



Community Engagement Committee Agenda

Monday, November 17, 2025

6:00 pm

Multi Purpose Room – Zoom only if unavailable to attend in person

Zoom Link:

Topic: CEC Zoom Meeting

Time: November 17, 2025 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84567367425?pwd=deoV29t2LCiXPjHqduFgPZ98DOfel0.1>

Meeting ID: 845 6736 7425

Passcode: 702643

1. Introductions and Land Acknowledgment – Co Chairs Chantal Moore and Councillor Defeo
2. Presentation from North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NAYGN)
3. Review and approval of October 20, 2025
4. NWMO Update – Chantelle Gascon
5. Nuclear Youth Symposium Update
 - Call for Volunteers for set up, event days, clean up etc.
6. Engagement Opportunities 2026
 - Jake to provide document (to be discussed at Nov 17th meeting)

7. Communications Update

- Newsletter
- Nuclear Youth Symposium
- Centre of Expertise

8. New Business

- Any new business

9. In Camera: N/A

10. Next Meeting Date – to be discussed

11. Adjourn

Community Engagement Committee

Committee of Ignace Council

Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2025,

Virtual Zoom Meeting

6:00 pm CST

Attendance:

Chantal Moore – Co-Chair

Roy Fuller

Yvonne Dungey

Diana Baril

Heidi West

Councillor Janet Lett (Zoom)

Shelley McKay – Staff Resource

Members of CIMA+

Chantelle Gascon (NWMO)

Members of Unity Design

Members of Real Estate Team (NWMO)

Vince Ponka (NWMO)

Absent:

Maddison Hazelaar

Danine Chief (NWMO)

Councillor Jodie Defeo – Co-Chair

Jake Pastore - Staff Resource

Dana Caines

NWMO – Defined as Nuclear Waste Management Organization

DGR – Defined as Deep Geological Repository

1. Meeting began at 6:04 with Co-Chair Chantal Moore opening the session with a land acknowledgment.
2. CIMA+ and Unity Design gave a presentation on the design concept of the Centre of Expertise.
3. Charlene Easton, Manager of Socio-Economic Programs for NWMO spoke about developing a couple of Impact Assessment Working Groups. These groups will be made up of one CEC member, by invites sent out to ensure diverse voices and by expression of interest applications from Ignace and surrounding area.
4. Review of the August 28, 2025, minutes, approved and passed unanimously. September 15, 2025, minutes were approved with an amendment.
5. NWMO Update: Chantelle Gascon provided updates on NWMO activities and upcoming engagement opportunities.
6. Nuclear Youth Symposium Update: Looking for volunteers for the event; set up, during event, clean up. Diana, Roy, and Heidi are available, Chantal and Yvonne are available outside of normal working hours.

Community Engagement Committee

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Meeting Minutes

7. Engagement Opportunities: Deferred to next meeting.
8. Communications Update:
 - i. Newsletter: Went out two weeks ago and was posted on the website with copies available at the Town Office and Library. Shelley was asked to forward other locations discussed for distribution to admin to ensure the newsletter reaches more residents.
 - ii. Media Advisory: Deferred to next meeting.
 - iii. Centre of Expertise: Deferred to next meeting.
9. New Business:
 - i. Banners and Tablecloths: Shelley updated the Committee that these items are ordered and should be available for the youth event.
 - ii. Hometown Takeover: information distributed. Aaron to do a report for October 27th Council Meeting. Once decision is made at Council it was suggested that a Special CEC Meeting be held so we can get the application completed.
 - iii. Key Messages: Suggested that there be key messages at the end of every meeting to make clear what we want to communicate and promote to the public.
10. Closed Session: N/A
11. Next Meeting Date: November 17, 2025, 6:00pm in the Multi Purpose Room and Zoom
12. Adjournment at 7:12 pm.



Engagement Strategies for the Community Engagement Committee

Fostering Communication and Connection in Ignace, Ontario

Introduction

The success of any community initiative relies heavily on strong, consistent, and authentic engagement with residents. In Ignace, Ontario, the Community Engagement Committee (CEC) plays a vital role in serving as a bridge between the Township, NWMO and its citizens, especially on the development and placement of the Centre of Expertise and the Deep Geological Repository projects. An effective two-way communication strategy is essential—not only to provide quarterly updates to the community but also to ensure that the voices of residents are heard and valued. This discussion paper outlines innovative and practical concepts that the CEC can implement to enhance engagement and foster a more connected Ignace, as it directly applies to the projects stated above.

