks or infiltration. These questions are particularly relevant for sites located near major water bodies (Lake Ontario and the Ottawa River), which supply drinking water to millions of Canadians and are therefore, naturally, under greater scrutiny given the potential for catastrophic impact.

Concurrently, we heard views that storage practices today meet and exceed regulatory requirements and international guidelines, and that facilities are adequately hardened to resist disaster or malevolence.

*Critical People and Skills*

Some participants told us that effective radioactive waste storage depends on more than just regulations and guidelines: critical skilled labourers are necessary to make practices real. A growing nuclear sector may face an important shortage of critical people—scientists, engineers and skilled tradespeople—who drive the industry. Labour or skills development policy is, of course, outside the scope of a radioactive waste policy. However, we heard that the policy could acknowledge this critical dependency, and this comment is useful for the Government overall as it considers the important skills that will drive the energy economy of the future.

*Prioritize long-term storage for intermediate-level waste*

We heard that a plan for the long-term management of intermediate-level waste (ILW) is needed, and that this should be reflected in the policy. Participants stated that, to date, nobody in Canada has proposed a plan for the long-term management of intermediate-level radioactive waste. Some are concerned that there will be attempts to put this waste in disposal facilities near the surface without proper isolation from the biosphere.

## 4.6 Decommissioning

Source: AECL

*We asked Canadians and engagement session participants for their views on the role of radioactive waste management in the decommissioning of sites in the future policy. This discussion was informed by a short discussion paper, found on the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website. The highlights of the feedback include:*

*Criteria for In-Situ Decommissioning*

We heard concern that some legacy sites are candidates for *in-situ* decommissioning. These sites, dating back to the early days of the nuclear age, were not designed with modern expectations and planning for decommissioning in mind. Legacy sites are distinct from the rest of the nuclear portfolio, and may require different approaches to decommissioning. How and under what circumstances Canada adopts the strategy of in-situ decommissioning, in particular, is unclear. We heard concerns that international guidance recommends in-situ decommissioning primarily as a method reserved for disaster remediation or other special cases, and that the application of this approach for legacy sites may not necessarily conform to international guidance. Some would like to see in-situ decommissioning banned altogether. Canada needs clear criteria for when and why in-situ decommissioning would be appropriate.

*Decommissioning: Prompt or Deferred?*

Participants noted that decommissioning, in practice, is highly dependent on key elements: storage design, transportation, labour, and the availability of disposal facilities, in order to proceed. This may mean that waste owners and regulators have perhaps less latitude for unilateral action and pursuit of timelines than we might think, because many aspects of a project can depend on other factors.

We heard mixed perspectives on the optimal timing for the decommissioning of legacy sites. Some participants told us that deferred decommissioning, by design, can result in better outcomes and increased worker safety. The idea is simple: safely designing a waiting period (which might be quite long) before undertaking decommissioning activities can allow radiation levels to decay markedly, and can reduce risks to all involved in the project. Thus, we heard that some believe that deferred decommissioning should be a standard enshrined in the policy.

Conversely, we heard from others a desire for prompt decommissioning to avoid shifting the burden of decommissioning to future generations: beginning work as quickly as possible to decommission a facility or site. In this context, there may be some ambiguity about realistic expectations for promptness. We heard that very fast decommissioning may still appear to be progressing slowly from an outside perspective, given the complexity and difficulty of the task. If the policy does specify a desire for promptness, it should therefore be careful not to be overly prescriptive and should consider the unique circumstances of each facility or site.

*Decommissioning: Not Delayed, Once Under Way*

Regardless of the strategy chosen on when to begin a decommissioning project, we heard the expectation that a project should be undertaken vigorously. Decommissioning projects should not be unreasonably delayed once they are under way, and issues of regulatory oversight, safety, security and environmental protection should be addressed with appropriate urgency. In practice, this means dealing promptly with issues that inevitably arise and not just waiting on future technology to solve problems down the road.

*Planning and Financing for Decommissioning*

We heard concerns that some facilities may not have fully fleshed out decommissioning plans, and that the policy should direct operators to provide greater detail on their decommissioning plans well before that process begins (and, for new projects, as a major feature of regulatory approval). We also heard that, in some cases, the specific details of decommissioning activities are determined as the project is initiated or unfolds, and that it is not possible to plan everything in detail years or decades ahead of time. With respect to financing, participants noted that the policy should require financial resources in place to fund decommissioning, so as to prevent lack of funding or default during this critical stage.

**Financial guarantees for decommissioning of nuclear facilities and termination of licensed activities**

Applicants and licensees are required by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to make adequate provision for the safe decommissioning of existing or proposed nuclear facilities by ensuring that sufficient financial resources are available to fund all approved decommissioning activities should the licensee not be able to fulfill its obligations. Operationally, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission may also require financial resources to be available for the termination of licensed activities other than for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities.

Financial guarantees are a tangible commitment by a licence applicant or a licensee that there will be sufficient resources to safely terminate the licensed activities. A financial guarantee does not relieve licensees from complying with regulatory requirements for decommissioning of nuclear facilities or termination of licensed activities—the financial guarantee ensures that there are funds available to the Commission when licensees are unable to carry out safe decommissioning or termination of activities.

Licensees must ensure that the financial guarantee in place remains valid, in effect and sufficient to meet decommissioning needs according to the most up-to-date preliminary decommissioning plan (PDP). Therefore, licensees must revise their financial guarantee at a minimum every five years or earlier when requested by the Commission.

The total Financial Guarantees available for all licensees at year-end 2020 was $22.4 billion.

Source: CNSC REGDOC-3.3.1, Financial guarantees for decommissioning of nuclear facilities and termination of licensed activities

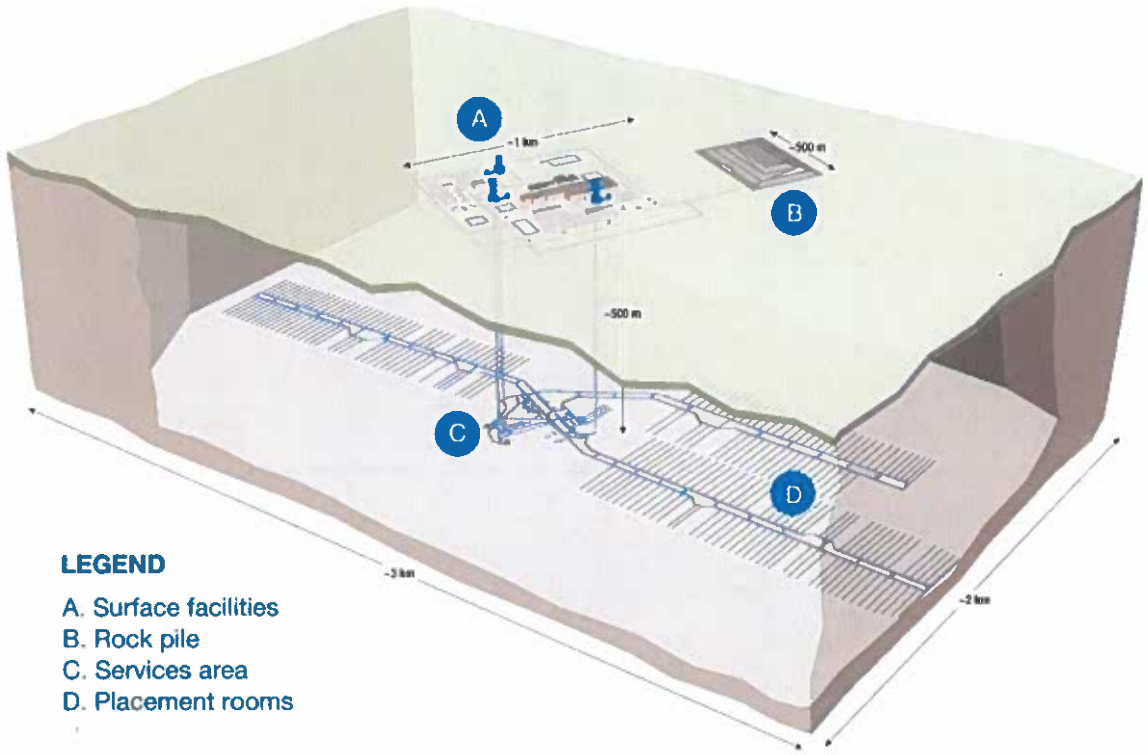
*Knowledge Management*

Decommissioning projects can last for decades, and have implications for generations well into the future. Because of the lengthy timeframes, it is possible for staff to cycle through a project, and for important knowledge to be lost when staff members move on or retire. Such knowledge is crucial for future management of sites, in order to know exactly the nature of the site, the unique features, and any challenges that were encountered. Therefore, we heard that the policy should emphasize knowledge management and records retention, to ensure that key knowledge is not lost over time.

*Making Decommissioning Expertise and Knowledge Management a Strategic Asset*

Canada's approach to decommissioning can become an important asset. Our country is a small part of the global decommissioning market, and we may be able to develop waste management technologies and services to meet the demands of a global marketplace as current generation infrastructure reaches end of service around the world. We heard that Canada should play a leading international role in radioactive waste management, and in developing and deploying new practices and technologies. The policy should, therefore, promote and enable the domestic industry, and consider how Canada can market its expertise abroad, to the benefit of all.

## 4.7 Disposal




*Source: Nuclear Waste Management Agency*

*We asked Canadians and engagement session participants for their views on radioactive waste disposal in the future policy. This discussion was informed by a short discussion paper, found on the Modernizing Canada's Radioactive Waste Policy website. The highlights of the feedback include:*

*Defining Disposal End-States*

Throughout the engagement process, participants expressed a desire for clarity and direction in the policy on the desired end-states for disposal. "Disposal" is a term that has different connotations for different people, ranging from ongoing monitoring, through to the eventual release from institutional control. What does disposal mean in the Canadian context? What is the end-state that decommissioning and disposal activities ultimately aim to achieve? Respondents told us that the modernized policy should provide a good understanding of the end-state in mind, so that the rest of the system and the various players can be aligned to produce that desired result.

*No Import of Radioactive Waste*

We heard that Canada should adopt a policy of prohibiting the import of waste from other countries for disposal in Canada, such that the country does not become a clearinghouse for waste disposal, even if we possess comparatively advantageous geography, technologies and a robust regulatory

context. It was noted that the risks of taking on this burden are simply too great, and would create an ongoing, long-term liability for Canadians, and that the policy should be clear on this point. We also heard that the policy should prohibit Canada's exporters of medical isotopes from committing to re-import and dispose of them in Canada at the end of their useful life.

At the same time, we heard that if nuclear energy is key to fighting climate change, and if Canada can provide critical disposal solutions for jurisdictions that—in the absence of those options domestically—would otherwise continue to use high-emitting energy sources, it might be in our strategic, global interest to accept a certain amount of waste for disposal. Moreover, as an exporter of nuclear materials, Canada is justified in arguing that we have a responsibility to help ensure the long-term stewardship of the products that we export.

Others advocated for the policy to recognize Canada's current ongoing waste trade (e.g., transboundary shipments of some waste to be reduced/minimized and then returned).

*Retrievability*

Disposal of radioactive waste, according to some, may be thought of as a process of burying and entombing waste such that it can never be released or recovered. However, some participants suggested that retrievability should be an important policy principle guiding waste disposal design. This was for two broad reasons. First, some maintain that waste should be retrievable in principle so that it can be more easily monitored, and so that action can be taken if any issues arise. Secondly, others further suggest that retrieval can be useful from a long-term environmental and human health perspective, as technologies may emerge that can treat waste in ways not yet imagined. In such cases, it would be a shame if waste could not be further treated, and instead stayed in the ground as is.

**Canada's Adaptive Phased Management Approach to Retrievability**

Retrievability is the ability to remove the used nuclear fuel from where it has been placed. Retrievability is an important component of APM and was included on the direction of Canadians. It is part of a risk management approach to allow corrective action to be taken if the repository does not perform as expected or if new technologies emerge in the future that could significantly improve the safety of used fuel long-term management.

While used nuclear fuel will be retrievable as part of APM, the process will become progressively more demanding as the used fuel containers are sealed in the placement rooms, and then years later when access tunnels and shafts are eventually backfilled and sealed.

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, several national programs facilitate retrievability.

Sources: NWMO, Implementing Adaptive Phased Management 2019 to 2023; IAEA Safety Standards, Disposal of Radioactive Waste

*Stewardship and Monitoring, Not Abandonment*

We heard from some respondents that the ultimate desired end-state for radioactive waste in Canada should be rolling stewardship. Their view is that there is unlikely to ever be a time when waste is permanently disposed of, and that Canada has a duty to provide monitoring and stewardship of waste in perpetuity. Participants stressed that Canada should not attempt to get to the point of "walking away" from waste, as its persistence and long-term risks to humans and the environment require ongoing management. We heard that radioactive waste is and will be with us for a long time, and that all system planning should be predicated on the notion that waste management is a permanent obligation. This notion has a further implication on the financial structure of the nuclear industry. Who bears the cost of ongoing stewardship or monitoring? Is there a point at which waste owners are released from responsibility? If so, are costs transferred to the public? In this sense, then, what we think of as "disposal" might include some degree of monitoring or other oversight, while differing from the more intensive storage of today. Policy guidance or regulatory direction on these points would be helpful.

*Site Selection*

Discussions about radioactive waste policy naturally run into discussions about one of the most critical implementation issues in waste management: site selection for disposal sites. First, we heard that the site selection process requires greater consideration of Indigenous perspectives (as per the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), and other communities. Critically, we heard that governments should be wary of industry-led engagement processes that emphasize economic benefits, and may be seen to buy the consent of communities.

Secondly, there are open questions about the science of radioactive waste disposal, specifically, where and how it can be achieved, and what the risks are. This is a scientific question, and it may be that we do not yet have all of the data, or that the information has not been shared and communicated adequately. In any case, participants saw determinations around disposal direction as a linchpin for the entire system of radioactive waste management. Some stated that it is important to have accurate inventories of waste and costs in order to plan and select sites for waste disposal.

*Enabling Collaboration*

We heard that collaboration on disposal can yield benefits for everyone: resources that are more focused on safety concerns, less overall exposure to risk, and more. This does not mean that Canada should aim for a single, national disposal site. However, the policy should endeavour to enable collaboration and relationships that allow for multiple waste owners to work together in the interest of overall protection.

# Operations Report

December 2021

## **Ignace** Drinking Water System

IGNACE
*Explore Our Possibilities*

**Prepared for the Township of Ignace**
**Prepared by NWI – Ignace**
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NORTHERN
WATERWORKS INC.

# 1 Introduction

This Operations Report has been prepared by Northern Waterworks Inc. (NWI) to summarize the operation of the Ignace Drinking Water System. Operations Managers are responsible for generating this report on a monthly basis, and the data summarized herein is provided in a year-to-date format. The submission of this report is one of the methods used by NWI to communicate information about system performance to the Township of Ignace. Any questions or concerns regarding the content of this document may be directed to the local Operations Manager or to NWI's Compliance Department.

Classified as a large municipal residential system, the Ignace DWS is composed of the Raw Water Pumping Station (RWPS), the Ignace Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and the Ignace water distribution system. Potential pathogenic organisms are removed and inactivated by membrane filtration and primary disinfection using free chlorine.

Low lift pumps located at the RWPS transfer raw water from its source at Kekwanzik Lake to the Ignace WTP. Upon transfer to the WTP, polyaluminum chloride (primary coagulant) is added to the raw water upstream from the flocculation tanks. The application of coagulant causes impurities in the raw water to cluster together and form floc, which in turn facilitates membrane filtration. Water is then directed from the flocculation tanks to one of four Zenon membrane filtration units located at the WTP. Permeate is drawn through the membrane filters via an applied vacuum and is transferred to the treated water storage reservoirs. Sodium hypochlorite (disinfectant) is added to the filtrate water upon transfer to the reservoirs.

The chlorinated water is held in the treated water storage reservoirs to allow for the necessary time required to achieve primary disinfection. Treated water is then transferred to the distribution system using high lift pumps located at the WTP. Secondary disinfection requirements in the distribution system are achieved by maintaining a free chlorine residual at all locations. Sodium hydroxide (pH adjustment) is also added as water is transferred to the distribution system in order to increase finished water pH to a level that will not cause corrosion.

## 2 Flow Monitoring Results

**Table 1** provides selected flow statistics for the Ignace DWS. Raw and treated water flows are continuously monitored at the Ignace WTP, and Operators review flow trends and collect totalized volumes on a daily basis. Limits concerning the amount of raw water that may be taken and the amount of treated water that may be directed to the distribution system are provided within system approvals. As per the Municipal Drinking Water Licence, calibration for flow monitoring devices is verified on an annual basis to ensure that the flowrate is measured with an accuracy to within plus or minus 5% of the actual flowrate for the entire design range of the device.

**Table 1:** Total volumes, daily flows and capacity assessments[1]

| Month | Raw Water | | | Treated Water | | | Capacity Assessments[2] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | TMV ($m^3$) | ADF ($m^3$/day) | MDF ($m^3$/day) | TMV ($m^3$) | ADF ($m^3$/day) | MDF ($m^3$/day) | ADF | MDF |
| Jan | 25,052 | 808 | 977 | 22,716 | 733 | 799 | 27% | 29% |
| Feb | 25,325 | 904 | 1,112 | 21,694 | 775 | 861 | 28% | 32% |
| Mar | 26,459 | 854 | 984 | 23,743 | 766 | 836 | 28% | 31% |
| Apr | 27,235 | 908 | 1,239 | 24,409 | 814 | 1,112 | 30% | 41% |
| May | 25,221 | 814 | 945 | 22,797 | 735 | 816 | 27% | 30% |
| Jun | 24,511 | 817 | 956 | 22,035 | 734 | 814 | 27% | 30% |
| Jul | 26,911 | 868 | 1,092 | 23,938 | 772 | 902 | 28% | 33% |
| Aug | 23,404 | 755 | 907 | 20,573 | 664 | 742 | 24% | 27% |
| Sep | 23,237 | 775 | 1,021 | 20,142 | 671 | 813 | 25% | 30% |
| Oct | 22,627 | 730 | 970 | 19,597 | 632 | 703 | 23% | 26% |
| Nov | 23,240 | 775 | 903 | 20,246 | 675 | 762 | 25% | 28% |
| Dec | 23,884 | 770 | 918 | 20,339 | 656 | 710 | 24% | 26% |
| Total | 297,106 | — | — | 262,229 | — | — | — | — |
| Avg | 24,759 | 815 | — | 21,852 | 719 | — | 26% | — |

1. TMV = Total Monthly Volume; ADF = Average Daily Flow; MDF = Maximum Daily Flow.
2. Capacity assessments compare average and maximum daily treated water flows to the rated capacity of the treatment facility (2,730 $m^3$/day), as provided within the system's approval.

