

Nuclear Waste Management Organization and Township of Ignace

Community Survey Report

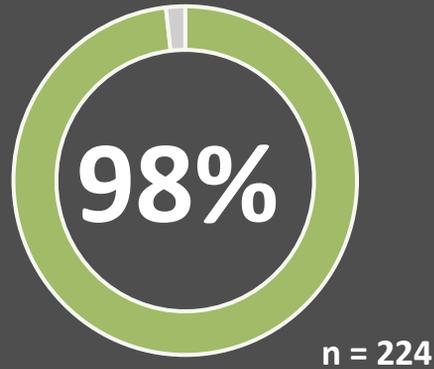
In January 2021, a survey was mailed to 850 Ignace community households. The purpose of the survey was to understand awareness around the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) and the site selection process in the community, as well as to gather information about the level of community interest in learning about the findings of the various studies and topics. The survey was available in paper, telephone, and online formats, and responses were collected through April 2, 2021. A total of 225 residents completed the survey through one of these methods.

Thank you to all who participated!

The number of responses received to a question or within a comment theme are included throughout this report denoted by “n”.

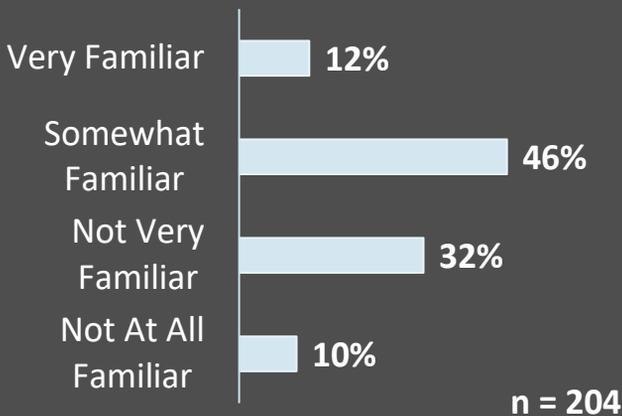
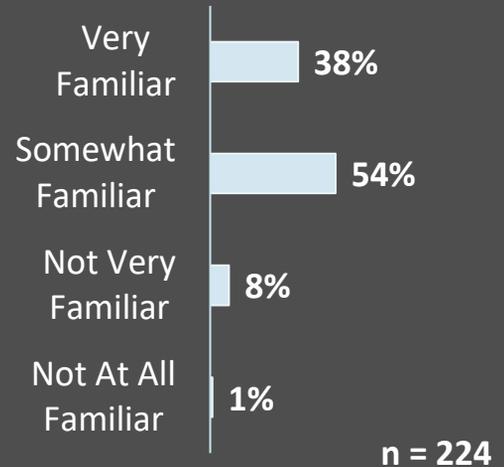
Ignace Community Survey

AWARENESS, FAMILIARITY, & KNOWLEDGE



Almost all survey respondents (98%) indicated that they had heard of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) prior to receiving the survey.

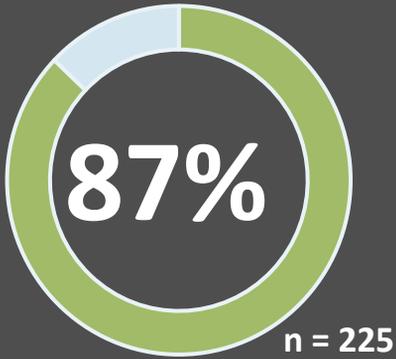
The large majority of respondents (92%) were very familiar or somewhat familiar with the involvement of Ignace in the site selection process for a deep geological repository for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel.



The majority of responding Ignace residents (58%) indicated that they were familiar with the local Indigenous communities' involvement in the site selection process for the deep geological repository.

