



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: NWMO - April 2024 Community Initiatives and Project Updates

Date: Apr. 3, 2024

Report Number: CAO-2024-04-15

Department: CAO

File Number: C11 CAO 24

Prepared By: Mike Bartlett, Administrative Coordinator

Attachments: none

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report CAO-2023-11-38, prepared by Mike Bartlett, Administrative Coordinator.

Background:

CWBP

The Community Well-Being Program was developed in 2018 through programs offered by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) when Huron-Kinloss was in the site-selection process and learning more about Canada's Long-Term Plan for Used Nuclear Fuel. To date, the Township of Huron-Kinloss has invested \$400,000 into the community through this grant. In March 2023, Council approved the program for 2023 & 2024.

Deep Geological Repository and Potential Host Sites

In 2002, Parliament passed the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (Canada) ("NFWA"), requiring the owners of used nuclear fuel in Canada to establish a waste management organization as a separate legal entity to propose and implement an approach for the management of used nuclear fuel. In accordance with the NFWA, The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) was established by Canada's nuclear electricity producers and assumed responsibility for designing and implementing Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel. In 2007, the Government of Canada selected Adaptive Phased Management as Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. APM calls for the centralized containment and isolation of Canada's used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository with an informed and willing host. In 2010, NWMO initiated a process to select a site for the Project, and 22 communities proactively expressed an interest by the end of 2012. Since then, NWMO has been engaged in a multi-year, community-driven process to identify a site where Canada's used nuclear fuel can be safely contained. In 2020, NWMO announced that it had narrowed down the potential host site to two, the WLON-Ignace area, and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation-South Bruce area.

Discussion/Analysis/Overview:

CWBP

The 2024 Community Wellbeing Program application deadline has passed. The Administrative Coordinator is now working with applicants in preparation for the CWBP committee review meeting on April 5th. Results of that meeting will be featured in the May COW report.

Ignace Hosting agreement

In March of 2024, the Corporation of the Township of Ignace released their Hosting Agreement with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. This agreement sets out the benefits to, and obligations and rights of, each Party in respect of the Project in the event that the Project Area (Ignace) is or is not selected as the site for the Project; to ensure that adequate provision is made for the inherent adaptability of the APM process and the long-term nature of the Project; and to set out the respective roles and responsibilities of the Parties with respect to the Regulatory Processes applicable to the Project. A summary of the Hosting agreement is attached to this report, but it should be noted that the purpose of this summary is for information purposes only and does not constitute part of the actual Hosting Agreement. The summary is not legal advice. Any reader(s) of the summary are strongly encouraged to read the Hosting Agreement in its totality to understand the context of the representations listed in the summary. To view the hosting agreement in its totality please visit:

https://www.ignace.ca/images/Ignace_Hosting_Agreement_Execution_Copy88.pdf

South Bruce

The Administrative Coordinator has been in contact with The Municipality of South Bruce regarding their Hosting Agreement. As of writing this report, the hosting agreement has not been released to the public, but the Administrative Coordinator will continue to monitor the South Bruce website and is in process of setting up recurring meetings with representatives from South Bruce to discuss the project and other project related events, such as the upcoming Nuclear Exploration Forum which will be happening in May, and encourages members of Council to watch the April CLC meeting for updates on that event. Information regarding this event and any Project specific updates will be featured in future COW reports.

The Municipality of South Bruce released the Summary Report on Safety and the Natural Environment. This report is a plain language summary of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) safety and natural environment studies to date, how they address the Municipality of South Bruce's Guiding Principles, and the Peer Review Team's findings. It provides a summary of the natural environment's baseline conditions within the study area and potential impacts of the Project on community safety and is a companion to last year's Summary of Socio-Economic Community Studies. The Digital version of this report can be viewed here:

https://www.southbruce.ca/Final---South-Bruce-Nuclear-Exploration-Project---Summary-Report-on-Safety-and-the-Natural-Environment_Digital.pdf

The Full-colour 24-page booklet is available at the Township of Huron-Kinloss Municipal Office.

Financial Impacts: \$100,000 dispersed to Huron-Kinloss organizations through the Community Wellbeing Program.

Performance Measurement:

n/a

Strategic Area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle | <input type="checkbox"/> Enhance Municipal Service Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Inclusive Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure Financial Stability |

Strategic Goal: Build Community Capacity

Respectfully Submitted By:

Mike Bartlett, Administrative Coordinator

Report Approved By:

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer