



# TOWNSHIP OF IGNACE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Progress and Partnership with NWMO and the Community

## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

First and foremost, we wish all the residents of the Township of Ignace a warm and glorious Thanksgiving. We should be so proud and thankful for our families, the youth in our community, a thriving seniors' environment and our overall community well-being. Looking back at an incredible year and being thankful for a bright and developing future for Northwestern Ontario, we are truly blessed as a Township.

On behalf of Council, we are pleased to share this second newsletter and update on the many achievements, open lines of communication, ongoing economic development advancements, and the many positive components that have marked our strong working relationship with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) and many other stakeholders and rights holders throughout the past few years.

### Achievements and Collaboration

Over the past few years, our partnership with the NWMO and other nuclear industry stakeholders has continued to flourish, bringing significant opportunities and positive developments to Ignace. Together, we have made remarkable progress in community engagement and economic development and have marked the launch of the environmental and social licensing of the deep geological repository project.

Over the past few months alone, the Township has made remarkable progress to begin laying the foundation for the future of our community.

### Our Top 10 achievements of 2025 include:

1. The assembly of the **Community Engagement Committee** (CEC) that will monitor, report, engage, and continue to educate the community on the ongoing advancements and positive impact of the DGR project.

*Continued on page 2*

## TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY  
TO FRIDAY  
9:00 - 4:30

## CONTENT

MESSAGE  
FROM  
MAYOR AND  
COUNCIL

2025  
PROJECTS &  
SUCCESSSES

NWMO  
CENTRE OF  
EXPERTISE

STAFF  
PROFILE  
HIGHLIGHTS

TOWN OFFICE NOW OPEN FRIDAYS

# INFO IGNACE



## LANDFILL HOURS

MONDAY  
12 - 4 PM  
Until Nov. 1

CLOSED  
MONDAYS  
After Nov. 1

WEDNESDAY  
12 - 4 PM  
All year

SATURDAY  
12 - 4 PM  
All year



2. The release of the first ever **Negotiated Request for Proposal (NRFP)** for a new housing development in Ignace that includes 46 fully serviced lots, 215 undeveloped lots and 6.4 acres dedicated to multi-residential building. The Township expects to finalize negotiations with interested developers in 2026.

3. The announcement of the new **KDSB Seniors Living Complex** on land donated by the Township of Ignace. This project at 306 and 308 Pine Street will create much-needed housing for seniors and is anticipated to open in 2029.

4. The announcement of the **NWMO Centre of Expertise**, a multi-million dollar milestone complex within the Township of Ignace, which will serve as the anchor to the Deep Geological Repository project and a new spark for indirect economic development opportunities for the region. The centre will house hundreds of NWMO jobs and act as a major attractor for the nuclear industry in Canada.

5. The announcement of the first ever **Nuclear Youth Symposium**, being held in Ignace for over 100 local high school students from the area. In partnership with Skills Ontario and NWMO, the CEC will host this inaugural session November 18-20, 2025 at the Recreation Centre.

6. The **Township website refresh** that will open new avenues of interactive and community engagement opportunities, and provide key economic development information to prospective developers, businesses and other interested parties.

7. The provincial announcement of a new **Ontario Provincial Police detachment** to be built in Ignace, creating new

construction jobs and centralizing regional police services within the community.

8. The completion of the **Transitional Housing Strategy** and the **Aerodrome Feasibility Study** by Explorer Solutions and The Loomex Group. These two critical studies lay the foundation for housing development and provide viable options for Council for the potential future of the municipal airport area.

9. The retention of Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited to act as **Peer Review experts** and protect the interests of the Township during the detailed nuclear licencing and regulatory process related to the deep geological repository project.

10. The announcement of approximately **\$2 Million in infrastructure funding and repairs for the Ignace Recreation Centre** by the Government of Ontario.

Among so many achievements, we want to thank our dedicated team at the Township office for their professionalism, guidance and ongoing leadership to achieving Council's mandate for this community. This includes the presentations, land inventory preparation, and countless meetings with investors, developers and other stakeholders with a common interest in the future prosperity of this community.

We also want to thank the residents of Ignace. Your input and active participation in public forums and consultations will continue to be vital to ensuring that every step forward is taken with the community's voice at the forefront. We continue to advocate for engagement and welcome voices to approach our Community Engagement Committee Chairs and present your thoughts, positive contributions and ideas.

# INFO IGNACE

## New Public Works Manager Plows Into Town!

The Township of Ignace extends a warm welcome to Dwayne Densmore (aka “Punky”) and thanks him for taking on an important managerial role with our Public Works Department.

Dwayne arrives in Ignace with many years of experience and an extensive background in public works and maintenance.



His most recent experience is with Miller Northwest Limited since 2017 as Superintendent, which included duties such as communicating with the traveling public’s concerns or complaints, managing and organizing large scale ministry contracts, coordinating and scheduling operations with the staff, project management, managing client relationships in a professional and productive manner, and monitoring work performance and efficiency of field staff and subcontractors to deliver on schedule and within budget.