## 3 Water Quality

NWI employs an in-house water quality analysis program that includes several water quality indicators and extends beyond minimum regulatory requirements. **Table 2** provides monthly average results for selected water quality parameters, as derived from the in-house water quality analysis program. The table also summarizes filter performance against the performance criterion contained within the system's Municipal Drinking Water Licence. Specifically, filtrate turbidity must be less than or equal to 0.1 NTU in at least 99% of the measurements each calendar month for the treatment facility to receive pathogen removal credits. The values in the table correspond to the proportion of filtrate turbidity measurements that were equal to or less than 0.1 NTU.

**Table 2:** Water quality summary and filter performance[1]

| Month | Treated Water | | | | | Filtrate Turbidity Compliance | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Turbidity (NTU) | UVT (%) | pH | FCR (mg/L) | Alum Residual (mg/L) | Filter 1 (%) | Filter 2 (%) | Filter 3 (%) | Filter 4 (%) |
| **Objective** | **< 0.2** | **> 85.0** | **7.0 - 8.0** | **1.1 - 1.6** | **< 0.050** | **> 99.0%** | **> 99.0%** | **> 99.0%** | **> 99.0%** |
| Jan | 0.06 | 94.2 | 7.2 | 1.38 | 0.016 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Feb | 0.06 | 94.4 | 7.2 | 1.51 | 0.011 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Mar | 0.07 | 92.1 | 7.4 | 1.56 | 0.011 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Apr | 0.06 | 95.9 | 7.5 | 1.47 | 0.012 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| May | 0.06 | 94.0 | 7.5 | 1.39 | 0.013 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Jun | 0.06 | 93.5 | 7.5 | 1.35 | 0.017 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Jul | 0.06 | 92.4 | 7.3 | 1.35 | 0.019 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Aug | 0.08 | 91.5 | 7.4 | 1.34 | 0.018 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Sep | 0.07 | 91.9 | 7.4 | 1.38 | 0.016 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Oct | 0.07 | 92.5 | 7.4 | 1.50 | 0.014 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Nov | 0.07 | 91.9 | 7.5 | 1.52 | 0.012 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 |
| Dec | 0.07 | 91.0 | 7.5 | 1.34 | 0.010 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| **Avg** | **0.07** | **92.9** | **7.4** | **1.42** | **0.014** | — | — | — | — |

1. UVT = Ultraviolet Transmittance; FCR = Free Chlorine Residual

Analyses of microbiological, organic, and inorganic parameters are conducted externally by an accredited laboratory. Results of these analyses are summarized in a separate *Annual Report*; NWI is available to provide sampling results prior to the release of the Annual Report. Any adverse results will be included within section 6 (Notable Operational Events) of this report.

## 4 Membrane Integrity Test Results

The membrane integrity test (MIT) is conducted daily by Operators to ensure that the membrane filtration units are performing as designed. To meet the manufacturer's guidelines and to guarantee pathogen removal, the MIT results must achieve a Log Removal Value (LRV) of at least 4.00. LRVs are also used to determine when membrane cleaning and repairs may be required. **Table 3** summarizes monthly LRV results. A more detailed analysis of log removal values and membrane filter integrity is provided within the annual *Management Review Report*.

**Table 3:** Results summary for Log Removal Values

| Month | Membrane Filter 1 | | Membrane Filter 2 | | Membrane Filter 3 | | Membrane Filter 4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average LRV | Minimum LRV | Average LRV | Minimum LRV | Average LRV | Minimum LRV | Average LRV | Minimum LRV |
| Jan | 4.29 | 4.05 | 4.22 | 4.05 | 4.12 | 3.98 | 4.39 | 4.16 |
| Feb | 4.27 | 4.03 | 4.37 | 4.01 | 4.15 | 3.93 | 4.56 | 4.22 |
| Mar | 4.24 | 4.14 | 4.26 | 4.09 | 4.20 | 4.03 | 4.43 | 4.29 |
| Apr | 4.35 | 4.22 | 4.34 | 4.08 | 4.26 | 4.13 | 4.46 | 4.30 |
| May | 4.31 | 4.24 | 4.30 | 4.15 | 4.22 | 4.11 | 4.29 | 4.14 |
| Jun | 4.25 | 4.03 | 4.23 | 4.00 | 4.15 | 3.93 | 4.28 | 4.14 |
| Jul | 4.09 | 3.83 | 4.19 | 3.97 | 4.12 | 3.95 | 4.19 | 3.85 |
| Aug | 4.09 | 3.86 | 4.20 | 4.04 | 4.11 | 3.97 | 4.21 | 4.00 |
| Sep | 4.04 | 3.92 | 4.16 | 3.99 | 4.17 | 3.99 | 4.23 | 4.04 |
| Oct | 4.04 | 3.89 | 4.32 | 4.14 | 4.14 | 3.83 | 4.29 | 4.05 |
| Nov | 4.09 | 3.94 | 4.32 | 4.15 | 4.13 | 4.00 | 4.26 | 4.02 |
| Dec | 4.13 | 3.91 | 4.39 | 4.14 | 4.20 | 3.85 | 4.33 | 4.04 |
| Avg | 4.18 | --- | 4.28 | --- | 4.16 | --- | 4.33 | --- |
| Min | --- | 3.83 | --- | 3.97 | --- | 3.83 | --- | 3.85 |

## 5 Chemical Usage

In addition to adjusting chemical dosages in response to variations in source water quality and to maintain effective treatment processes, Operators are responsible for monitoring and recording chemical consumptions and dosages on a daily basis. **Table 4** summarizes total chemical consumptions and monthly average dosages for treatment chemicals used at the Ignace WTP. All chemicals used in the treatment process are NSF/ANSI 60 certified for use in potable water.

