

# Community conversations on partnership

Setting the groundwork for exploring next steps

**nwmo**

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What are the values and principles that should guide these more detailed discussions about the project?

Hornepayne is one of several communities in Ontario exploring the possibility of hosting the deep geological repository, Centre of Expertise and other facilities that are part of Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The project is referred to as Adaptive Phased Management (APM).

Since 2011, Hornepayne has been involved in a process of learning about the project and assessing whether it could be a good fit for the community as part of the site selection process led by the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO).

Preliminary studies conducted to date suggest the APM project can be implemented safely in the Hornepayne area, and the project has the potential to align with the long-term objectives of the community.

Hornepayne and the NWMO are now at the point of beginning collaborative discussions to look at the project in more detail, to understand more clearly what it would mean if the project were implemented in the area, and to see how the project might be configured to fit with the community and area's priorities and objectives. Ultimately, the project will only proceed with the involvement of Hornepayne, First Nation and Métis communities in the area, and surrounding communities working in partnership to implement it.

The community conversations we are starting today are intended to help set the groundwork for these discussions. Values and principles are important because they will guide the way Hornepayne and the NWMO work with each other during more detailed conversations about the project.

*What are the values and principles that should guide these more detailed discussions between Hornepayne and the NWMO?* For example, values and principles might include the commitment to all ideas being considered, the need to report regularly to community members to ensure transparency, treating benefit to the community as paramount, and engaging in the spirit of mutual respect.

Once we establish the values and principles to guide the partnership discussion, the next step would be to explore in detail:

- The various components of the project and how these components might fit within the community or be distributed in a broader area;
- The involvement of neighbours and partners in the implementation of this large project and how to engage them;
- The investments in the area that would be needed to support the project; and
- Coming together finally in the development of a plan for how the project would be implemented if the area was selected to host the project and it decided to do so.

Throughout, we will develop a clear picture of the benefits for the community and area, and any challenges or risks. We have time to consider this carefully over the next several years.

To help get the conversations started, we have identified a few discussion questions.

## **Background information**

### **A. Our shared responsibility**

Canada has been generating electricity from nuclear power for more than half a century. Nuclear power has been a significant source of Ontario's electricity for several decades and is currently responsible for more than 60 per cent of Ontario's power. One of the legacies of this electricity production is used nuclear fuel, which is a compact, solid material that needs to be contained and isolated from people and the environment, essentially indefinitely.

Canada, like many other countries around the world, has a plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel. It will ensure the used fuel can be kept separate from people and the environment without needing anyone to actively take care of it. The plan uses the best science and learnings from nature and natural systems. It is recognized internationally as the best approach.

There are currently about 2.8 million used nuclear fuel bundles safely stored in interim storage facilities that require long-term management.

Canada's plan was developed in dialogue with a broad cross-section of Canadians and Indigenous peoples across the country (2002-05). The Government of Canada selected APM as Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The starting point for this plan is that this generation is taking responsibility for the management of the waste it has created and is not leaving it as a burden to future generations.

### **B. The plan**

APM has as its end point a deep geological repository that will safely contain and isolate Canada's used nuclear fuel. An extended monitoring period and a repository design that allows retrievability are key components. APM also includes a management system that is based on phased and adaptive decision-making supported by sustained engagement of people and communities throughout implementation. It also includes continuous learning to ensure we are responsive to advances in technology, research, Indigenous Knowledge, and societal values.

The project consists of surface facilities, as well as the repository, which must be located in a suitable rock formation. Some of the surface facilities could be located directly above the repository or dispersed within the region, depending on the communities' desires and preferences.

A national Centre of Expertise will be an important part of the project. The Centre of Expertise will be located in or near the area selected to host the deep geological repository. The centre's key purpose initially will be to support the multi-year program of technical testing and verification, and to support ongoing planning and discussion with community members. It would later be expanded to support construction and operation of the deep geological repository. Important aspects of the centre will be developed collaboratively with the community. The Centre of Expertise will be home to active technical and social research, and a technology demonstration program. It will involve scientists

and other specialists in a wide variety of disciplines, including geoscience, engineering, and environmental, socio-economic, and cultural impact assessment. The centre will become a hub for knowledge sharing across Canada and internationally. The high level of international collaboration will be expanded as the centre welcomes scientists and visitors from other countries who wish to benefit from the work being led at Canada's national facility.

This national infrastructure project involves an expenditure of approximately \$23 billion (in 2015 dollars). It will be an engine for economic activity across an area involving sustained employment and investment over many decades.