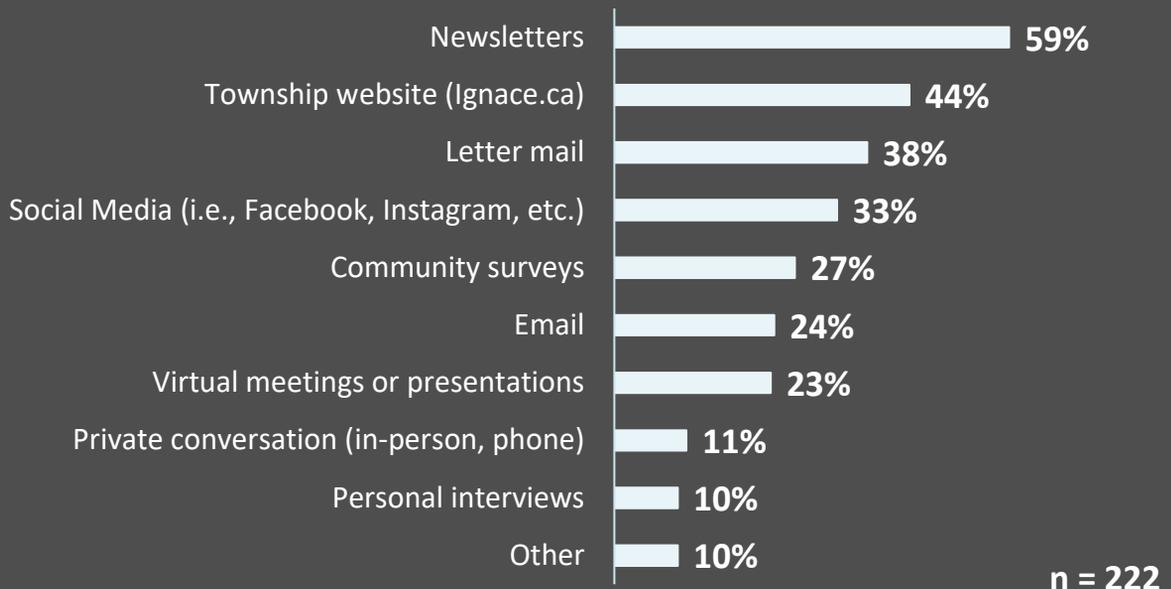
Ignace Community Survey

SITE SELECTION



Most survey respondents (87%) indicated that they were aware that the project will only be implemented with the involvement of an informed and willing host.

Ignace residents responding to the survey were asked to select their preferred method for being kept informed and sharing their thoughts about the project. The most commonly reported communication method was Newsletters (59%), followed by Township website (Ignace.ca) (44%), Letter mail (38%), and Social Media (33%).



Ignace Community Survey

INTEREST IN STUDIES AND TOPICS

Ignace residents responding to the survey were asked to indicate their level of interest in learning about the findings of various studies and topics. Overall, combined “Very Interested” + “Somewhat Interested” was high for all items (88%-97%).

The studies and topics with the highest “Very Interested” results were, the environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface) (82%), followed by the impact on property values (80%), social, health and public infrastructure (79%), and safety assessments (78%).

INTEREST IN STUDIES AND TOPICS



*Detailed results for Question 6 are provided in Appendix A of this report.

Ignace Community Survey

OTHER COMMENTS

Survey respondents were also given the opportunity to provide an open-ended response about any additional information they wanted to receive from NWMO. In total, 66 (29%) of responding Ignace residents provided a comment which conveyed a variety of responses and questions. Where a common pattern existed (at least 5 comments of a similar nature), comments were grouped into the following themes*. Overall, some respondents asked that NWMO keep residents informed in general (n=14), while many indicated they would like to receive more information on:

- How the security of the site, and safety of the community would be maintained (n=15)
- Impacts on local traffic and infrastructure (n=9)
- Community involvement in the decision-making process (n=8)
- Effects on the local economy (n=7)
- Impacts on the local community and residents (n=5)

*Comments can be included in more than one theme where more than one idea was presented.

APPENDIX A:

Question 6 Detailed Results

Ignace Community Survey

APPENDIX A: Question 6 Detailed Results

All results from question 6 of the survey are detailed in the table below.