**Table 4:** Chemical consumptions and average dosages

| Month | Sodium Hypochlorite (Disinfection) | | Polyaluminum Chloride (Coagulant) | | Sodium Hydroxide (pH Adjustment) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) |
| Jan | 566 | 2.8 | 673 | 11 | 146 | 4.6 |
| Feb | 606 | 3.1 | 366 | 6 | 132 | 4.3 |
| Mar | 627 | 3.1 | 338 | 5 | 146 | 4.4 |
| Apr | 638 | 3.0 | 446 | 7 | 97 | 2.9 |
| May | 648 | 3.3 | 472 | 8 | 129 | 4.1 |
| Jun | 675 | 3.6 | 456 | 8 | 81 | 2.7 |
| Jul | 735 | 3.5 | 507 | 8 | 37 | 1.1 |
| Aug | 687 | 3.9 | 455 | 8 | 21 | 0.7 |
| Sep | 723 | 4.1 | 448 | 8 | 21 | 0.7 |
| Oct | 679 | 3.9 | 421 | 8 | 19 | 0.7 |
| Nov | 611 | 3.4 | 274 | 5 | 18 | 0.6 |
| Dec | 593 | 3.3 | 202 | 4 | 17 | 0.6 |
| Total | 7,788 | — | 5,056 | — | 866 | — |
| Avg | 649 | 3.4 | 421 | 7 | 72 | 2.3 |

## 6 Notable Operational Events

**Table 5** (Abnormal Operations Summary) summarizes abnormal operational events which occurred during the reporting period. Abnormal operational events include, but are not limited to, unplanned and emergency maintenance and repair, alarm conditions, watermain breaks and distribution system repairs, adverse water quality incidents, and complaints and other public inquiries received and actions taken.

**Table 5:** Abnormal operations summary

| Incident Date | Event Description | Corrective Action | Resolution Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01-Dec-21 | A power surge alarm associated with the programmable logic controller was activated at the water treatment plant. A PLC communication failure alarm was also activated. | The responding Operator reviewed trends and placed the membrane filter units back into standby mode. The master PLC associated with treatment unit no. 1 was also reset to clear the communication alarm. | 01-Dec-21 |
| 08-Dec-21 | Membrane filter unit no. 4 experienced a low transmembrane pressure alarm condition. | A manual backwash was completed and the filter was placed back into service on the following day. | 09-Dec-21 |
| 16-Dec-21 | A power surge alarm associated with the programmable logic controller was activated at the water treatment plant. | The responding Operator reviewed trends and placed the membrane filter units back into standby mode. | 16-Dec-21 |
| 18-Dec-21 | A low floc tank water level alarm was activated on December 18 and again on December 19. | On both occasions the alarm condition resolved itself as the raw water pumps came online for water production. The alarm condition was caused by a delay with the raw water pumps coming online. | 19-Dec-21 |
| 24-Dec-21 | A power surge alarm associated with the programmable logic controller was activated at the water treatment plant. | The responding Operator reviewed trends and placed the membrane filter units back into standby mode. | 24-Dec-21 |
| 31-Dec-21 | Membrane filter unit no. 4 experienced a low transmembrane pressure alarm condition. | A manual backwash was completed and the filter was placed back into service on the same day. | 31-Dec-21 |

**Table 6** (Other Notable Events) summarizes any notable operational events which occurred during the reporting period. For clarification, other notable operational events include, but are not limited to, regulatory issues, including inspection results, orders, and reports filed with regulators, planned maintenance and repair, health and safety issues, and status updates concerning capital projects.

**Table 6:** Other notable events

| Date | Event Description |
|---|---|
| 14-Dec-21 | NWI personnel assisted Public Works staff during an excavation to expose a leak at a curb stop on West Street. |
| 21-Dec-21 | A series of repairs were conducted on membrane filter no. 3 (December 21) and membrane filter no. 1 (December 24). |

# Operations Report

December 2021

## **Ignace** Water Pollution Control Plant

IGNACE
*Explore Our Possibilities*

**Prepared for the Township of Ignace**
**Prepared by NWI – Ignace**
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NORTHERN
WATERWORKS INC.

## 1 Introduction

This Operations Report has been prepared by Northern Waterworks Inc. (NWI) to summarize the operation of the **Ignace Water Pollution Control Plant**. Operations Managers are responsible for generating this report on a monthly basis, and the data summarized herein is provided in a year-to-date format. The submission of this report is one of the methods used by NWI to communicate information about system performance to the Township of Ignace. Any questions or concerns regarding the content of this report may be directed to the local Operations Manager or to NWI's Compliance Department.

The Ignace Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) is a component of the sewage works that service the community of Ignace. Designed for the treatment and disposal of sewage, the facility has an average daily rated capacity of 2,536 $m^3$/day and a peak flow rated capacity of 7,500 $m^3$/day. The facility consists of inlet works designed for preliminary treatment, two circular secondary treatment units each containing an aeration tank, clarifier, and chlorine contact chamber, an aerobic digester, and an outfall sewer discharging effluent to Agimak Creek. The facility also includes a control building housing a laboratory, air supply equipment, a standby power system and chemical feed systems.

As an extended aeration facility the Ignace WPCP utilizes a biological treatment method that relies upon microorganisms to process influent wastewater. Aluminum sulphate, sodium hydroxide and sodium hypochlorite are also used at the facility for phosphorus reduction, pH/alkalinity adjustment and effluent disinfection, respectively. The overall goal of the treatment process is to reduce or remove contaminants from influent wastewater to a level that will not adversely impact or impair receiving waters, including preventing the introduction of pathogens that could affect downstream users.

The facility is currently regulated by the terms and conditions within amended Environmental Compliance Approval No. 0923-9V7JCC (the ECA), issued to the Corporation of the Township of Ignace on April 29, 2015. This approval provides the operating parameters for the facility and includes requirements related to monitoring and recording, water quality (i.e. effluent objectives and compliance limits), operations and maintenance, reporting and bypass/overflow events. The facility is also regulated under additional provincial and federal legislation, such as the *Ontario Water Resources Act* and Canada's *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations* (WSER).

## 2 Flow Monitoring Results

**Table 1** provides flow statistics for the Ignace WPCP. Operators review flows and collect totalized volumes from flow monitoring equipment on a daily basis. The regulatory approval for the facility requires that the Owner and Operating Authority use best efforts to operate the works within the facility's rated capacity (2,536 $m^3$/day – calculated over a calendar year). Flow monitoring results are also used to determine effluent parameter loadings that are discharged to the environment. As per the ECA, calibration for flow monitoring devices is verified on an annual basis to ensure that the flowrate is measured with an accuracy to within plus or minus 15% of the actual flowrate for the entire design range of the device.

