

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (the “MOU”) is made as of June 14, 2022 between the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (the “NWMO”), a corporation incorporated under the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*, and the Corporation of the Municipality of South Bruce (the “Municipality”) (collectively, referred to as the “Parties”).

The NWMO is advancing the site selection process for a used nuclear fuel deep geological repository and associated facilities through Adaptive Phased Management (“APM”). As of the date of this MOU, NWMO has identified two potential siting areas, including the Municipality of South Bruce, as potential host communities for the Project.

The NWMO has committed that the Project will only be located in an informed and willing community and that the Project will be implemented through a long-term partnership involving the host community.

Municipal Council directed staff to advance negotiations on a non-binding MOU with the NWMO for the Project to demonstrate how the NWMO would address the Municipality’s 36 Guiding Principles endorsed by Municipal Council on October 28, 2020 (the “Principles”) and which would form the basis of a future draft hosting agreement.

This MOU is meant for discussion purposes only and does not constitute a legally binding or enforceable agreement.

The Parties acknowledges that the entry into this MOU does not constitute community consent to the deep geological repository or the selection of the Municipality as the final host community in the APM site selection process.

1. Objective	The objective of this MOU is to identify the commitments made to date by the NWMO (the “Commitments”) to address the Principles and which will form the basis of a future draft hosting agreement (the “Draft Hosting Agreement”).
2. Project	For the purposes of this MOU, the “Project” means a proposed deep geological repository to be located within South Bruce, including all surface and subsurface structures on NWMO-acquired lands, the Centre of Expertise, and any other associated buildings. The Project cannot proceed without obtaining a licence from the CNSC, which will only be issued if the CNSC is satisfied that the implementation of the deep geologic repository will adequately protect the environment and the health and safety of persons. The Project will only house Canadian used nuclear fuel waste, such as that generated from previous and current nuclear generating stations in Canada or arising from Atomic Energy of Canada Limited’s operations. Any nuclear fuel waste stored at the Project would be required to be within the licensing basis of the deep geological repository established

	<p>in the future CNSC Licence to Operate and meet NWMO’s Waste Acceptance Criteria referenced in that Licence to Operate.</p> <p>Any low and intermediate level waste produced as part of the operations of the DGR will be subject to industry best practices. Where possible the NWMO will reduce, reuse, and recycle the low and intermediate level waste. Where allowed by regulatory approval the NWMO will send the low and intermediate level waste to a licensed facility. If no such facility exists that can accept the low and intermediate level waste produced by the operations of the DGR, it will be safely stored at the site and eventually disposed of in the repository during closure, assuming regulatory approval is obtained.</p>
<p>3. Commitments</p>	<p>The NWMO affirms the Commitments set out in Appendix “A” in respect of the Project and the Principles. More specifically, NWMO makes Commitments in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Standards and Safety • Environment Protection • Transportation • Unique Natural and Agricultural Character • Project Footprint • Mitigate Construction and Operation Impacts • Mitigate Community Impacts • Promoting Agriculture • Tourism • Youth Opportunities • Diversity, Inclusion and Equity • Relocating NWMO Staff to South Bruce • Employment and Training • Local Business Opportunities • South Bruce Regulatory Review Costs • Housing Plan • Emergency Services • Infrastructure • Road Networks and Road Use Agreement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Services • Official Plan and zoning bylaw • Governance • Engagement, and • Regional Benefits <p>These Commitments form part of this MOU.</p>
<p>4. Draft Hosting Agreement</p>	<p>The Parties will establish a process for negotiating the Draft Hosting Agreement based upon the Principles and Commitments.</p> <p>The Draft Hosting Agreement will be informed by the results of the studies and peer reviews being undertaken by the NWMO and the Municipality when they become available.</p> <p>Municipal Council has directed staff to prepare for a referendum to determine the community’s willingness to host the Project after the Parties have negotiated the Draft Hosting Agreement.</p>

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH BRUCE.

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

By: _____
 Name: Robert Buckle,
 Title: Mayor

By: _____
 Name: Lise Morton
 Title: VP Site Selection

By: _____
 Name: Leanne Martin
 Title: Clerk

Appendix “A”

Commitments

Principle 1 – *The NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Municipality that the Project will be subject to the highest standards of safety across its lifespan of construction, operation and into the distant future.*

From the outset of the site selection process, the NWMO has consistently indicated that the safety, security and protection of people and the environment are central to the siting process. The NWMO will only select a site that addresses the project safety criteria. This is one of the NWMO’s principles. The NWMO will continue to provide information to the residents of the community that describes the confidence in the safety of the site. Studies are already being undertaken by the NWMO to confirm that the geological conditions at the potential site location in South Bruce meet the safety criteria for the repository.

Safety will be independently confirmed through the regulatory decision-making process as the NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and other regulatory authorities that the elements of the project will meet regulatory requirements. Once the NWMO has submitted a project description to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), the Impact Assessment (IA) process and the review of the licensing application will begin.