### C. The site selection process

Since 2010, the NWMO has been working collaboratively with interested communities to identify a single site where Canada's used nuclear fuel can be safely and securely contained and isolated over the long term. The initiative to begin to explore the suitability of areas has come from communities that expressed interest in learning more about the project. Their expressions of interest began a process of technical studies that identified potentially suitable study areas within and around those communities. Engagement and outreach are now broadening to include First Nation and Métis communities, as well as neighbouring municipalities in learning more about the project and becoming involved in decision-making.

Twenty-two communities initially came forward to learn about the project and explore the potential to host it in their area. A series of increasingly detailed studies to assess potential to meet the project's robust technical safety and social requirements have informed a gradual narrowing down process. Preliminary assessment studies are now focused in and around five of these communities. At this stage of the process, none of these communities, including Hornepayne, have decided to host the project.

#### For more information

*Description of a Deep Geological Repository and Centre of Expertise for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel*

Available at [www.nwmo.ca](http://www.nwmo.ca)

## Findings from earlier studies

Studies conducted to date suggest the APM project could potentially be a fit for Hornepayne. The project has the potential to enable the aspirations of the community as laid out in plans, and through this, foster well-being as the community defines it. The project would provide economic growth, stabilize and grow the population, and provide the township with the human and fiscal resources necessary to shape its future and well-being.

The project can be developed in a manner that protects people and the environment. Effective mitigation would ensure the quality of the natural environment that makes up the parks and protected areas near the community is maintained. Where desired, municipal revenues from the project could be used to fund environmental, recreational and tourism initiatives in the area.

## For more information

### **NWMO studies**

Available at [www.nwmo.ca](http://www.nwmo.ca)

- Community profile
- Community well-being assessment
- Project economics: Employment

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# Community conversations on partnership: Setting the groundwork for exploring next steps

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Hornepayne is one of several communities exploring the possibility of hosting the deep geological repository and Centre of Expertise that are part of Canada’s plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. At this stage of the process, none of these communities, including Hornepayne, have decided whether or not they wish to host the project.



Preliminary studies suggest this national infrastructure project can be implemented safely in Hornepayne, and the project has potential to align with Hornepayne’s future vision. Hornepayne and the NWMO are beginning detailed discussions to explore what it would mean if the project were implemented in Hornepayne.

This community conversation on guiding values and principles will help set the groundwork for these more detailed conversations about the project.

Please provide your contact information so we can continue to involve you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_







# Community conversations on partnership

Reviewing draft principles



The Township of Hornepayne is one of several communities exploring the possibility of hosting the deep geological repository and Centre of Expertise that are part of Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. None of these communities, including Hornepayne, have decided whether or not they wish to host the project.

Preliminary studies suggest this national infrastructure project can be implemented safely in Hornepayne and that the project has potential to align with the long-term objectives of the community.

Hornepayne and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) are beginning detailed discussions to explore what it would mean if the project were implemented in the area. Engagement was conducted to develop guiding values and principles to set the groundwork for these more detailed conversations about the project. A set of principles emerged from these activities.

We need your input. Please review the draft principles, and share your thoughts!

Please provide your contact information so we can continue to involve you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for sharing your thoughts and being involved in the discussion.**

# Review the draft principles

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## » Safety

### **Safety is paramount.**

There is a need to be flexible/adaptable as science and technology changes in the future – to continuously improve the project to maximize safety. Ongoing “learning and communication” includes enhancing understanding of the safety of the project, including transportation. Ongoing national and international co-operation will contribute to confidence in safety.

## » Learning and communication

### **Continuous learning is needed for informed decisions.**

Ongoing, mutual learning and timely sharing of information is needed to support informed decision-making. A variety of engagement techniques and approaches must be used to meet the needs and expectations of a range of audiences that are at different stages in the learning process. Be open to opportunities afforded by an expanded suite of communication tools, building upon what has worked to date. Different perspectives on any topic need to be presented for discussion, and all questions answered.

## » Trust and accountability

### **Mutual trust, respect and accountability are essential for success.**

There must be clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the discussion process. Certainty about “the rules” for the detailed conversations regarding the project will result in a more effective process, but flexibility may be needed to adapt as appropriate. Participants need to fully understand the process and timelines, so there are no surprises. Mutual respect, honesty, transparency, and accountability are essential for success.

## » Inclusive collaborative relationships

### **The broad range of interests and different points of view must all be at the table.**

All sectors of the community must be provided the opportunity to be engaged – e.g., youth, seniors, elected leadership, land users, community groups, the general public, and others. All points of view – supportive, neutral or otherwise – must be heard with open minds and considered. The community must have the capacity – expertise and financial – required to participate equally and effectively.