**Table 1:** Total volumes, daily flows and capacity assessments[1]

| Month | Influent (Raw Sewage) Flows | | | Capacity Assessments[2] | | Effluent Flows | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | TMV ($m^3$) | ADF ($m^3$/day) | MDF ($m^3$/day) | ADF vs. Rated Capacity | MDF vs. Rated Capacity | TMV ($m^3$) | ADF ($m^3$/day) | MDF ($m^3$/day) |
| Jan | 27,076 | 873 | 1,059 | 34% | 14% | 29,349 | 947 | 1,549 |
| Feb | 24,886 | 889 | 1,203 | 35% | 16% | 24,450 | 873 | 1,361 |
| Mar | 25,415 | 820 | 961 | 32% | 13% | 23,976 | 773 | 909 |
| Apr | 28,465 | 949 | 1,311 | 37% | 17% | 28,996 | 967 | 1,369 |
| May | 31,109 | 1,004 | 1,215 | 40% | 16% | 31,986 | 1,032 | 1,241 |
| Jun | 28,813 | 960 | 1,135 | 38% | 15% | 29,596 | 987 | 1,207 |
| Jul | 24,677 | 796 | 1,061 | 31% | 14% | 24,522 | 791 | 992 |
| Aug | 22,757 | 734 | 854 | 29% | 11% | 23,093 | 745 | 888 |
| Sep | 21,967 | 732 | 1,164 | 29% | 16% | 22,349 | 745 | 1,174 |
| Oct | 22,812 | 736 | 971 | 29% | 13% | 24,386 | 787 | 1,016 |
| Nov | 20,370 | 679 | 825 | 27% | 11% | 21,996 | 733 | 890 |
| Dec | 20,684 | 667 | 827 | 26% | 11% | 21,532 | 695 | 1,135 |
| **Total** | **299,031** | — | — | — | — | **306,232** | — | — |
| **Avg** | **24,919** | **820** | — | **32%** | — | **25,519** | **839** | — |

1. TMV = Total Monthly Volume; ADF = Average Daily Flow; MDF = Maximum Daily Flow.
2. Capacity assessments compare average and maximum daily influent wastewater flows to the rated capacity (2,536 $m^3$/day) and peak flow rate (7,500 $m^3$/day) of the treatment facility, respectively.

## 3 Water Quality

Operators verify the effectiveness of treatment processes by performing a variety of in-house analyses, including tests for dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH and suspended solids. Operators are also responsible for collecting samples and submitting them to an accredited laboratory for analysis. Specifically, the Ignace WPCP employs a monitoring program that is both consistent with its system-specific Environmental Compliance Approval and with the federal Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER). **Table 2** below summarizes the results of tests submitted to the laboratory in the current calendar year and compares the results to effluent objectives and compliance limits contained within the ECA.

**Table 2:** Effluent monitoring results summary and comparison with limits and objectives[1]

| Month | CBOD5 | | TSS | | Total P | | TAN | E. Coli | pH | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | MAC[2] (mg/L) | MAL[3] (mg/L) | MAC (mg/L) | MAL (mg/L) | MAC (mg/L) | MAL (mg/L) | MAC (mg/L) | MGMD (MPN/ 100mL) | Minimum Result | Maximum Result |
| Objectives | 15 | n/a | 15 | n/a | 0.5 | n/a | 3.0 or 5.0[4] | 150 | 6.5 | 9.0 |
| Limits | 25 | 63.4 | 25 | 63.4 | 1.0 | 2.54 | 6.0 or 10.0[4] | 200 | 6.0 | 9.5 |
| Jan | 2.3 | 2.2 | 5.0 | 4.7 | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.91 | 10 | 6.7 | 7.3 |
| Feb | 2.7 | 2.4 | 8.5 | 7.4 | 0.36 | 0.31 | 0.04 | 10 | 6.7 | 7.4 |
| Mar | 2.0 | 1.6 | 5.6 | 4.4 | 0.37 | 0.28 | 0.19 | 26 | 6.7 | 7.1 |
| Apr | 2.1 | 2.0 | 7.5 | 7.2 | 0.37 | 0.35 | 0.06 | 90 | 6.6 | 7.1 |
| May | 2.0 | 2.1 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 0.31 | 0.32 | 0.05 | 10 | 6.6 | 7.3 |
| Jun | 2.0 | 2.0 | 5.6 | 5.5 | 0.42 | 0.41 | 0.04 | 10 | 6.2 | 7.3 |
| Jul | 2.0 | 1.6 | 4.7 | 3.7 | 0.44 | 0.35 | 0.04 | 15 | 6.3 | 6.9 |
| Aug | 2.1 | 1.5 | 6.5 | 4.8 | 0.60 | 0.45 | 0.04 | 10 | 6.3 | 7.0 |
| Sep | 2.3 | 1.7 | 6.5 | 4.8 | 0.65 | 0.48 | 0.61 | 12 | 6.7 | 7.5 |
| Oct | 2.0 | 1.6 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 0.64 | 0.51 | 0.03 | 10 | 6.8 | 7.1 |
| Nov | 2.0 | 1.5 | 5.1 | 3.7 | 0.39 | 0.29 | 0.04 | 10 | 6.3 | 7.0 |
| Dec | 2.7 | 1.8 | 4.9 | 3.4 | 0.65 | 0.45 | 0.17 | 13 | 6.2 | 7.3 |

1. CBOD5 = Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand; TSS = Total Suspended Solids; Total P = Total Phosphorus; TAN = Total Ammonia Nitrogen; MAC = Monthly Average Concentration; MAL = Monthly Average Loading; MGMD = Monthly Geometric Mean Density
2. Monthly Average Concentration means the arithmetic mean of all daily concentrations during a calendar month.
3. Monthly Average Loading means the value obtained by multiplying the MAC of a contaminant by the Monthly Average Daily Flow (effluent) over the same calendar month.
4. The objective and limit for total ammonia nitrogen are seasonal. The objective is 3.0 mg/L and the limit is 6.0 mg/L between May 1 and October 31; the objective is 5.0 mg/L and the limit is 10.0 mg/L between November 1 and April 30.

## 4 Chemical Usage & Total Chlorine Concentrations

Operators are responsible for monitoring and recording chemical consumptions and dosages, and chemical dosages are adjusted accordingly to maintain effective treatment processes. **Table 3** summarizes total chemical consumptions and provides monthly average dosages for treatment chemicals used at the Ignace WPCP. The facility uses aluminum sulphate for phosphorus reduction, sodium hydroxide for pH/alkalinity adjustment and sodium hypochlorite for effluent disinfection. Effluent total chlorine residual results are also summarized in the table. As per Canada's *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations,* average concentrations of total chlorine calculated over a calendar quarter must be less than or equal to 0.02 mg/L.