- As part of the licensing process, CNSC experts and technical specialists will conduct a thorough technical assessment of the application.
 - The assessment will be carried out with input from other federal and provincial government department and agencies responsible for regulating:
 - Health and safety
 - Environmental protection
 - Emergency preparedness
 - Transportation of dangerous goods
- The licensing process will include a rigorous engineering and scientific review to determine if the proposed design and safety analysis (along with other required information) comply with regulatory requirements.
- This review will take into consideration the knowledge and experience of the best practices in radioactive waste management and disposal from existing facilities in Canada and around the world.
- The licensing process will ensure that the NWMO will have met or exceeded all requirements and regulations mandated under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.

The residents of South Bruce and all Canadians can be assured that a licensed NWMO deep geological repository will strive to meet the highest standards for health, safety, security, and environmental protection.

Principle 2 – *The NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Municipality that sufficient measures will be in place to ensure the natural environment will be protected, including the community’s precious waters, land and air, throughout the Project’s lifespan of construction, operation and into the distant future.*

The NWMO recognizes the importance of protecting South Bruce’s natural environment. As set out in NWMO’s Environmental Responsibility Statement located on the company’s website, the NWMO will seek “to protect and respect air, land, fire, water, plants, medicines, animals and other wildlife and people.” The NWMO will continue to protect the sensitive environmental areas including wetland areas as a top priority and further work with the community to educate and encourage environmental stewardship.

Prior to site selection, NWMO is currently conducting a series of environmental studies to establish an environmental baseline. The NWMO used a participatory process to co-design a predictive baseline monitoring program that would evolve over time to match the phase of the project. The environment program is based on a continuous learning model that adapts through the life of the project.

The baseline program will collect important data. This “*data describes the conditions of the area that would be affected by the project and provides an information-foundation for assessment and impact prediction*” (Duinker & Greig, 2007).

The results of the baseline program will be used to inform environmental management planning and monitoring and determine the type and degree of impacts the project may have and enable the detection of unforeseen changes and adaptive management. The results of the environmental baseline program will also identify which questions and concerns from the community can be answered using an evidenced based decision-making approach, identify those questions and concerns that will require additional study/data and update the program design accordingly, and recommend commitments and/or criteria that would be incorporated in the partnership agreements and Impact Assessment (IA).

Through that IA process, the NWMO must demonstrate under the *Impact Assessment Act* that the project is in the public interest. The IA process will take into account:

- The project’s contribution to sustainability
- The extent to which the adverse effects are significant
- Associated mitigation measures are appropriate and effective
- Impacts on Indigenous groups and adverse impacts on rights
- Extent that project’s effects hinder or contribute to Canada’s environmental obligations and climate change commitments

The IA must also:

- Take into account Indigenous-led assessments and Indigenous knowledge, rights and culture (ss.22(1)).
- Demonstrate that meaningful public participation opportunities were available during early planning and impact assessment (s.27) and (par.51(1)c).

It is the Canadian Minister of Environment, or Governor in Council (Cabinet) that will make the determination, (considering the recommendation of the IA review panel), on whether the project is in the public interest, and all the factors listed above have been appropriately considered and evaluated.

Throughout the various phases of the project, the NWMO will implement technologies that will protect the environment, specifically the water, air, and soil. These technologies will be included in the Licence to Prepare Site application and in the Licence to Construct application. An example of such a technology could include the use of HEPA (High-efficiency particulate absorbing) filtration for air emission systems.

Throughout the lifecycle of the project, the NWMO must also seek licenses from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). In particular, prior to operations beginning, NWMO must apply for and obtain an operating licence from the CNSC.

In accordance with the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, Section 24(4) “No licence shall be issued, ... unless, in the opinion of the Commission, the applicant:

- (b) will, in carrying on that activity, make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.”

During the operations phase, the conditions of the operating licence will require that NWMO regularly provide public reports on the activities at the Deep Geological Repository (DGR). In accordance with the CNSC Regulatory Document (REGDOC) -3.2.1, Public Information and Disclosure, the NWMO’s public information program will have to “ensure that information related to the health, safety and security of persons and the environment, and other issues associated with the lifecycle of nuclear facilities are effectively communicated to the public. As a component, where the public has indicated an interest to know, the program shall include a commitment to and protocol for ongoing, timely communication of information related to the licensed facility during the course of the licence period.”

The CNSC itself will also conduct an Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP). The IEMP process consists of developing site-specific sampling plans for the facility, and then processing and analyzing the samples collected. The sampling plans focus on measuring concentrations of contaminants in the environment at publicly accessible locations in areas of interest identified in Environmental Risk Assessments (ERAs). Samples may be taken for air, water, soil, sediment, vegetation such as grass and weeds, and some food, such as meat and produce. The CNSC publishes the results of its IEMP.

Principle 3 – *The NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Municipality that used nuclear fuel can be safely and securely transported to the repository site.*

Safety, security and protection of people and the environment are central to the NWMO siting process. The safe transportation of the used nuclear fuel to the deep geological repository site is also an important part of that process.

There are many elements that contribute to ensuring safe transportation for used nuclear fuel, among them are transport packaging, a strong transportation management system and the transportation routes.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's (CNSC) Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substance Regulations (PTNSR) are very stringent.

