



**Written submission from the
Green Wood Coalition**

**Mémoire de la
Green Wood Coalition**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

Cameco Fuel Manufacturing Inc.

Cameco Fuel Manufacturing Inc.

Application to Renew the Class IB Nuclear
Fuel Facility Licence for Cameco Fuel
Manufacturing Inc. in Port Hope, Ontario

Demande de renouvellement du permis
d'exploitation de l'installation de combustible
nucléaire de catégorie IB pour Cameco Fuel
Manufacturing Inc. à Port Hope (Ontario)

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

November 23-24, 2022

23 et 24 novembre 2022

GREEN WOOD COALITION

September 28, 2022

I am writing this letter to support Cameco Fuel Manufacturing's application to renew its Class 1B Fuel Facility Operating Licence, for a period of 20 years. Cameco has assisted Green Wood Coalition in various ways for many years: we appreciate that support and believe it has had a beneficial impact on many individuals, and more important, on the community as a whole.

Green Wood Coalition's mission is to provide shoulder-to-shoulder support that allows people to reach their potential through four community-based initiatives, outlined below.

Through our *Street Level Outreach*, we assist and empower individuals experiencing difficulty navigating the systems and barriers surrounding housing, income, health care and food security, by providing individualized information and support. By adopting a relational approach, rather than a medical or social service model of care, we are able to connect with pockets of poverty in our community that can be missed by a broad-strokes methodology.

Our *Art Hive* promotes social engagement and emotional healing through hands-on creative activities, gardening and outdoor experiences, located in safe, welcoming, non-clinical spaces. The Green Wood creative arts program, led by experienced art facilitators, is considered the most successful of our initiatives in creating positive change in the lives of individuals. A growing body of research demonstrates the value of expressive and therapeutic art programs in recovery from trauma. Green Wood's community garden (at the Community Hive, 4 Centennial Dr., Port Hope) offers opportunities for individuals and families to socialize, while engaging in healthy physical activity, growing fresh, organic fruits and vegetables.

Recovery programs at Green Wood support people living with substance dependency to achieve the optimal health they desire; we provide easier means and methods of working toward harm reduction and recovery. Green Wood has adopted the Redpath recovery program and offers a small group series, as funding allows. (A substantial grant from Cameco is funding a series of Redpath programs and related recovery initiatives in 2022.) This ground-breaking model has proven to be successful in the areas of substance misuse, violence, rehabilitation, and employability. We also confidentially offer harm reduction supplies and consultation at our Community Hive by appointment, as well as via a mobile service in Port Hope and Cobourg.

4 Centennial Drive, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 4C5
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As part of our *Community Capacity Building* work, Green Wood advocates for people living with mental health, emotional health, dependency and other factors that challenge their ability to navigate social and health systems, and strives to decrease the barriers to achieving optimal well-being. This includes Green Wood's active membership at planning tables such as Northumberland Homelessness Coordinated Response Team, HKLN Drug Strategy, and Northumberland Affordable Housing Committee.

Community 101 is an interactive series that explores ways of becoming a more healthy and vibrant community through caring for each other and seeking long-term change. Presenters from our community and visiting guests share information and stories, seeking to inspire further thought and action.

Green Wood also presents 'IMAGINATE: We All Have a Story' to entertain, inspire and motivate thought and action around the challenges we face as a society. Pre-pandemic, it was an annual one-day conference culminating in an 'Evening of Possibility' with short talks and performances. Our 2023 IMAGINATE is in the early planning stages.

As an organization founded in Port Hope, we are aware of Cameco's economic importance to the municipality, to Cobourg and Northumberland County. We appreciate that nuclear energy now accounts for an estimated 60% of the province's electricity generation, and that increasing our reliance on it has played an important role in the closure of Ontario's coal-fired power plants. Furthermore, we understand CFM's vital role in the nuclear industry, as one of only two fuel fabrication suppliers serving Canada's nuclear reactors, and as the largest Canadian-based fabricator of zirconium reactor components for CANDU reactors around the world. Finally, CFM manufactures specialized adjuster sets containing Cobalt-59, which are irradiated in reactors to produce Cobalt-60. We see that this is a vital step in Canadian nuclear power plants' production of more than 70% of the world's supply of Cobalt-60 medical isotopes, which are used in both diagnostic and therapeutic medical procedures.

The Port Hope community's trust in Cameco Fuel Manufacturing's commitment to safety is evident in the 2021 survey indicating that a majority of residents feel "Cameco does everything possible to protect people and the environment."

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Green Wood Coalition has found that, as a corporation offering grants to improve life in the community for many years, CFM has been generous, accessible and fair in its funding decisions. For instance, a short-term 2020 grant was aimed in part at providing phones and tablets to help the unsheltered and isolated stay connected during the pandemic. Cameco was also amenable to our two consecutive deferrals of their “Step-Up for Mental Health” funding (received in 2019, it involved in-person group sessions, which were suspended from 2020 until this spring): the first 8-week Healing Through Art program for 18 to 29 year-olds, which ended in July, was quite successful, and the second program is about to start.

Most recently, CFM expressed interest in supporting our work with people dealing with substance dependence, and subsequently provided a significant year-long “Recovery Rooted in Relationship” grant that, among other activities, has allowed us to train Redpath facilitators and offer the program in Port Hope and Cobourg.

We trust that Cameco will continue to support our community building work: reconnecting individuals to their communities, in part by addressing social inequities currently manifested as increasing numbers of unsheltered people of all ages, the ongoing opioid crisis, and barriers to mental health care.

Yours sincerely,



David Sheffield
Executive Director, Green Wood Coalition