## » Environment

**Protection of the environment is a priority.**

The social and economic benefits associated with the project must be balanced with the protection of other values such as wilderness. Appropriate policies and procedures must be in place to prevent or mitigate impacts, and effectively communicated to ensure community understanding.

## » Community well-being

**The project must benefit the community during all phases.**

Community well-being in Hornepayne must be enhanced by the project. People need to understand the changes the project could bring in terms of the economy, demographics, required infrastructure and services, as well as the challenges that will need to be addressed. Planning for the future – with or without the project – is required. Hornepayne must have a strong voice in ensuring its needs and aspirations are adequately met.

## » Regional involvement

**Regional communities must be engaged in order to understand the project and effectively participate.**

As the project has the potential to transform the community and the surrounding area, it is important that the larger region – including Indigenous communities – is involved in planning and implementation. Neighbours who have or are participating in the siting process should also be involved. The potential benefits of the project, as well as any potential impacts/risks, must be understood by neighbours.



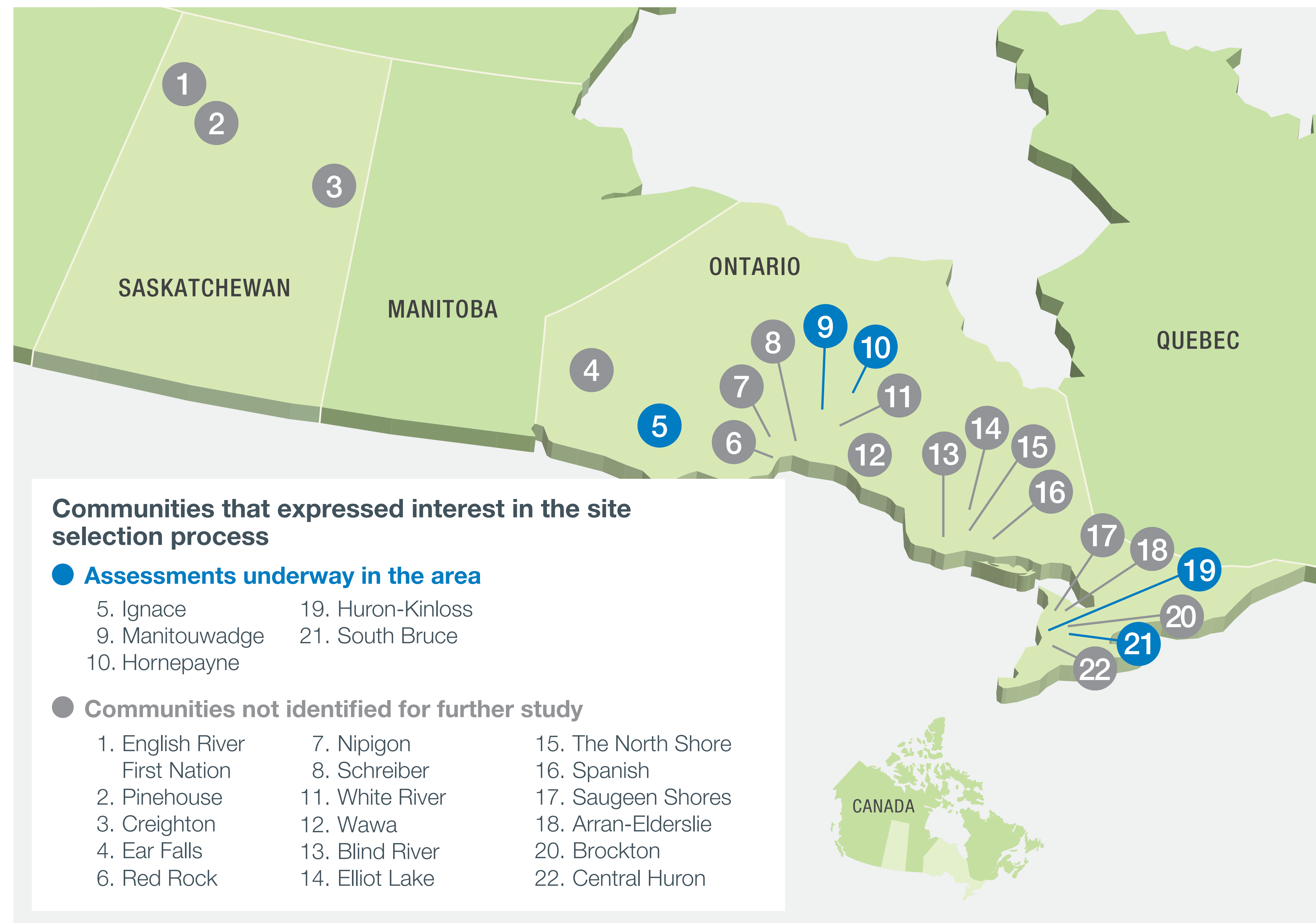




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**Poster boards for community workshops**