- The guiding principle of the PTNSR is that safety relies heavily on the design of the transport package.
- The used nuclear waste is contained within a transportation package certified by the CNSC. The transportation package design must be robust and is designed to pass stringent impact, drop, and puncture tests, an engulfing fire test, and immersion in water.
- The packaging allows for radioactive material to be carried safely using any mode of transport.
- Package designs are combined with additional regulatory controls (including labelling, placarding, quality assurance and maintenance records)
- The NWMO has container designs that will be certified by the CNSC for the transportation of the used nuclear fuel.

The second element to the transportation plan is the transportation route.

- NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce have two studies, Local Traffic Effects Study and Road Condition Effects Study. These studies consider traffic counts and road conditions for potential local transportation routes.
- NWMO has a program to dialogue with Canadians especially along the potential transportation route.

With the licensing of the project, the NWMO will have demonstrated to the people of South Bruce and to the CNSC that the plan provides for the safe and secure transportation of used nuclear waste.

Principle 4 - *The NWMO will ensure that the repository site will not host any nuclear waste generated by other countries.*

The NWMO is bound by a mandate as legislated by the Government of Canada in the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA) to implement the plan for Canada's used nuclear fuel waste. The mandate does not allow the NWMO to become responsible for nuclear waste generated by other countries.

The NWMO will not import, manage or store used fuel from other countries.

Principle 5 – *The NWMO must commit to implementing the Project in a manner consistent with the unique natural and agricultural character of the community of South Bruce.*

The NWMO recognizes the importance in supporting South Bruce's agriculture community and protecting the natural environment. South Bruce has a unique agricultural character with deep roots and as such the NWMO commits to:

- Engaging with the local community through a variety of opportunities to obtain community input on project aesthetics particularly around the surface facilities to support the natural and cultural beauty of South Bruce.
- As per the NWMO's commitment to Principle 19, obtaining community input on the Centre of Expertise design and ensuring that it conforms to the standards for commercial buildings in the Municipality of South Bruce
- The NWMO will wherever possible, (excepting the DGR surface facilities and excavated rock management area) maintain the surface and topography of the land in its current form.

Accounting for any possible setbacks, particularly around security systems, that may be required in order to satisfy the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) licensing requirements, any excess agricultural lands will be returned for agricultural use. NWMO and the Municipality will also investigate the potential of developing a trail system, as required, through NWMO owned property including a possible canoe and kayak launch site. NWMO will ensure in its design and operation of the facilities that the navigation of the Teeswater River will not be blocked off or prevented.

Principle 6 – *The NWMO will minimize the footprint of the repository's surface facilities to the extent it is possible to do so and ensure that public access to the Teeswater River is maintained, subject to meeting regulatory requirements for the repository.*

The NWMO's repository's surface facility will have as small a footprint as possible, it will also meet and where possible exceed the regulatory requirements for the protection of natural features. The surface facilities will be limited to approximately 20% of total of land that the NWMO owns or has optioned. The layout of the underground repository, the surface facilities and the excavated rock materials and their location within the NWMO lands will be confirmed in preparation of the application for the License to Construct.

The NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce are conducting studies on recreation in the community. These studies include outdoor recreation in their scope. Considering any possible setbacks, particularly around security systems, that may be required in order to satisfy the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) licensing requirements, NWMO and the Municipality will investigate the potential of developing a trail system, as required, through NWMO owned property including a possible canoe and kayak launch site. NWMO will ensure in its design and operation of the facilities that the navigation of the Teeswater River will not be blocked off or prevented.

Principle 7 – *The NWMO must commit to preparing construction management and operation plans that detail the measures the NWMO will implement to mitigate the impacts of construction and operation of the Project.*

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) licensing process requires distinct licences for the activities of site preparation, construction, and then operations. As the NWMO progresses through the CNSC's nuclear facility licensing process, the NWMO is required to detail the

measures to protect workers, the public and the environment, to maintain nuclear security, and to meet international obligations for the safeguarding of nuclear material.

The NWMO will as part of each of the Impact Assessment Study (IA) develop a plan to mitigate construction impacts on the surrounding community. That plan will use recommendations coming from studies that are currently investigating potential impacts from the construction phase. Similarly, as part of the licensing application for operations, the NWMO will develop and demonstrate to the regulator its plan to mitigate any potential impacts on the surrounding community.

As part of this process the NWMO will work with staff from the Municipality of South Bruce to integrate the staff's experience and knowledge and to address any concerns. The NWMO will also regularly report to the South Bruce/NWMO Joint Implementation Committee (See Principle 34) on the plans, and actions to mitigate potential impacts.