**Table 3:** Chemical consumptions and average dosages

| Month | Sodium hypochlorite (effluent disinfection) | | | | Aluminum sulphate (phosphorus reduction) | | Sodium hydroxide (alkalinity adjustment) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) | Average Effluent Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L) | Maximum Effluent Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L) | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) | Amount Used (L) | Average Dosage (mg/L) |
| Jan | 598 | 2.4 | 0.03 | 0.27 | 224 | 5 | 846 | 24 |
| Feb | 543 | 2.6 | 0.02 | 0.13 | 200 | 5 | 643 | 20 |
| Mar | 446 | 2.2 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 218 | 6 | 726 | 22 |
| Apr | 430 | 1.8 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 295 | 7 | 676 | 18 |
| May | 664 | 2.5 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 412 | 9 | 851 | 21 |
| Jun | 650 | 2.6 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 348 | 8 | 899 | 24 |
| Jul | 673 | 3.3 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 359 | 9 | 995 | 31 |
| Aug | 732 | 3.8 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 389 | 11 | 1,085 | 36 |
| Sep | 729 | 3.9 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 477 | 14 | 1,484 | 52 |
| Oct | 698 | 3.4 | 0.01 | 0.07 | 548 | 15 | 1,272 | 43 |
| Nov | 667 | 3.6 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 548 | 17 | 900 | 34 |
| Dec | 410 | 2.3 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 577 | 18 | 946 | 35 |
| Total | 7,240 | — | — | — | 4,594 | — | 11,323 | — |
| Avg | 603 | 2.8 | 0.01 | — | 383 | 10 | 944 | 30 |

## 5 Notable Operational Events

**Table 4** (Abnormal Operations Summary) summarizes abnormal operational events which occurred during the reporting period. Abnormal operational events include, but are not limited to, spills, bypass and overflow events, unplanned and emergency maintenance and repair, alarm conditions, sewer blockages and backups, and complaints and other public inquiries received and actions taken.

**Table 4:** Abnormal operations summary

| Incident Date | Event Description | Corrective Action | Resolution Date |
|---|---|---|---|

There were no abnormal operational events during the reporting period.

**Table 5** (Other Notable Events) summarizes any notable operational events which occurred during the reporting period. For clarification, other notable operational events include, but are not limited to, regulatory issues, including inspection results, orders, and reports filed with regulators, planned maintenance and repair, health and safety issues, and status updates concerning capital projects.

**Table 5:** Other notable events

| Date | Event Description |
|---|---|

There were no other notable operational events during the reporting period.

**Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry**

Resources Planning and Development
Policy Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

**Ministère du Développement du Nord, des Mines, des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts**

Direction des politiques de planification et d'exploitation des ressources
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

Ontario

Subject: Proposed regulatory changes under the Aggregate Resources Act

Dear Ontario Heads of Council and Clerks,

The Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry recognizes the critical role Ontario's municipalities play in the lives of Ontarians. We value our strong collaborative partnership with municipalities and the associations that represent their interests.

I am writing to inform you, the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines. Natural Resources and Forestry is proposing regulatory changes under the *Aggregate Resources Act*. These changes will harmonize with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' new provincial requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) for soil that is moved during construction activities to another site for a beneficial reuse (i.e., excess soil). Ontario Regulation 406/19, and Rules for Soil Management and Excess Soil Quality Standards include risk-based quality standards for the safe reuse of excess soil.

**We invite you to review the changes and offer comments.**

A complete summary of the proposed regulatory changes can be found on the Environmental Registry at the following address: www.ero.ontario.ca
Then search for notice: 019-4801

There are several ways you can comment on this proposal, including:

1. Directly through the Environmental Registry posting (click on the "Submit a comment" button)
2. By email to aggregates@ontario.ca, or
3. By mail to:

   Resources Development Section
   Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
   300 Water Street, 2nd Floor South
   Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

If you have any questions you can contact Darryl Mitchell at (705) 313-2154.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes,
Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch

218

BRACEBRIDGE
The Heart of Muskoka

The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge

January 19, 2022

**Re: Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding (Mayor, G. Smith)**

At its meeting of December 22, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motions 21-GC-317, regarding the Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding, as follows:

> "WHEREAS the Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) has provided prevention education, advocacy and support for survivors of recent or historical sexual violence in the area since 1993;
>
> AND WHEREAS the number of survivors needing access to crisis counselling and long-term therapy programs has multiplied four (4) times since 1993;
>
> AND WHEREAS ongoing underfunding of MPSSAS and the sexual assault services sector has reduced the number of resources available to provide these services due to highly specialized skill requirements that are unmatched by low wages and benefits relative to other mental health funded positions;
>
> AND WHEREAS the current COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in isolated survivors, unable to leave abusive situations due to pressures on housing and shelters, requiring the services of MPSSAS;
>
> NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT increased and sustainable provincial funding for MPSSAS and other sexual assault services centres be supported for priority consideration by the Provincial Government and its agencies."

In accordance with Council's direction I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262
public works fax: (705) 645-7525
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

www.bracebridge.ca

**Corporation of the Township of Perth South**
3191 Road 122
St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0
Telephone 519-271-0619
Fax 519-271-0647
lscott@perthsouth.ca

February 9, 2022

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**Re: "Catch and Release" Justice**

At the regular meeting of the Township of Perth South Council held on February 1, 2022 the following resolution was passed:

**That Council accepts the Community Policing Advisory Committee recommendation that they support the City of Sarnia resolution regarding Catch and Release Justice with the inclusion of the recommendations provided by the Stratford Police Services in their report dated January 19, 2022.**

I have attached the letter received from the City of Sarnia as well as the report from the Stratford Police Services for your information.

Your consideration of this matter is respectfully requested.