# Status of the site selection process

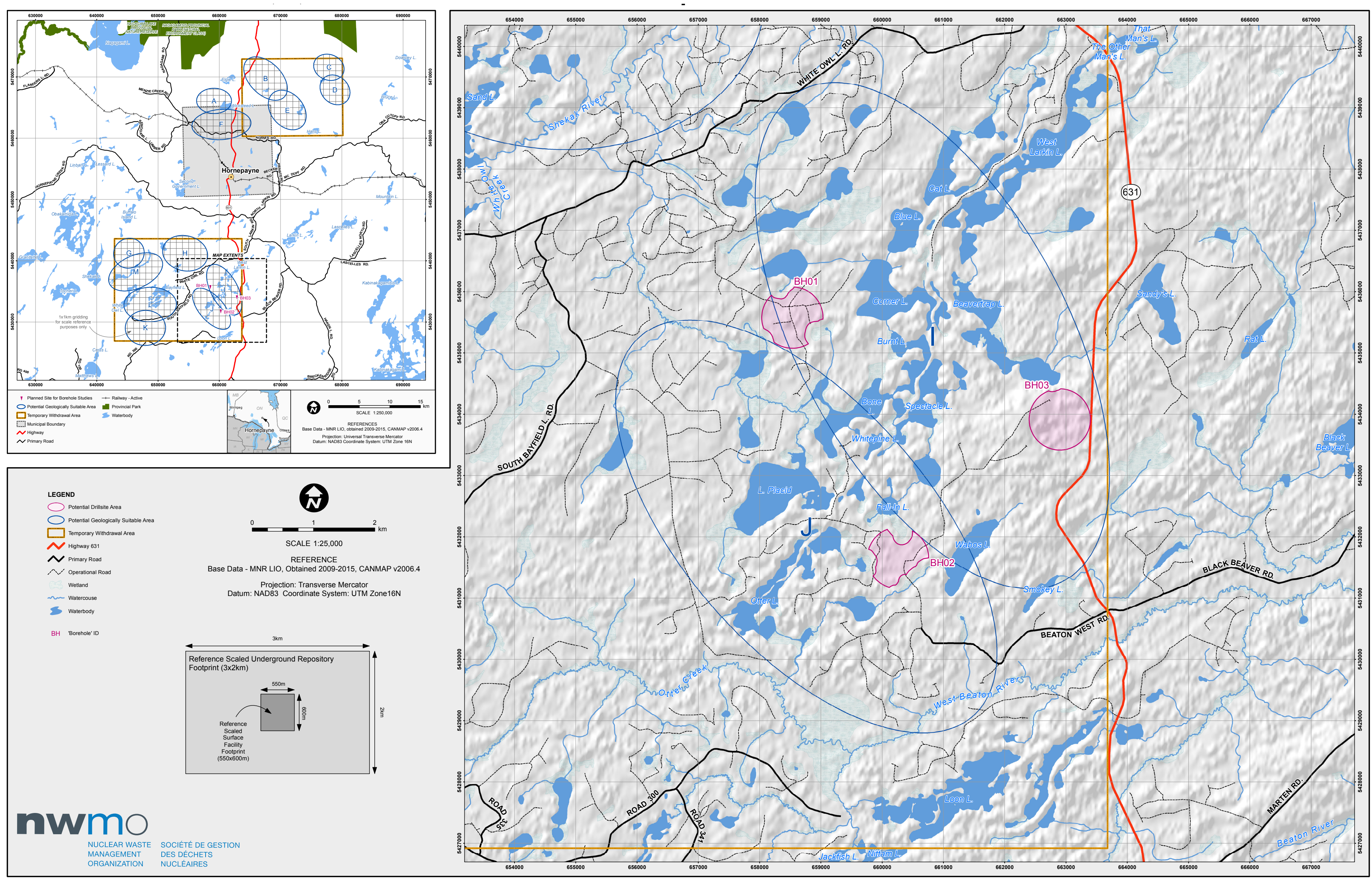


# Looking ahead...

- 2018**      **»»** Preliminary assessment of areas and sites
- Airborne surveys (complete)
  - Observing general geological features (complete)
  - Detailed geophysical mapping (complete)
  - Borehole studies
- »»** Based on learning from preliminary assessment, narrowing process continues with removal of siting areas
- Five large areas in Ontario are currently the focus of study. The Hornepayne area is one of these five areas
- 2023**      **»»** Preferred site is selected
- 2024**      **»»** Detailed characterization begins at site
- »»** Centre of Expertise construction
- 2028**      **»»** EA/licence application
- 2030's**     **»»** Construction of the repository begins
- 2043**      **»»** Repository operation begins