The plan will outline how the NWMO intends to address the following construction and operations impact mitigation principles:

- Road safety
 - Ensure safe passage for those around and near the project site as well as those entering or exiting the site.
 - Ensure considerations for farm vehicles and horse-and-buggy traffic are integrated into the project planning and appropriate mitigation provisions incorporated.
 - NWMO will work with local farmers to manage trucking schedules around heavy traffic periods for the agriculture activities such as planting and harvesting.
 - Ensure considerations for recreational uses, such as biking, walking, snowmobiling, all terrain vehicles and horseback riding outside of the immediate construction zone.
- Roadway efficiency
 - Major routes
 - Heavy truck traffic periods
 - Effective temporary traffic management
 - Coordination with other major industries in the community
- Site Stewardship
 - Containment of works, equipment, and material on site
 - Dust, litter, noise, and light control
- Schedule for each phase of the project
- Sequence and general schedule of construction activities
- Identify preferred site access and egress
- Estimate number of employee/contractor vehicles
- Communication
 - The NWMO will provide a conceptual communication plan outlining how the project will communicate with neighbours, stakeholders, and appropriate institutions and jurisdictions

These measures will be subject to detailed CNSC staff review, public comment, and a quasi-judicial review process prior to the issuance of each licence. These measures will reflect industry best practice at the point that the licence application is submitted.

Principle 8 - *The NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Municipality that it has built broad support for the Project within the community of South Bruce.*

The NWMO is committed to ensuring that the Municipality of South Bruce is an informed and willing community.

To ensure the residents of the Municipality are informed the NWMO will:

- Commit to supporting the community in participating, engaging, and understanding the project.
- Ensure the community receives all information available related to the South Bruce community's vitalization benefits, environment, safety, and any other technical information needed.
- Provide the community with all the necessary means to provide input directly and indirectly through variable channels, mail, emails, webinar, Townhall meetings, and surveys
- Address and support the Municipality's 36 Guiding Principles
- Support the Municipality's necessary studies and community's outreach activities that help the South Bruce community have a fulsome understanding of the project impacts, and benefits.
- Provide South Bruce leadership with all the necessary tools, information, and resources to draft a hosting agreement that reflect the community aspirations and desire to succeed.
- Commit to fund and support the community involvement and full participation in the regulatory process.

Principle 10 – *The NWMO will identify the potential for any positive and negative socio-economic impacts of the Project on South Bruce and surrounding communities and what community benefits it will contribute to mitigate any potential risks.*

The NWMO is committed to helping the Municipality to become an even better place to live, work, and raise a family. The NWMO have committed as part of the response to the 36 Principles to create good, well-paying jobs in the community, throughout the several decades of operation, to move much of the existing workforce to the community, and to provide opportunities for local businesses. The NWMO has committed to supporting local industries such as agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, and construction. The NWMO have committed to providing youth, opportunities in their own community and to providing employment training.

The Municipality of South Bruce and NWMO are conducting over 20 studies to develop a baseline on the social, health and economic situation that the residents of South Bruce are currently living in. The studies will also provide recommendations on how to mitigate potential negative impacts. Based on those recommendations the NWMO and the Municipality will develop a plan to mitigate the negative impacts on the social, health, or economic situations for

the residents of South Bruce that the project may cause. The NWMO and the Municipality will agree, as part of a draft hosting agreement, on how mitigations will be funded and the timing of those mitigations as they relate to the project phases (construction or operations, for example).

Principle 11 – *The NWMO, in consultation with the Municipality, will establish a property value protection program to compensate property owners in the event that property values are adversely affected by the NWMO’s site selection process and the development, construction and/or operation of the Project.*

The NWMO has developed a program to protect property values for owners in proximity to Canada’s Deep Geological Repository (DGR). The Property Value Protection (PVP) program will be activated should South Bruce be selected as the hosting site.

All property types – including agricultural, commercial, and residential properties – within a five-kilometre radius of the potential site would be eligible for the program.

Principle 12 – *The NWMO, in consultation with the Municipality, will establish a program to mitigate losses to business owners in the event that their business is adversely affected by the NWMO’s site selection process and the development, construction and/or operation of the Project*

The NWMO is committed to supporting small businesses in and around South Bruce. The NWMO is committed to carry out Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) as part of the Impact Assessment Study (IA). The EMPs will identify any project activities that may disturb or impede local business operations during mobilization, construction, and commissioning.

The NWMO will create a compensation program to provide compensation for businesses affected by project activities. Businesses that are eligible for compensation will receive payments commensurate in time with the project activities that give rise to the impacts.

Principle 13 – *The NWMO, in partnership with the Municipality, will develop a strategy and fund a program to promote the agriculture of South Bruce and the surrounding communities.*

Agriculture is an important industry in the region. The NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce will, using the recommendations from the Municipality’s Agricultural Business Impact study as well as recommendations from local agricultural organizations and forums develop a program to promote local commodities, and help local farmers adopt emerging technology.

The NWMO will support establishing a program to build partnerships between small and niche farmers, locally grown, farm-fresh produce, natural, and organic businesses, and marketing agencies to support and promote their crops and products.

The NWMO will support establishing a program for local farmers to access technical experts as well as funding to assist in adopting emerging technology.

NWMO and the Municipality will agree as part of a Hosting Agreement on funding levels for the program and how the programs will be delivered to the community.

Principle 14 – *The NWMO, in partnership with the Municipality, will develop a strategy and fund a program to promote tourism in South Bruce and the surrounding communities.*

The Municipality of South Bruce will develop a tourism plan based on the Tourism Industry Effects Study and strategic recommendations from local tourism providers. The plan will include the NWMO's Centre of Expertise becoming a tourist destination in the region. There is also the opportunity for the municipality to partner with the NWMO on future underground tours of the facility. The Municipality and NWMO will negotiate a funding agreement to support the tourism plan. That agreement will become a part of a Hosting Agreement between the Municipality and the NWMO.