	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not very Interested	Not at all Interested	D/K
Safety assessments (n = 223)	78%	17%	2%	2%	0%
The local labour market, including local hiring and workforce (n = 216)	71%	23%	4%	1%	1%
Skills building and training for community members (n = 222)	62%	31%	5%	1%	1%
Youth training and retention (n = 213)	56%	32%	8%	2%	1%
The environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface) (n = 224)	82%	14%	1%	2%	0%
Land-use for the project, including, at the site and location of various facilities (n = 223)	70%	25%	3%	2%	0%
Impact on property values (n = 223)	80%	17%	2%	1%	0%
Housing supply and affordability (n = 222)	68%	25%	4%	2%	1%
Local business, including tourism and other existing industry (n = 224)	69%	26%	4%	1%	0%
Social, health and public infrastructure (i.e., roads, schools, emergency services) (n = 222)	79%	18%	1%	1%	0%
Local and regional economic development opportunities (n = 223)	67%	28%	3%	1%	0%

APPENDIX B:

Community Survey Instrument

Nuclear Waste Management Organization

Township of Ignace Community Survey

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), in partnership with the Township of Ignace, is continuing its dialogue with residents. Thank you for participating in this survey. Your response is important.

If you are 18 years of age or older, please return this paper survey in the envelope provided
OR complete the online survey (go to www.cci-survey.ca/NWMO and enter your survey code <CODEXX>)
OR call 1-888-246-8068 and enter extension 0.

A. Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO)

The NWMO is responsible for implementing Canada's Plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The plan is designed to safely isolate and contain the used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository.

1. Before receiving this survey, had you ever heard of the NWMO?

- ① Yes ② No

Currently there are two Ontario areas participating in this site selection process. One of the two is the Ignace area. A preferred location is expected to be identified in 2023.

2. How familiar are you with Ignace's involvement in a site selection process for a deep geological repository?

- ① Very familiar ② Somewhat familiar ③ Not very familiar ④ Not at all familiar

3. How familiar are you with local Indigenous communities' involvement in a site selection process for a deep geological repository?

- ① Very familiar ② Somewhat familiar ③ Not very familiar ④ Not at all familiar

The site selection process requires that communities take the initiative to enter and to move through the process. It is intended to be community driven, and designed to ensure that the selected site is safe, secure, and has an informed and willing host.

4. Before receiving this survey, did you know that the project will only be implemented with the involvement of an informed and willing host?

- ① Yes ② No

5. The Township of Ignace is interested in learning about your preferences for being informed and sharing your thoughts about the project. Please select your preferred method(s) from the list below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ① Township website (Ignace.ca) | ⑥ Personal interviews |
| ② Social Media (i.e., Facebook, Instagram, etc.) | ⑦ Email |
| ③ Newsletters | ⑧ Letter mail |
| ④ Virtual meetings or presentations | ⑨ Private conversation (in-person, phone) |
| ⑤ Community surveys | ⑩ Other: _____ |

B. NWMO and Ignace Project Studies

Based on the project vision and community feedback, NWMO and the Township of Ignace will be planning studies to address the key questions that we heard from community members.

The list of studies is still being developed and the initial findings are expected to be available later next year. The list will include technical, environmental, safety and socio-economic studies.

6. How interested are you in learning about the findings of the following studies and topics:

Very Interested Somewhat Interested Not very Interested Not at all Interested Don't Know

	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not very Interested	Not at all Interested	Don't Know
Safety assessments	①	②	③	④	⑤
The local labour market, including local hiring and workforce	①	②	③	④	⑤
Skills building and training for community members	①	②	③	④	⑤
Youth training and retention	①	②	③	④	⑤
The environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface)	①	②	③	④	⑤
Land-use for the project, including, at the site and location of various facilities	①	②	③	④	⑤
Impact on property values	①	②	③	④	⑤
Housing supply and affordability	①	②	③	④	⑤
Local business, including tourism and other existing industry	①	②	③	④	⑤
Social, health and public infrastructure (i.e., roads, schools, emergency services)	①	②	③	④	⑤
Local and regional economic development opportunities	①	②	③	④	⑤

7. In addition to the potential studies set out above, what other information would you like to receive?