# Advancing technical studies

- » Continuing information sharing and engagement with community members and people in the area, including First Nation and Métis communities.
- » In order to be in a position to proceed with initial boreholes in the area, should a decision be made to do so:
  - NWMO will need to seek permission from government to drill initial boreholes. This would initiate formal consultation with Indigenous communities.
  - NWMO has conducted environmental mapping to establish baseline conditions.



Potential location of borehole sites – Hornepayne

# Roadmap to partnership (2018-2022)



# Exploring partnership – values and principles

Hornepayne and the NWMO are working together to begin more detailed discussions to explore, over the next several years, what it would mean if the project were implemented in the area.

Recently, preliminary conversations were held to develop guiding values and principles, to set the groundwork for more detailed conversations.

The values and principles that emerged from community conversations, to guide discussions and future decision-making between Hornepayne and the NWMO, are outlined on the following boards.

# Draft values and principles emerging as of October 2018

## Safety

### Safety is paramount.

- » There is a need to be flexible/adaptable as technology changes in the future – to continuously improve the project to maximize safety.
- » Ongoing “learning and communication” includes enhancing understanding of the safety of the project.

## Learning and communication

### Continuous learning is needed for informed decisions.

- » Ongoing, mutual learning and timely sharing of information needs to support informed decision making.
- » A variety of techniques and approaches must be used to meet the needs of a range of audiences.

## Trust and accountability

### Mutual trust, respect and accountability are essential for success.

- » There must be clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the discussion process.
- » Certainty about “the rules” for the detailed conversations about the project will result in a more effective process.
- » Respect, transparency and accountability are essential for success.

## Inclusive collaborative relationships

### The broad range of interests and different points of view must be at the table.

- » All sectors of the community must be provided the opportunity to be engaged – e.g. youth, seniors, elected leadership, land users, community groups, the general public and others.
- » All points of view – supportive or otherwise - must be heard and considered.
- » The community must have the capacity – expertise, financial - required to participate equally and effectively.

# Draft values and principles emerging as of October 2018 (continued)

## Environment

**Protection of the environment is a priority.**

- » The social and economic benefits associated with the project must be balanced with the protection of other values, such as wilderness.
- » Appropriate policies and procedures must be in place to prevent or mitigate impacts, and effectively communicated to ensure community understanding.

## Community well-being

**The project must benefit the community during all phases.**

- » Community well-being in Hornepayne must be enhanced by the project. People need to understand the changes the project could bring in terms of the economy, changing demographics, required infrastructure and services, as well as the challenges that will need to be addressed.
- » Hornepayne must have a strong voice in ensuring its needs and aspirations are met.

## Regional involvement

**Regional communities must be engaged in order to understand the project and effectively participate.**

- » As the project will transform the community and the surrounding area, the larger region – including Indigenous communities – will need to be involved in planning and implementation. Neighbours who have, or are participating in the siting process should also be involved.
- » The potential benefits of the project, as well as any potential impacts/risks need to be understood by neighbours.

We need your input

**Question 1**

Have we covered what is most important? Are there important values and principles that should be added?

**Question 2**

Each value and principle has a short description. Can you suggest refinements to these descriptions that would make them clearer or the principles stronger?

**Question 3**

Do you have other suggestions on next steps?

# Values and principles activities: Hornepayne

- » NWMO presented the “Partnership - Roadmap for Discussions” at February 2018 Hornepayne Nuclear Waste Community Liaison Committee (NWCLC) meeting.
- » Preliminary conversations with residents through summer 2018.
- » Draft values and principles emerging from conversations introduced at the October 2018 NWCLC meeting.
- » Workbook and questions available in the community office from mid-October to November 2 for people to add their perspective. NWMO continued to reach out to community members in October 2018.
- » November 13 2018 “Community Drop-in”/NWCLC discussion on emerging values and principles.
- » With the guiding values and principles as a foundation, the next step would involve more detailed discussions to further explore the project, its facilities and components, and whether it would be a good fit for the area. Ongoing engagement, discussions and learning may suggest refinements to these principles over time. These principles will be reviewed and refined as needed through these detailed discussions.