Principle 15 - *The NWMO, in partnership with the Municipality, will commit to implement programs to engage with and provide opportunities for youth in the community, including investments in education and the provision of scholarships, bursaries and other incentives for youth to remain in or return to the community.*

Youth opportunities and youth retention are important for the future of many small and rural communities across Ontario and the Municipality is no different. This project will provide well paying high skill jobs to local youth for generations. The NWMO has already invested in local youth through programs such as Early Investment in Education and Skills. The NWMO and the Municipality will use the recommendations from the Regional Economic Development – Youth, Local and Regional Education Study, and the Work Force Development Study, to develop programs that will provide local youth with the training and skills that they need to succeed in the future in a growing and prosperous South Bruce.

The NWMO and the Municipality will agree as part of the Hosting Agreement on youth training programs and youth educational programs which could include bursaries and scholarships.

Principle 16 – *The NWMO will implement the Project in a manner that promotes diversity, equality and inclusion.*

The NWMO ensures that its workforce is composed of people with diverse backgrounds, that the employees are treated equitably, and that there is an open, inclusive, harassment-free, and safe work environment. The NWMO has enshrined this commitment in its Code of Conduct and in several policies, including the Employment Equity Policy, the Human Rights and Harassment Policy, and the Preventing Workplace Violence Policy.

The NWMO commits to implementing the project in a manner that meets or exceeds regulatory requirements. The NWMO will apply techniques such as the Federal Government's guidance on gender-based assessment and its own Reconciliation tools to ensure that programs promote diversity, equality and inclusivity.

The commitment applies to all NWMO temporary, full-time, and part-time employees. The commitment also applies to contractors and agency staff.

Principle 18 – *The NWMO will commit to relocate the working location of a majority of its employees to South Bruce as soon as it is reasonably practicable to do so after the completion of the site selection process.*

NWMO is committed to moving its head office to South Bruce if it is chosen as the site of the DGR.

If the South Bruce site is selected NWMO would begin by gradually increasing the staff in the current South Bruce office through a combination of new employee hires and relocation of existing employees. Within 2 to 3 years after site selection, the local siting office would include 20 to 30 staff members to support the regulatory decision-making process including regulatory hearings, detailed site characterization studies and partnership agreements. Key senior management will be among the first to move to the community.

Upon the completion of construction of the Centre of Expertise the NWMO will continue a gradual ramp up of employees in the selected siting area. NWMO's head office would continue to transition to the new Centre of Expertise. It is expected that approximately 200 employees would have transitioned to, or been hired in, the South Bruce area by 2028.

Current estimates are that during the operations phase, there will about 700 NWMO staff that will have South Bruce as their location of employment. Those estimates are subject to change as designs and plans are finalized. The operations phase lasts for several decades and therefore the facility will serve as a long-standing, local business providing steady, stable employment.

Principle 19 - *The NWMO will, in consultation with the Municipality, establish a Centre of Expertise at a location within South Bruce to be developed in conjunction with the Project.*

The NWMO intends to build the Centre of Expertise in South Bruce subject to the availability and suitability of land and of course zoning requirements and any environmental protection designations. The Centre of Expertise will provide facilities for the community, NWMO and visitors.

The NWMO will engage the professional services of a consulting/architectural team to engage with the community to capture, understand, and translate the intended functionality, activities, and vision for the Centre of Expertise.

The scope of work will include the following elements:

- Engagement with Municipal Leadership (in-person or virtual as requested by Municipality)
- Conduct engagement session with NWMO identified stakeholders within the Municipality of South Bruce.

- The session will be used to present the generic architectural concept of the building and examine areas of alignment between NWMO’s baseline requirements and each of the stakeholders’ understanding of the Centre of Expertise role in their community
- Based on the discussions with NWMO and Municipal leadership, prepare each community’s summary of vision requirements including uses of the space, adaptability of the spaces over time, as well as important requirements versus aspirational elements.
- Presentation of the vision requirements and conceptual designs to the Municipality and discussion/amendments based on feedback received.
- In coordination with the Municipalities, the NWMO / Consultant team will share the respective conceptual plans with the broader public community to solicit feedback and additional ideas.
- Feedback received will be summarized and any key additional elements for NWMO and the Municipality to consider will be highlighted.
- Incorporate any highlighted additional elements into the vision requirements and conceptual designs and provide updated deliverables for sharing with the Municipality.

Deliverables:

- Summary of Vision Requirements
- Conceptual Massing Concepts
- Site Design Concepts

The Centre of Expertise’s timeline is detailed in the table below.

Milestone	Date
Kick-off Meeting with NWMO	April 2022
Brief Virtual Introductory Meetings with South Bruce	April - May 2022
Baseline Requirements for the Centre of Expertise	May 2022
Engagement with Municipal Leadership in South Bruce	June-July 2022
Develop Community Vision Requirements and Conceptual Designs	July – August 2022
Open Public Feedback Period & Summarization of Feedback Received	August– September 2022
Further Amendments to Vision Requirements and Conceptual Designs based on Broader Public Community Feedback	September 2022

Principle 20 – *The NWMO, in consultation with the Municipality, will commit to implementing a local employment and training strategy with the objective of ensuring that the majority of employees for the Project are located within South Bruce and surrounding communities.*

Ensuring a highly trained and qualified local workforce is a priority for the NWMO. The Municipality and NWMO have completed studies that provide recommendations on the local workforce, potential training needs, and ways to encourage current and future NWMO staff to relocate to the South Bruce region. The NWMO will develop an employment and training strategy for its South Bruce operations. As part of a Hosting Agreement, the NWMO will commit to implementing employment and training programs to fill NWMO staffing needs, the NWMO will also support local and regional employment and training programs for construction and trade jobs. Funding for both programs will be provided by NWMO.

Principle 21 – *The NWMO, in consultation with the Municipality, will commit to implementing a business opportunities strategy that will provide opportunities for qualified local businesses to secure agreements that support the Project and that require the NWMO to take all reasonable steps to create opportunities for qualified local businesses to benefit from the Project.*

The NWMO is committed to supporting businesses located in and around the Municipality of South Bruce.

The NWMO will support establishing a virtual marketplace to connect the NWMO and its contractors to local and Indigenous businesses. The virtual marketplace will provide opportunities for a wide variety of local businesses to advertise directly to the NWMO and its contractors, from services such as local contracts, restaurants, and rental properties to equipment and parts replacement. There will be no cost for local or Indigenous businesses or the contractors to enroll. The NWMO will regularly check the marketplace and whenever possible use local suppliers for needed services and supplies. The NWMO will also encourage its contractors to also check the virtual marketplace and whenever possible use local services and suppliers regularly. The NWMO will support and fund a local partner to build and manage the platform.

The NWMO will provide funding to establish a local innovation and technology incubator hub that would help support local entrepreneurs, small businesses, and start-ups. Key areas of support include business acceleration, services to agricultural technology companies, connecting local entrepreneurs and farmers with scientific and technical, industry knowledge, business savvy experts and influencers. Other areas of services include PR, marketing, business development and sales, product management, HR and finance. Aiming at promoting and lifting local business community, creating jobs and growing companies beyond South Bruce municipal borders. The NWMO and the Municipality will agree to a funding model as part of a Hosting Agreement.

Principle 22 – *The NWMO will commit to implementing a procurement strategy for the Project that gives preference to the selection of suppliers who can demonstrate economic benefit to South Bruce and surrounding communities.*

The NWMO is committed to supporting local businesses located in and around the Municipality of South Bruce. Giving preference to locally produced goods and services, purchased from a local and independent business, to vitalize and grow the local economy.

The NWMO will utilize, where appropriate, weighted evaluation criteria in its awarding of its contracts throughout the project.

The weighted criteria or a procurement scorecard will grant merit points on several factors both financial and non-financial. Among these factors may include:

- Location of the business (local and Indigenous)
- Local and Indigenous employees
- Joint ventures or subcontracting with local and Indigenous companies
- A commitment to local Corporate Social Responsibility
- Price
- Type of product or service
- Quality Standards

To encourage contractors to use local and Indigenous sub contractors and suppliers whenever possible:

- Create and maintain a list of local and Indigenous subcontractors and provide that list to companies interested in bidding on contracts at the beginning of the RFP process.
- Support local and indigenous companies' marketing through the proposed local incubator hub.

To support local and Indigenous procurement:

- Single sourcing to local and Indigenous suppliers will be allowed within NWMO's Procurement Process up to a maximum dollar value and within conditions stipulated within NWMO's governance.
- RFPs/RFQs may be issued by invitation only on a regional basis, within conditions stipulated within NWMO's governance.
- Reduce the requirement for three competitive quotes/proposals to two for local and Indigenous suppliers for contracts less than a maximum dollar value, where three are not available

Then NWMO will work with local business associations to ensure that the procurement process is as clear and simple to manage for local businesses as possible, understanding that a certain amount of complexity will be required.

Principle 26 – *The NWMO agrees to cover the costs of the Municipality's preparation for and participation in the Project's regulatory approval processes, including the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's licencing process and the assessment of the Project under the Impact*

Assessment Act (or other similar legislation), that are not otherwise covered by available participant funding.

Upon selection of a siting area, NWMO will formally commence the regulatory decision-making process with the submission of the Initial Project Description (IPD) to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) and the submission of the application for the “Licence to Prepare Site” to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

South Bruce is currently involved in the determination and analysis of the potential beneficial and adverse effects of the DGR (Community Studies). The Saugeen Ojibway Nation has also been asked to participate to give the NWMO and regulators a better understanding of the communities.

The studies will be shared in a process of joint analysis and evaluation such that the NWMO and the host communities arrive at mutually held conclusions. These joint analyses and evaluations will, together with a full understanding of the situation, form the basis of the regulatory submissions for the Impact Assessment.

These will be complemented by a series of NWMO prepared technical studies that are required for the application for the CNSC Licence to Prepare Site.

