

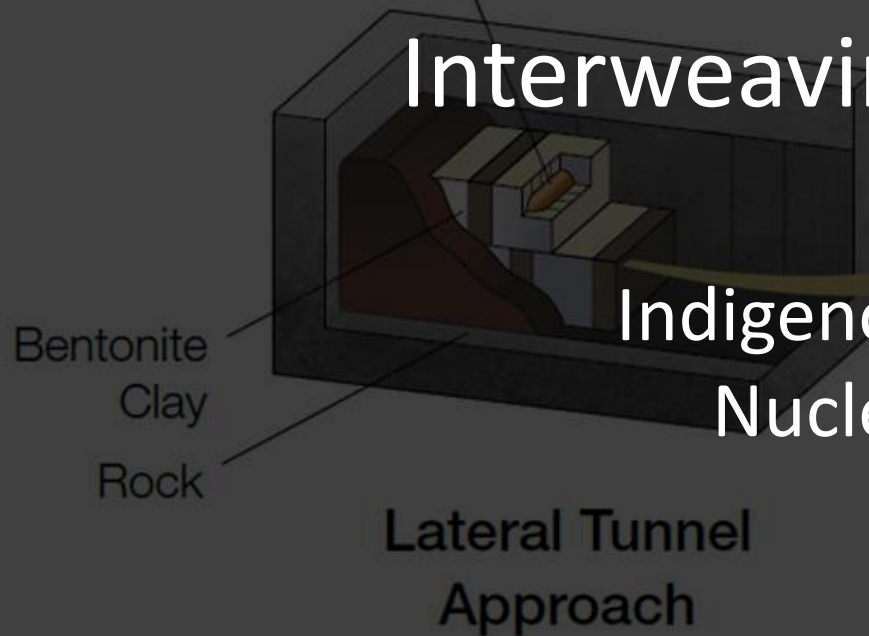
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CDNS 4403-5403

Sustainable Heritage Case Study
Class Presentation
November 21, 2019



Interweaving Traditional Knowledge

Indigenous Knowledge in Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organization



- LEGEND
1. Surface Facilities
 2. Main Shaft Complex
 3. Placement Rooms
 4. Ventilation Exhaust Shaft

Nuclear Waste Management Organization



Nuclear Waste Management Organization. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.nwmo.ca>



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Lessons

- Prioritizing safety and security of the people and environment in the process of nuclear waste disposal
- An inclusive, open and transparent participatory approach
- Working on shared ethics identifying similarities and differences between Traditional sciences and Western sciences
- Acknowledging, Recognizing, Respecting, Honoring and Supporting Indigenous Knowledge, belief systems, culture, tradition, values, customs, stewardship, language
- Valuing Traditional and Western sciences equally – Two-eyed approach - Bridging the gap
- Opportunity to learn from Indigenous Knowledge
- Interdisciplinary approach – workshops between technical staff and Indigenous peoples to help both understand/educate about each other – learning from experiences
- Continuous revisitation of policies, concerns and issues helping in progress

Description

- Nuclear Waste Management Organization was established in 2002 under the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA) and “is responsible for designing and implementing Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel.” (“NWMO”)
- Safety of the people and environment is the top priority
- Guided by six values: Safety, Integrity, Excellence, Engagement, Accountability, Transparency
- Adaptive Phased Management as Canada’s approach for long-term management of nuclear waste – a technical method and a management system
- NWMO has been working closely with experts and public including Indigenous peoples, First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples since its establishment - “The NWMO is obliged under the NFWA to consult with Canadians and Aboriginal peoples throughout the implementation of Adaptive Phased Management (APM).” (“NWMO”)
- Adopted policies that applies to all works of NWMO with Indigenous Peoples, First Nations, Metis and Inuit People - Aboriginal Policy (2009), Indigenous Knowledge Policy (2016), Reconciliation Statement (2018), Reconciliation Policy (2019)

Policies of NWMO



The cover of the NWMO Aboriginal Policy document features the NWMO logo at the top left, which includes the text "nwmO" in a stylized font and "NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION" and "SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES" in smaller text below it. The title "NWMO Aboriginal Policy" is prominently displayed in the center, with "SEPTEMBER 2018" underneath. On the right side, there is a graphic of two green chevrons pointing right. A horizontal line is at the bottom of the cover.

nwmO
NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

NWMO Aboriginal Policy

SEPTEMBER 2018

NWMO Aboriginal Policy. (2009). Retrieved from <https://www.nwmo.ca/en/ABOUT-US/Who-We-Are/Our-Commitment/Code-of-Conduct-and-Policies>



The cover of the NWMO Indigenous Knowledge Policy document features the NWMO logo at the top left, which includes the text "nwmO" in a stylized font and "NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION" and "SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES" in smaller text below it. The title "Indigenous Knowledge Policy" is prominently displayed in the center, with "OCTOBER 2016" underneath. On the right side, there is a graphic of two green chevrons pointing right. A horizontal line is at the bottom of the cover.

nwmO
NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

Indigenous Knowledge Policy

OCTOBER 2016

Indigenous Knowledge Policy. (2016). Retrieved from https://www.nwmo.ca/~media/Site/Reports/2016/10/20/11/02/English_IndigenousKnowledgePolicy_2016.ashx?la=en.

Reconciliation statement, July 2018



NWMO Board member Ron Jamieson (right) honored ahead of the signing of the Reconciliation Statement. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.nwmo.ca/en/More-information/News-and-Activities/2018/07/16/16/47/The-NWMO-issues-reconciliation-statement-collaboratively-with-Indigenous-Elders-and-youth>

Reconciliation policy, October 2019



The NWMO Reconciliation Policy was formalized and blessed through an Indigenous Sunrise Ceremony in King City, Ont., that included members of the NWMO's executive team and Board of Directors, and the Nwmo Council of Elders and Youth. (2019). Retrieved from <https://www.nwmo.ca/en/More-information/News-and-Activities/2019/10/16/15/03/The-NWMO-issues-Reconciliation-Policy-calls-on-corporate-Canada-to-join-discussion>

Stakeholders

- Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO)
- Minister of Natural Resources
- Nuclear Fuel Waste Bureau
- Ontario Power Generation (OPG)
- New Brunswick Power Corporation (NB Power)
- Hydro Quebec (HQ)
- Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL)
- Canadian Nuclear Association (CNA)
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Environment Canada,
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Health Canada
- English River First Nation
- Pinehouse
- Creighton
- Ear falls
- Ignace
- Redrock
- Nipigon
- Schreiber
- Mantiouwadge
- Hornepayne
- White River
- Wawa
- Blind River
- Elliot River
- The North Shore
- Spanish

- Saugeen Shores
- Arran – Elderslie
- Huron – Kinloss
- Brockton
- South Bruce
- Central Huron

- Organization
- Governing Ministry
- Governing Bureau
- Waste owners and
Funding agencies
- Regulatory or Policy agencies
- Other Canadian agencies
- Involved communities

Stakeholders (cont.)

- National level Organizations
 - Assembly of First Nations (AFN)
 - Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP)
 - Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)
 - Metis National Council (MNC)
 - Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)
 - Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association
 - Local/Regional Level Organizations
 - Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs (APC)
 - Eabametoong First Nation, Fort Hope, Ontario
 - East Coast First People's Alliance
 - Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
 - Northern Saskatchewan
 - Ontario Metis Aboriginal Association (Ontario affiliate of CAP)
 - Sakitawak Metis Society, Northwestern Saskatchewan
 - Union of New Brunswick Indians
 - Western Indian Treaty Alliance (WITA)
 - Prince Albert Grand Council
 - Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, France, Korea, Japan, and the United Kingdom
 - Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
 - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- Indigenous, First Nations, Metis and Inuit community organizations
- International Partners

Timeline

2002 – Nuclear Fuel Waste Act was passed

Nuclear Waste Management Organization was established

Advisory Council includes Indigenous representation

2003 – Traditional knowledge workshop

2005 – Adaptive Phased Management (APM) was proposed

Ethical and Social Framework was adopted

Elders Forum was formed. Working group was named Niigani

2007 – APM was accepted by the Canadian government as Canada's long-term approach to manage nuclear waste

Board of Directors includes Indigenous representation

2008 – Traditional Knowledge Project

2009 – Memorandum of Understanding between Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and NWMO

Funding formula approved by the Minister of Natural Resources

Aboriginal Policy

2010 – NWMO launched a nine-step approach - Siting process initiated

2012 – Elders Forum renamed as Council of Elders

2014 – Council of Elders adds Youth

2015 – NWMO's Director of Nuclear Design and Transportation Chris Hatton receives Innovation Achievement Award from Canadian Nuclear Society

2016 – Indigenous Knowledge Policy

Declaration of the Keepers of the Land signed by Council of Elders and Youth

2017 – Consultation on borehole drilling

2018 – NWMO Environmental Policy

Reconciliation Statement finalized

2019 – Reconciliation Policy issued

Natural/Cultural Heritage

- Natural Heritage

Ecologically sensitive areas and areas of local significance will be avoided in the site selection process

Preserving Biodiversity - Selecting a (safe and isolated) site with the concern for safety and security of the people and environment for the safe and isolated disposal of used nuclear fuel

- Cultural Heritage

Values, traditions, customs and rights of Indigenous Peoples, First Nations and Metis communities are acknowledged, respected, recognized and supported in the sharing of Traditional Ecological Knowledge/Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge/Indigenous Knowledge in the process of site selection and in all future processes

Sustainability

- Environmental Sustainability
 - Achieving livability through balanced growth with major focus on health and safety of the community and environment
 - Adopted an Environmental Policy
 - Environmental Assessment teams to assess the sites under consideration
- Socio-Cultural Sustainability
 - Working on shared ethics
 - Respecting and Sustaining values, customs, beliefs and traditions of Indigenous peoples
 - Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in decision-making process
- Economic Sustainability
 - Funding involved communities
 - Compensation for affected communities – creating job opportunities is one among them
- Sustainable Development Goals
 - SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities)
 - SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
 - SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals)

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