



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's Approach and Experience



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# The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Our Mandate

Regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect **health**, **safety**, and **security** and the **environment** 

Implements Canada's **international commitments** on the peaceful use of nuclear energy

Disseminates **objective** scientific, technical and regulatory **information** to the public

Communicating is enshrined in law

# The CNSC Regulates All Nuclear Facilities And Activities In Canada

**Uranium mines and mills** 



**Nuclear research and educational activities** 

**Uranium fuel fabrication and processing** 



Transportation of nuclear substances

**Nuclear power plants** 



((1))) Nuclear security and safeguards

**Nuclear substance processing** 



Import and export controls

Industrial and medical applications





Waste management facilities

What is Public Engagement?



Why should Public Engagement Matter to Regulators?

# Why Does Public Engagement Matter to Regulators?

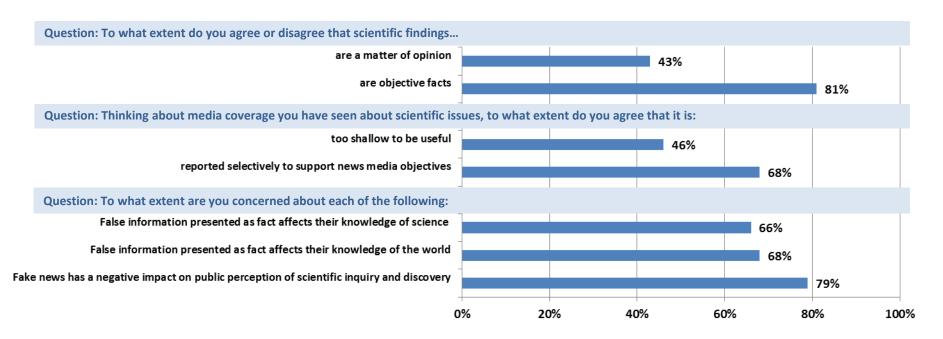
#### **Public engagement ensures that regulators:**

Make informed decisions

Are ready for change

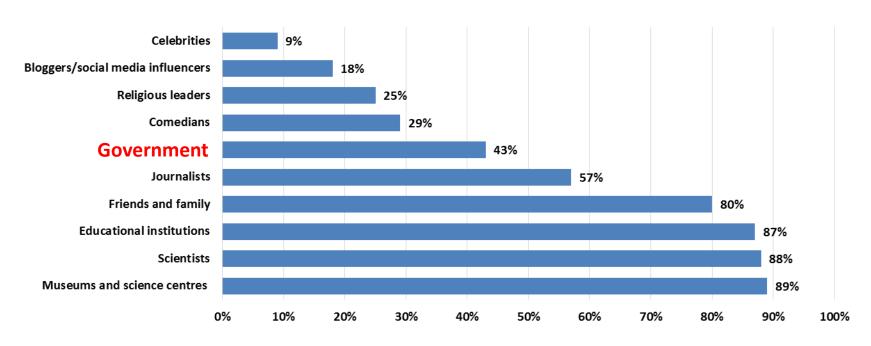
Build trust in the regulatory process

#### **How Canadians Feel About Scientific Facts**



Source: Leger. LegerWeb online survey of 1,514 Canadians, August 15-16, 2017

# Who Canadians Trust To Provide Reliable Scientific Information



Source: Leger. LegerWeb online survey of 1,514 Canadians, August 15-16, 2017

#### **Edelman Trust Barometer – Canada**

2018 report assessed Canadians' opinion on the trust and credibility of four institutions: NGOs, business, government and media

- From 2017 to 2018, trust in NGOs and business have decreased, while trust in government and media have increased
- Trust in government officials / regulators increased by 11% to 37% in 2018
- Since 2014, trust in industry sectors is generally declining, except for energy
- 65% in Canada worry about false information or fake news being used as a weapon
- Canadians are returning to figures of authority and experts for truth
- While trust in journalism from general news and information sources has rebounded since last year, trust in social media and search engines has continued to decline

# **Engagement is necessary now more than ever**

Who does CNSC Engage With and When?

# **CNSC's Main Engagement Groups**

#### Core:

- Host communities
- Indigenous peoples
- Licensees

#### Themed:

- Youth
- Academia
- Medical community
- Municipalities







# When do we engage?

- On all major projects and initiatives
- In accordance with our Domestic
   Outreach and Engagement Plan
- In response to requests and unexpected issues
- On changes to our regulatory framework



# Never too early or often

**How does the CSNC Engage?** 

# The CNSC's Public Engagement Activities



#### CNSC's Outreach Activities – In Person

# In 2016–17, the CNSC participated in over 120 in-person outreach activities, including:

- open houses and meetings related to the deep geological repository initiative for used nuclear fuel
- activities in nuclear host communities
- youth-related activities
- booths at industry conferences

### An example outreach activity is CNSC 101:

- designed to build public understanding of Canada's nuclear regulatory regime
- since CNSC 101 was launched in 2010: 67 sessions, 54 different locations across the country, over 1606 participants