Working with our partner communities through the Regulatory Affairs Project (RA Project) the NWMO will develop new tools and new approaches to better understand the issues that are identified by these studies. Through the collection and joint analysis of the data and knowledge we will be able to come to a greater understanding of the issue facing the community and the NWMO.

If South Bruce is selected, the NWMO will cover the costs of the Municipality’s preparation for and participation in the regulatory decision processes.

The details of how the Municipality will participate in the regulatory decision process will be further discussed and included in a draft Hosting Agreement. It will include covering the Municipality’s agreed-upon costs during the regulatory decision process.

Principle 27 - *The NWMO will fund the Municipality’s preparation of a Housing Plan to ensure that the residents of South Bruce have access to a sufficient supply of safe, secure, affordable and well-maintained homes.*

Jointly, the NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce have undertaken a Housing Needs and Demand Analysis Study to understand the additional housing that may be needed to ensure readiness for the construction and operation phases of the Project.

The NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce also worked together to identify strategies that could be implemented during the Project to encourage worker choice to live in South Bruce.

Principle 28 - *The NWMO will prepare a review of the existing emergency services in South Bruce and provide appropriate funding for any additional emergency services required to host the Project in South Bruce.*

The NWMO committed in the Conceptual Design Report in 2021 to develop “procedures for emergency response planning, the notification of releases and incident reporting will meet CNSC requirements and include the utilization of incident command systems to meet the needs of any kind or complexity of situation. For severe incident management (e.g., extreme or violent weather, chemical spills, etc.), various emergency related resources will be available.”

These will include:

- Pre-planned response procedures (including shutdown protocols).
- Pre-established post-emergency procedures including those for resuming operations.
- Off-site and on-site communications and management protocols, including regulatory notifications and public interaction.
- The services of an Emergency Response Team (ERT) or Mine Rescue Team (MRT); and
- Pre-trained staff that have undergone regular training on emergency response issues.

The primary personnel involved in handling any emergency will reside within an ERT/MRT. These resources would also be supported by on and off-site emergency services as well as the DGR’s various superintendents and shift managers. Communications staff will be available to coordinate and assist in the required incident communications activities.

Principle 29 – *The NWMO will prepare an infrastructure strategy that addresses any municipal infrastructure requirements for the Project and will commit to providing appropriate funding for any required upgrades to municipal infrastructure required to host the Project in South Bruce.*

Infrastructure is vital for a strong economy and high quality of life. The Municipality of South Bruce and the NWMO are conducting several studies that will provide recommendations. The Municipality and NWMO will agree on needed infrastructure improvements required through the various phases of the Project. As part of a Hosting Agreement the Municipality and NWMO will agree on strategies for the supply of the needed infrastructure, including timing and funding.

Principle 30 - *The NWMO will prepare a review of the existing and projected capacity of South Bruce’s Road network and will commit to providing appropriate funding for any required upgrades to the road network.*

Principle 31 - *The NWMO will enter into a road use agreement with the Municipality that identifies approved transportation routes during construction and operation of the Project and ensures proper funding for maintenance and repair of municipal roads and bridges used for the Project.*

The NWMO is conducting a study to determine the likely routes for people to travel to and from the site each day. The study will also identify potential effects of the increased traffic flow on residents, the Mennonite community, and the agricultural community. Drawing upon the recommendations from these studies the NWMO, the Municipality of South Bruce and any other affected municipalities will develop a plan for the possible road upgrades and improvements to make the transportation system as safe as possible for all users.

The NWMO will pay for all mutually agreed-upon upgrades to the road network needed to safely move people and material to and from the Project location. The NWMO will also pay for annual maintenance costs for the upgraded road network, through a negotiated Road Use Agreement with the Municipality for the use of municipal roads both above and below the surface.

The NWMO and the Municipality will also develop a plan for any special programs that may need to be implemented such as bus transportation to and from the facilities, special winter snow removal activities, and increased inspection and maintenance activities.

As part of the Hosting Agreement the NWMO and the Municipality will agree to the timing of the upgrades to the road infrastructure, special programs needed for road infrastructure and funding.

Principle 32 – *The NWMO, in consultation with the Municipality and other local and regional partners, will prepare a strategy to ensure there are sufficient community services and amenities, including health, child-care, educational and recreational facilities, to accommodate the expected population growth associated with hosting the Project in South Bruce.*

The NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce are undertaking a series of studies to determine potential strategies to address community amenities and services. The Municipality and the NWMO are jointly undertaking a study of vulnerable populations within the region (with a special focus on childcare and seniors) to ensure programs they rely upon are sustained or enhanced. The NWMO is undertaking a study on the effects on the health programs and infrastructure in the region. A joint study will consider the potential effects of the arrival of new families into the community on the educational resources in the region (elementary through high school). The joint study considers the additional demand that the new families will place on recreational resources in the community. The recommendations from these studies will form the basis for a joint strategy between the Municipality and the NWMO. This strategy along with the funding to implement it will form part of a Hosting Agreement between the Municipality and the NWMO.

Principle 33 – *The NWMO will comply with the Municipal Official Plan and zoning by-law and seek amendments to the Official Plan and zoning by-law as necessary to implement the Project.*

The NWMO will meet or exceed all applicable regulatory requirements for all facilities and buildings, including nuclear and non-nuclear, on-site, and off-site. Regulatory requirements include federal, provincial, and various local municipal requirements – including planning and zoning.