Regards,

Lizet Scott
Clerk

Cc: Randy Pettapiece, MPP Perth-Wellington
John Nater, MP Perth-Wellington
All Ontario Municipalities

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA**
**City Clerk's Department**
255 Christina Street N. PO Box 3018
Sarnia ON Canada N7T 7N2
519-332-0330 (phone) 519-332-3995 (fax)
519-332-2664 (TTY)
www.sarnia.ca clerks@sarnia.ca

December 16, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**RE: "Catch and Release" Justice**

At its meeting held on December 13, 2021, Sarnia City Council adopted the following resolution with respect to "Catch and Release Justice":

***That the City of Sarnia send a letter to the Federal and Provincial Governments requesting meaningful improvements to the current state of "catch and release" justice in the Ontario legal system. Police Services across Ontario are exhausting precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of the same offenders, which in turn, is impacting their morale, and ultimately law abiding citizens who are paying the often significant financial and emotional toll of this broken system. This resolution should also be sent to other Municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration; and***

***That the request also be referred to the Sarnia Police Services Board and be presented via AMO delegations for endorsement consideration.***

Your consideration of this matter is respectfully requested.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Burkhart
City Clerk

Cc: Bob Bailey, MPP
Marylyn Gladu, MP
All Ontario Municipalities

# CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

**DATE: 19 January 2022**
**TO: Stratford Police Services Board**
**FROM: Deputy Chief Gerry Foster**
**RE: "Catch and Release Justice"**

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## BACKGROUND

Council for the City of Sarnia has passed a resolution on December 13, 2021, requesting the Federal and Provincial governments consider making meaningful improvements to the release of offenders. The so-called "Catch and Release Justice" refers to the release of offenders by the courts whereby the offender is re-arrested by police for breaches of the release conditions.

The resolution indicates this approach has a negative impact on police workload, officer morale, and potentially law-abiding citizens.

Locally, council has asked that the matter be discussed at the Police Service Board level and that *"a review of "catch and release justice" in the City of Stratford be referred to the Stratford Police Services Board to outline current challenges."*

Further, council is requesting a resolution with recommended changes be brought back to council for January 24, 2022.

## ANALYSIS

On its surface "Catch and Release Justice" is a reference to the increase in offenders being released after being arrested. This term mostly refers to release by the courts although police officers (Officer in Charge) have release authorities similar to that of the court.

In response to the request of council, a review of charges laid for these instances was completed. Approximately 60 more charges were laid in 2021 in comparison to the average of charges from 2018 to 2020. In reviewing the data this increase would represent an approximate 43% increase

in breach of release condition charges being laid by members of the service. I would caution that the data, while it does show an increase from 2018-2021, could also be indicative of the COVID pandemic whereby the courts (and police) were actively exploring opportunities to keep offenders out of custody, where possible. The result was that more offenders were released on conditions where re-offending in the community could have occurred. Likewise, the stressful nature of the pandemic should not be discounted as a contributing factor on this data.

## RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

- The Stratford Police Service has experienced an increase in repeat offenders being released into the community only to re-offend.
- The impact of the pandemic on the police, justice and corrections system has been challenging to navigate
- More and more offenders are being released into the community on judicial release conditions that are continually breached leading to more arrests, charges, and court appearances.
- The community is frustrated with the lack of accountability on offenders and feel that their safety is being jeopardized.
- Police officers are resorting to "Officer in Charge" releases when offenders should be going to the courts for judicial releases because of workload.
- The court dockets will most likely be cleared of low-level offences resulting in no accountability for offenders
- Victims are feeling re-victimized by the system and losing faith/trust in the system.

For Council consideration:

That that City of Stratford endorse the Sarnia Catch and Release Justice resolution and add the following:

- The Federal and Provincial Governments recognize the linkage between mental health, addiction, homelessness, and crime.
- That all levels of government acknowledge that catch and release justice contributes to feelings of vulnerability within our communities and increases the cost of policing, social services, and health care in our communities.
- That all levels of government provide continued financial support to enhance funding in communities for Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Teams, Overdose Response Teams, Community Outreach Teams, Emergency Shelter facilities, Education and Awareness Programs, diversion programs, etc. under the umbrella of Community Safety and Well Being.
- That the Federal and Provincial Governments re-imagine a direct accountability framework specific to charges relating to failure to comply with release conditions.
- That consideration be given to provided holistic support to chronic re-offenders experiencing mental health, addiction, and homelessness issues with a multi-disciplinary team under one roof

Yours,

Gerry Foster
Deputy Chief of Police

SOUTH GLENGARRY

Ontario's Celtic Heartland

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH GLENGARRY**

**MOVED BY** Stephanie Jaworski | **RESOLUTION NO** 37-2022

**SECONDED BY** Martin Lang | **DATE** February 7, 2022

WHEREAS municipal governments provide essential services to the residents and businesses in their communities;

AND WHEREAS the ability to provide those services is negatively impacted by exponentially rising insurance costs;

AND WHEREAS one driver of rising insurance costs is the legal principle of 'joint and several liability', which assigns disproportionate liability to municipalities for an incident relative to their responsibility for it;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has the authority and responsibility for the legal framework of 'joint and several liability';

AND WHEREAS the Premier of Ontario committed to review the issue in 2018 with a view to helping municipal governments manage their risks and costs;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, on behalf of municipal governments, has provided recommendations to align municipal liability with the proportionate responsibility for incidents and capping awards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Glengarry hereby supports AMO's recommendations;

THAT the Township of South Glengarry calls on the Attorney General of Ontario to work with municipal governments to put forward a plan of action to address 'joint and several liability' before the end of the government's current term so that municipalities can continue to offer high quality services to their communities;

AND FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to the Attorney General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Jim McDonell, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

SOUTH GLENGARRY

√ CARRIED ☐ DEFEATED ☐ POSTPONED

Mayor Lyle Warden

| Recorded Vote: | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| Mayor Warden | ___ | ___ |
| Deputy Jaworski | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor Lang | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor McDonell | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor Luck | ___ | ___ |

SOUTH GLENGARRY

Ontario's Celtic Heartland

## CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH GLENGARRY

**MOVED BY Sam McDonell** **RESOLUTION NO 36-2022**

**SECONDED BY Stephanie Jaworski** **DATE** February 7, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of South Glengarry hereby supports Prince Edward County's call for government action concerning the current legislation and regulations surrounding municipal requirements to take over and maintain abandoned operating cemeteries;

AND FURTHERMORE that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Government & Consumer Services, ROMA, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus and all Ontario municipalities.

√ CARRIED ☐ DEFEATED ☐ POSTPONED

Mayor Lyle Warden

| Recorded Vote: | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| Mayor Warden | ___ | ___ |
| Deputy Jaworski | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor Lang | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor McDonell | ___ | ___ |
| Councillor Luck | ___ | ___ |