# **Meeting Canadians from coast to coast to coast**



# **CNSC's Outreach Activities – Digital Presence**

#### Multiple digital tools used:

- CNSC website
- Government of Canada website (Canada.ca)
- emails
- webinars
- earned media and letters
- social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn

# Improving public understanding and seeking feedback

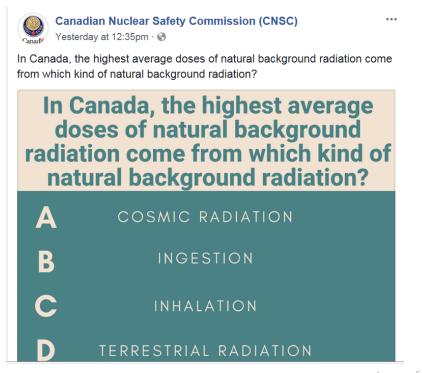
#### **Twitter**

#### Twitter is used to quickly share the latest news and updates from the CNSC



#### **Facebook**

Facebook is used to share stories, educational resources, and facts on nuclear safety in Canada





Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)

April 30 at 10:30am · 🚱

CNSC volunteers look forward to an exciting day helping Canada's future scientists with their all-day Let's Talk Science challenge event at Carleton University (Official) today.



## YouTube

YouTube is used to share video content, including Commission proceedings



# **Consultations on Regulatory Framework**

Consultation with the public, Indigenous peoples, licensees and interested organizations is an important part of the CNSC's regulatory framework development process

The CNSC welcomes public input on draft documents that are open for

consultation, including:

Proposed regulations

- Draft regulatory documents
- Discussion papers
- Draft standards

CNSC invites the public to comment on new regulatory document that addresses technical and management system requirements for dosimetry services

From: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

#### News release

April 25, 2018 - Ottawa, ON

REGDOC-2.7.2, Dosimetry, Volume II: Technical and Management System Requirements for Dosimetry Services, sets out requirements and guidance to ensure that licensed dosimetry services meet technical requirements and implement quality assurance measures, in accordance with the Nuclear Safety and Control Act and the Radiation Protection Regulations.

A dosimetry service is a facility licenced to measure and monitor doses of radiation.

This document supersedes S-106, rev. 1, Technical and Quality Assurance Requirements for Dosimetry Services, published in May 2006.

The public has until June 29, 2018 to provide comments.

The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment; to implement Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy; and to disseminate objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public.

# **Consultation With Indigenous Peoples**

- Canada is home to 1,400,685 Indigenous people (4.3% of the population), there are 617 communities and reserves, and more than 50 Indigenous Nations
- Legal duty to consult
- Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation and a renewed relationship
- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)



# Honour, integrity, good faith and fairness

# **CNSC's Approach to Consultations with Indigenous Peoples**

- Building positive, long-term relationships
- Leading a whole-of-government approach
- Understanding and addressing potential impacts
- Welcoming participation and the sharing of traditional practices/knowledge and projectspecific concerns
- Requiring licensees to engage early and throughout the life of their project





# Transparency and impartiality

# **CNSC's Participant Funding Program (PFP)**

Established to give the public, Indigenous groups and other stakeholders the opportunity to request funding from the CNSC to participate in its regulatory processes (annual envelope of approx. \$900,000 or 8,827,065 ZAR)



#### Objectives

- enhance Indigenous, public and stakeholder participation in the CNSC's environmental assessment (EA) and licensing process
- help stakeholders bring valuable information to the Commission, through informed and topicspecific interventions related to aspects of EA and licensing processes

Open for all public Commission hearings and environmental assessments through a funding application process

# **Enabling active participation by all interested parties**

# **Public Information and Disclosure Program**

RD/GD-99.3, *Public Information and Disclosure*, provides requirements and guidance for public information and disclosure programs (PIDPs)

#### Applies to:

- Uranium mines and mills
- Class I facilities (nuclear power plants, research reactors and fuel processing facilities)
- Certain Class II facilities (pool irradiators and commercial isotope production facilities)



# All major facilities are implementing their PIDPs

# Public Information and Disclosure Program (continued)

#### Regulatory oversight tools for PIDPs:

- Program assessment completed for licence renewal/application
- Annual evaluation completed to verify implementation
- Inspections for compliance verification



Bruce Power's Summer Bus Tour Program

#### An effective PIDP is a licence condition

# **Culmination of Engagement: Independent Commission**



- Commission hearings and meetings are open to the public, webcast live, and archived
- Held in-house or in communities
- Written and/or oral interventions
- In the last five years, over 80 public hearings and meetings, over 2,600 submissions
- All decisions are released to the public

## Transparent, science-based decision making

# **Challenges**

Despite the progress made, we continue to face challenges when it comes to public engagement in Canada, including:

- The opinions of people who are either strongly for or against nuclear will not change, and it is difficult to capture the attention of the majority of people in the middle
- Social media has made it easier for false information to be spread quickly and broadly
- Unless there is an emergency, few people turn to the nuclear regulator for information
- Engaging in evolving issue areas such as transportation of waste require new approaches



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