The Hosting Agreement will set out the NWMO and South Bruce’s understanding of the jurisdictional boundary for the project site, establishing the area that is subject to exclusive federal regulatory authority respecting the physical aspects of the Project and the area that is subject to provincial and municipal jurisdiction.

The Hosting Agreement will set out how any facilities that are outside the federal jurisdictional boundary will comply with the Municipal Official Plan and zoning bylaw, and the Municipality's role in any planning or zoning changes the NWMO may apply for respecting the Project.

Principle 34 - *The NWMO will provide the Municipality with an ongoing and active role in the governance of the Project during the construction and operation phases of the Project.*

The NWMO understands that South Bruce must have an active role in the Project. The NWMO is committed to working with the Municipality to define its role in the various phases of the Project. The Hosting Agreement will provide for the creation of a South Bruce/NWMO Joint Implementation Committee with the Municipality (the “**Committee**”) throughout the regulatory approvals, construction, and operations phases. During the post-site selection (regulatory approvals) phase, the Committee work will be based on the following principles:

- Purpose: The Committee will ensure an ongoing, active dialogue between the Municipality and the NWMO relating to the Project and assist NWMO in identifying and responding to community concerns.
- Advance Review: In the post-site selection (regulatory phase), the Committee will ensure the Municipality has an opportunity to review impact assessment and nuclear licensing application materials before submission other than those relating to security or that are otherwise prescribed.
- Community Input: The Committee will advise NWMO of community expectations in areas of interest or concern and may recommend actions to improve operations and promote the well being of the community.
 - The NWMO will consider recommendations from the Committee.
 - Where the NWMO does not implement a recommendation from the committee, it shall inform the Committee of this decision, and provide the committee the reasons for the decision
 - Where the Municipality has concerns that form part of a recommendation, and that recommendation is not implemented, the Municipality may make submissions to the applicable regulator consistent with the recommendation.
- Terms of Reference: The Committee's terms of reference and composition will be developed collaboratively with the Municipality after site selection. The terms of reference will be reviewed regularly throughout the various phases of the Project.

If NWMO applies for an amendment to its nuclear operating licence for the DGR that contemplates:

- an expansion of the repository size beyond that of the Project as approved during the Impact Assessment, or
- a change in characterization of the nuclear fuel waste streams allowed under the then current operating licence

The NWMO will make the Committee aware of such application before it is submitted to the CNSC and seek the approval of the Municipality to proceed with the application for licence amendment.

The NWMO's mandate to provide a safe and secure repository for used nuclear fuel waste is set out in the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act. If there were ever a federal policy change giving the NWMO a mandate for the long-term management or disposal of low or intermediate level nuclear waste at the Project, the NWMO would seek approval from the Municipality to include this waste in the repository.

Advisory Council Participation: The NWMO, in accordance with the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act (NFWA), currently has an Advisory Council.

- The Council is an independent and arms-length body comprised of individuals knowledgeable in the management of used nuclear fuel, and in working with people and communities on difficult public policy issues.
- Once site selection is complete, under the NFWA, the Advisory Council must include “representatives nominated by local and regional governments and aboriginal organizations”.
- The Municipality will then be able to nominate a representative to serve on the Advisory Council

Although not linked with the NWMO, the Municipality could join the Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC) to ensure the Municipality has an external forum in which to seek guidance and advice from other municipalities that host nuclear facilities.

Principle 35 -*The NWMO will continue to engage with community members and key stakeholders to gather input on community vision, expectations and principles, including concerns, related to the Project.*

The people of South Bruce care deeply about their community and maintain their involvement in issues that effect that community.

The NWMO is committed and will continue to maintain a locally based office and staff to engage and communicate with the South Bruce community throughout the life cycle of the project to ensure that the residents of South Bruce can stay involved and aware of the Project. Within 2 to 3 years after site selection, the local siting office is expected to include 20 to 30 staff members to support the regulatory decision process including engagement, consultation, regulatory hearings, detailed site characterization studies and partnership agreements.

Principle 36 - *The NWMO must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Municipality that the Project will benefit the broader region outside of the community of South Bruce, including local Indigenous communities.*

The NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce are collaborating on several studies that are receiving input and participation from neighbouring municipalities, among those studies is the Regional Economic Development Study.

The studies will show the extent to which the Project will provide economic and social benefits and create opportunities for growth.

The studies will demonstrate the effects on the job market and opportunities for existing and new businesses. The studies will also demonstrate the effects on social issues such as health care, recreational options, educational programs, and the housing market.

Where required and committed to by the NWMO, separate benefits agreements may be developed with neighbouring communities.

The NWMO is engaged with the local Indigenous communities to understand how they wish to evaluate the potential impacts and benefits that the project may bring to their communities. Separate discussions will occur with Saugeen Ojibway Nation to understand their desires around a potential agreement to meet their needs and objectives. NWMO will continue to engage the Métis Nation of Ontario and Historic Saugeen Métis to understand their needs as they relate to the project.