“I am excited and looking forward to working in a Township with such a bright future in infrastructure development as well as maintaining our existing framework,” stated Dwayne. “We have a very capable team, and moving forward, managing our capital assets and maintaining a great level of service for our residents are priorities for myself and Township management.”

## By-Law Enforcement & Property Standards Officer on Duty

The Township of Ignace is pleased to announce that Jesse Hull was officially appointed by Council as our new By-Law Enforcement and Property Standards Officer, effective September 8, 2025. Jesse brings experience in municipal by-law enforcement and a strong commitment to community service. In addition to by-law duties, Jesse will be undertaking training to become a Certified Building Inspector, further expanding his role in supporting municipal operations and compliance.

Outside of work, Jesse enjoys spending time outdoors and is an avid fisherman. We are confident that Jesse’s dedication to both professional development and community engagement will be a valuable addition to our team.

**DWAYNE DENSMORE**  
Manager of Public  
Works and  
Infrastructure  
Township of Ignace



**JESSE HULL**  
By-Law Enforcement  
& Property  
Standards Officer  
Township of Ignace

## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

### Special Meeting to review the Strategic Plan and upcoming projects

Friday, October 24 @ 9:00 a.m. – Multi-Purpose Room (*In person attendance only*)

### Regular Meetings - 1st & 3rd Mondays (*No meetings in December*)

Monday, October 27 @ 6:00 p.m. – Multi-Purpose Room & Zoom

Monday, November 10 @ 6:00 p.m. – Multi-Purpose Room & Zoom

Monday, November 24 @ 6:00 p.m. – Multi-Purpose Room & Zoom



# INFO IGNACE

## ANNOUNCING THE CENTRE OF EXPERTISE

The Township of Ignace is thrilled with the official announcement by the NWMO that Ignace will be home to the **Centre of Expertise**. This state-of-the-art, multi-million dollar facility will serve as a hub for research, innovation, and learning in the field of nuclear waste management. The Centre will not only create hundreds of local employment opportunities, but will position Ignace as a leader in scientific and technological advancement, attracting experts and visitors from across the country and around the world.

The Centre of Expertise design team will be in Ignace October 20-22, 2025. Visit one of the information sessions below to meet the designers and the other firms involved in the project, learn about the Centre of Expertise, and give your input on the preliminary design. Please note that NWMO is conducting due diligence on potential sites for the Centre of Expertise and the location will be announced once finalized.

## MEET THE DESIGN TEAM FROM CIMA+ AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS

**Tuesday, October 21** – 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. @ NWMO Learn More Centre

**Tuesday, October 21** – 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. @ Silver Tops

*Refreshments will be provided.*

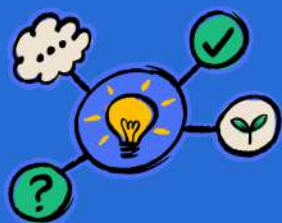
*This is not your only opportunity to provide input on the Centre of Expertise.  
More community engagement events will take place in early 2026.*

## Exciting Developments in Ignace

The Township's collaboration with the NWMO continues to bring tangible benefits and exciting developments to Ignace. From infrastructure improvements and skills training to educational initiatives and environmental monitoring, we are committed to ensuring that our community is well-prepared for the future. The NWMO's commitment to transparency, safety, and community well-being remains steadfast, and we will continue to work closely together with the Implementation Committee and the CEC to keep you informed and engaged through every phase of this project.

## Look for the NWMO booths at these upcoming events

<b>October 28</b>	NWMO Information Day at Lakehead University
<b>October 29</b>	Engineering, Health & Behavioural Science Job Opportunity Fair (Thunder Bay Campus)
<b>November 14</b>	PEO Lakehead Chapter 63 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Engineering & Technology Conference
<b>November 18-20</b>	Township of Ignace Nuclear Youth Symposium
<b>November 25-27</b>	Northern Ontario Tourism Summit (Thunder Bay)
<b>December 2</b>	2025 MEIA Cleantech Conference (Manitoba Environmental Industries Association)



# INFO IGNACE



**Youth Nuclear Symposium  
Skilled Trades & Technology Days**

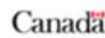
Presented by the Skills Ontario First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Initiatives and the Township of Ignace

Three days of hands-on workshops, STEM learning, and interactive discussions to introduce Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth to career opportunities in skilled trades and technology — with a focus on local and regional pathways.

**Event Details:**  
**November 18<sup>th</sup> - November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**9:30 am - 3:30 pm (CST)**  
**Ignace, ON**  
**Theme: Deep Geological Repository Project**

[skillsontario.com/fnmi](https://skillsontario.com/fnmi)

Thank you to our  
program sponsor:



## Township of Ignace and CEC Present the First Annual “Solid Future” Youth Symposium

The Township of Ignace and the Community Engagement Committee are excited to announce the inaugural “Solid Future” Youth Nuclear Symposium, in partnership with Skills Ontario and the local school boards. This three-day event will offer hands-on workshops, learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and interactive discussions with local youth about upcoming opportunities in skilled trades and technology.

## Looking Forward to a Bright Future

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all residents for your involvement, feedback, and support. The future of Ignace is brighter than ever, thanks to our collective efforts and the enduring partnership between our Township, the NWMO and so many other government and private sector stakeholders. Together, we are building a legacy of innovation and opportunity for generations to come.

Over the course of the next few months, we will have more exciting information, including an upcoming community celebration of our willingness and success in attracting the deep geological repository project to Ignace. This event will include visiting government delegations.

If you have any questions or wish to learn more about these developments, please reach out to the Township office or contact [outreach@ignace.ca](mailto:outreach@ignace.ca).



# INFO IGNACE

## HALLOWEEN TREAT OR EAT EVENT!

This October, the NWMO and the Mary Berglund Community Health Centre invite you to open your cupboards and join in on something Spooktacular!

The Treat or Eat Event helps to collect safe and nutritious non-perishable food items for the Ignace Food Bank to help local families experiencing food insecurity.

**October 1 - 24, 2025**

- Pick up your NWMO Treat or Eat event bag from the Ignace Learn More Centre
- Fill up your Treat or Eat bag with non-perishable food items for the Ignace Food Bank and return your filled bag to the Ignace Learn More Centre
- Each filled bag gives you a chance to win one of our fabulous Halloween themed prizes!
- Prizes drawn on October 25, 2025

For more information about the Ignace Food Bank including how to donate what's needed most, as well as how to access support when you need it, contact Yvonne Romas at (807) 934-2251

 **Mary Berglund**  
Community Health Centre Hub  
Centre de santé communautaire  
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Your Centre for Health and Wellbeing

**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION  
SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES

# INFO IGNACE

## NWMO STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Joe Heil

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has appointed Joe Heil to the position of Vice-President of Indigenous and Municipal Relations and Transportation. Mr. Heil joins the executive team as the NWMO continues moving forward with its mandate for the safe, long-term management of Canada's intermediate- and high-level radioactive waste.

Mr. Heil, formerly Director of Northwest Indigenous Engagement, is responsible for the NWMO's Reconciliation program and relationship-building with Indigenous and municipal communities in northwestern Ontario, including the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation and the Township of Ignace, the two communities that were selected as hosts for the future site of Canada's deep geological repository for used nuclear fuel. In addition, Mr. Heil will be responsible for the NWMO's program on engaging Canadians and Indigenous Peoples in dialogue about long-term planning for the safe transportation of used nuclear fuel.

"As the NWMO continues to advance its mandate, our commitment to fostering meaningful connections with people and communities remains a priority," said Laurie Swami, President and CEO of the NWMO. "The appointment of a Vice-President of Indigenous and Municipal Relations and Transportation will help ensure that collaboration, trust and our ongoing commitment to Reconciliation remain at the heart of our work moving forward."

Mr. Heil has more than 40 years of experience in the nuclear industry and has led engagement, consultation and negotiations on large projects at the NWMO and Ontario Power Generation. He played a key role in hosting agreement negotiations between the NWMO and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation.

Going forward, Mr. Heil's priority will be to continue strengthening relationships with the host communities for Canada's used fuel repository, building supportive relationships with surrounding Indigenous and municipal communities, and advancing the NWMO's Reconciliation journey.

"The NWMO is committed to co-creating a shared future built on rights, equity and well-being for Indigenous Peoples, and building strong relationships with the people and communities we work with," said Mr. Heil. "In this new role, I'm looking forward to ensuring that communities' voices continue to be heard, that questions about the safe transportation of radioactive materials are discussed, and that we continue to live our organization's commitment to Reconciliation every day as we advance our work."



**JOE HEIL**  
Vice-President,  
Indigenous and  
Municipal Relations  
and Transportation,  
NWMO

**nwmo**

NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES



# INFO IGNACE

## SNOW & ICE REMOVAL REMINDER

Winter is coming, and we want to keep our community safe and clear! Please take a few minutes to review the Township's Ice and Snow Removal By-law 13.2022.

- Do not push or blow snow onto roads, sidewalks, or municipal property, private property.
- Snow must stay on your property unless you have written permission from the Township or abutting property.
- Keep hydrants clear.
- No snow or ice may be placed within 2 metres of a fire hydrant.
- Keep it safe.
- Do not pile snow so high that it blocks sightlines for vehicles or pedestrians.

Violations of the by-law can result in fines ranging from \$100 to \$200, depending on the offence.



## THURSDAY IS RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE DAY STARTING NOV. 1

WINTER COLLECTION HOURS BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 1, 2025.



There will be no residential garbage pick up on Mondays, only on **Thursdays**.

Please have your garbage curbside by 6:30 a.m.

Bag tags are available at the Town Office and the Public Library for \$15 for a sheet of 10 stickers.



## CONTACT US

The Corporation of the Township of Ignace  
34 Highway 17 West, P.O. Box 248  
Ignace, ON, P0T 1T0

Township Office: (807) 934-2202  
General Inquiries: [info@ignace.ca](mailto:info@ignace.ca)

Visit us online at [www.ignace.ca](http://www.ignace.ca) for more information, to see our upcoming Council agendas, and to watch our upcoming Regular Meetings of Council via Zoom.