Key Engagement Concepts and Ideas

1. Quarterly Community Newsletter – Info Ignace

A quarterly newsletter is a tried-and-true method for keeping residents informed. The newsletter can be distributed both digitally and in print to ensure accessibility for all age groups. Content should include updates from the Community Engagement Committee meetings, upcoming events information such as the Nuclear Youth Symposium, progress on local projects, and highlights of NWMO achievements, licensing and regulatory updates and so on. A dedicated section for “Questions and Answers” or “Community Voices” can encourage residents to submit their queries or feedback for the next issue or directly to the CEC Committee members. Distributing newsletters at local hubs such as the Silver Tops, grocery store, library, and the community recreational centre ensures broad reach.

2. Community Engagement Committee Website

A regularly updated website acts as a central hub for all things Nuclear - Ignace. The site can host quarterly update reports, community calendars, COE and DGR project updates, and a “Have Your Say” portal for residents to offer feedback or ask questions. Incorporating a blog or news section allows for timely updates outside the quarterly cycle. Features such as photo galleries and video updates from committee members can personalize the experience and drive engagement, especially among younger demographics.

3. Local Surveys and Polls

The CEC Committee should examine the potential for an engagement survey on the NWMO projects. Surveys and polls are invaluable tools for gauging community sentiment. Quarterly online and paper-based surveys can seek input on topics such as municipal priorities related to the progress of the COE or DGR, satisfaction with information flow to residents, or ideas for new initiatives on how to engage on future project updates on nuclear. To maximize participation, incentives like draws for local gift cards or “Ignace swag” can be offered. Surveys should be brief, accessible, and available in multiple formats, including at local events and public spaces.

4. Town Hall Updates and Open Forums

Two town hall meetings should be planned and delivered in 2026. These will provide opportunities for direct dialogue between the CEC committee members and residents. These can be scheduled bi-annually and designed to be both informative and interactive. Virtual attendance options ensure that those unable to join in person can still participate. Each session should feature an update from the committee, a Q&A segment, and breakout discussions on topics of current interest around the development of the COE and DGR projects and include members of the NWMO. Summaries and recordings can be posted online and recapped in the newsletter for wider accessibility.

5. Attendance at Community Lunches and Events

Meeting residents where they are—at community lunches, fairs, or local gatherings—offers informal touchpoints for engagement. The CEC can set up an information booth or host a “Coffee with Members” table, providing updates and collecting feedback in a casual setting. This approach is particularly effective for reaching those who may not attend formal meetings or use digital platforms. Committee members’ visible presence reinforces trust and approachability. The Silver Tops or Ignace Business Association would be two great venues to attend and provide residents with an opportunity to provide ideas and feedback to the Committee Co-Chairs of CEC.

The upcoming Nuclear Youth Symposium in Ignace is set to be a dynamic and informative event that will bring together young residents (high school students) interested in career development or nuclear science and local development. The symposium will feature interactive workshops, keynote speakers from the NWMO, Skills Ontario and other stakeholders and opportunities for youth to share their perspectives on nuclear projects and community engagement. Not only will participants gain valuable knowledge and skills, but they’ll also have the chance to contribute their voices to ongoing conversations about Ignace’s future, fostering the next generation of informed and engaged community members.

Best Practices for Effective Engagement

- **Accessibility:** Ensure all communications are available in multiple formats (print, digital, large print) and languages as needed.
- **Consistency:** Maintain a regular schedule for updates and events to build anticipation and routine.
- **Transparency:** Clearly communicate how resident feedback is used in decision-making.

- Inclusivity: Actively reach out to underrepresented groups, including youth, seniors, and Indigenous residents.
- Recognition: Publicly acknowledge and thank residents for their input and participation.

Conclusion

By leveraging a combination of traditional and modern communication methods—newsletters, a community website, local surveys, town halls, and informal gatherings—the Community Engagement Committee can foster a culture of open dialogue and mutual respect. These strategies will not only keep Ignace residents well informed on the upcoming NWMO projects but also empower them to shape the future of their township. The CEC's commitment to authentic, consistent engagement will help build a stronger, more connected Ignace for all.