

Canadian Nuclear Innovation¹

The Canadian nuclear energy industry represents a vital part of the Canadian economy. The industry employs 70,000 Canadians directly and indirectly (via support industries), generating over \$7 billion dollars a year in economic activity and over \$1.5 billion in both federal and provincial revenues.

The current restructuring of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the need for an innovation mandate for Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) creates an opportunity for the Federal and Ontario governments along with nuclear industry partners to play a lead role in fostering nuclear innovation by leveraging CNL's S&T capabilities. The parties should develop a new collaborative approach for defining nuclear science, technology and innovation priorities and for establishing program funding that will enable Ontario's nuclear industry to be competitive and sustainable in world markets.

With over 400 nuclear facilities in operation globally, 63 currently under construction and 66 in the planning phase, nuclear energy expansion and maintenance of existing facilities will become an increasingly vital source of energy and economic stability in coming years. The Canadian nuclear industry is already well entrenched in the global nuclear energy community, with significant operations in over 20 countries. Support for the Canadian nuclear industry from all levels of government, especially at the Federal level, will become increasingly necessary due to increased demand for nuclear production, both domestically and internationally, as well as increased competition within the market.

Since 2012, the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, together with the Ontario and Canadian Chambers, have supported the creation of an oversight committee/panel to address nuclear industry issues and act as a liaison between government and relevant industry representatives.

Recommendation

That the federal government work with provincial and territorial governments to:

1. Through its Energy, Research and Innovation and Economic Development ministries and the Canadian nuclear industry leaders, establish a joint government - industry nuclear science, technology and innovation program. This program will ensure that Canada retains its leadership position in the global nuclear industry.

¹ Data for this resolution was generously contributed by industry members including Ontario Power Generation, CANDU Energy Incorporated, and the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers.