

## Peterborough Community Liaison Committee Meeting Record

**Meeting Date:** April 6, 2022

**BWXT NEC:** Natalie Cutler, Director, Communications & Government Relations  
Kathleen Augustin, Communications & Community Relations Specialist

**CLC Members:** J. Aherne, A. Gartenburg, R. Keenan, C. Lemelin, D. McGahern, D. Mulumba, B. Roxburgh, J. Wadland.

**Absent:** D. Gannon, S. Hay, J. Ingram.

**Guests:** None.

### Action Items:

Action Item	Status
1. Share video content and infographics with CLC	Ongoing
2. Share CLC best practices from industry discussions with CLC	Open
3. Review adding more detail to website on the buildings occupied by BWXT	Open
4. Provide Indigenous Relations training to CLC	Complete
5. Effective Science Communication workshop	Complete
6. Orientation Tours for CLC members	Open
7. 2021 Feedback: employment themed event/meeting	Open
8. 2021 Feedback: more awareness on natural uranium	Ongoing
9. 2021 Feedback: more CLC feedback on communications materials (website, social media, mailers, newsletters)	Ongoing
10. Ask if Canadian Centre for Science Communications offers ongoing courses	Open
11. Check if there is a recording or transcript from Judicial Review	Open
12. Ask human resources if there are high school job openings	Open
13. Provide update on Indigenous relations – potential guest speaker	Open
14. Include land acknowledgement before CLC and other meetings	Open
15. Add research on natural uranium information from CNSC, MECP to website	Open
16. Potential guest speaker – non-industry representative to speak about natural uranium	Open
17. Provide detail on escaping air, air changes, and blower door testing from facility	Open
18. Provide information on pelleting timeframe (if it were to move) and what would be required to conduct pelleting in Peterborough (if BWXT were to move pelleting)	Open

## **Discussion Notes:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually. The meeting began with a roundtable of introductions, overview of the agenda and a safety moment.

Cutler reviewed the action items from the previous meeting.

Cutler then provided the CLC with an overview of the actions from the Canadian Centre for Science Communications workshop that three CLC members participated in on February 28, 2022. The actions are as follows:

- BWXT to review public website and materials and make improvements – more safety messaging and include “bottom line, so what and supporting information.”
- BWXT to work on making information understandable for grade 5-6 level
- BWXT to add more science information, less information about BWXT
- BWXT to add more photos of employees with product
- BWXT to make sure information is available for all types of learners
- BWXT to simplify tables and information on emissions

A CLC member who was not able to attend the Canadian Centre for Science Communications workshop asked whether that organization offers ongoing courses. Cutler noted she would check with her contact.

Augustin shared the recently updated Emergency Response webpage with the CLC and outlined the ways in which the page has been improved using feedback and information learned from the workshop. A CLC member asked if BWXT can see website views and asked which pages are most often visited. Augustin informed the CLC member that BWXT is able to check website views at any time and reviews this data when preparing the Annual Compliance Report. She continued to share that the more popular pages include About Us, About Peterborough, About Toronto, Contact Us, and FAQ. Augustin also noted that social media has helped drive engagement to the website and noted that BWXT can view webpage clicks from social media posts as well.

Cutler then introduced the CLC Co-Chair to the CLC members and provided his contact information. She asked him and the CLC to share any updates and feedback. A CLC member asked about the Judicial Review. Cutler shared that this topic would be discussed later in the meeting but explained that BWXT participated in a Judicial Review hearing on March 21-22, 2022 virtually. She noted that the Peterborough community group, Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods (CARN) was represented by Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) and shared that a decision would likely be made in a few months. Cutler made note to check if there is a recording or transcript of the hearing. A CLC member asked why BWXT does not have student jobs available on its careers page. Augustin shared that the company does hire interns but typically they are in the process of completing their post-secondary education in a relevant field. She made a note to check with the human resources department to understand if there are any high-school student opportunities. Cutler

and Augustin did share that before the pandemic BWXT had held an event with a local high school where students interested in pursuing post-secondary education relevant to the nuclear industry and positions offered at BWXT were brought through for a presentation, tour and met with representatives from BWXT. A CLC member asked if BWXT provides student funding support specific to Indigenous students. Augustin shared that BWXT provides a number of student bursaries to local high schools, colleges and universities for students in relevant fields and outlined that one award to each is specific to an Indigenous student. A CLC member mentioned that during an event she attended at Trent University it was brought up that BWXT is working well to advance Indigenous engagement and relations. It was shared that it would be helpful for BWXT to provide a detailed update on Indigenous relations and to have a potential guest speaker. Another CLC member asked if BWXT is planning to bring pelleting operations from Toronto to Peterborough. Cutler shared that BWXT is in the same position it was during the hearing and that the reason for this inclusion in the licence application was to have long term flexibility. Cutler noted that if the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) decision holds firm from the judicial review, then BWXT would likely look at this option, but any decision would be communicated with the public well in advance. A CLC member asked if BWXT is planning to step up its environmental air monitoring program. Cutler shared that BWXT is not planning to increase its monitoring program at this time as the program in place is effective and data (from BWXT and CNSC) demonstrates emissions are well below limits. The CLC member asked if a community survey would influence BWXT to implement more air monitoring. Cutler reminded the CLC member that the CLC is not a decision-making body and that she would share this CLC member's perspective with leadership. A CLC member shared that the CNSC is planning to conduct more air monitoring in Peterborough soon.

Cutler noted that each year BWXT and similar licensees submit an Annual Compliance Report (ACR) to the CNSC. She shared that this report outlines performance from the prior year and the CNSC reviews the report, along with their information collected, and forms a report for the Commission. She noted at the end of the year, the CNSC presents their report and data to the Commission at a public meeting. Cutler shared that the 2021 ACR for BWXT is not yet available as but that once the report is complete and submitted to the CNSC that it would be shared publicly.

Next, Cutler shared that there was one public disclosure for the Peterborough site since the last meeting and noted that the public website is up-to-date with all past public disclosures. She shared that Peterborough Fire Services responded to a sprinkler system alarm from a sprinkler head that had activated, however there was no fire. She noted there was no health or safety risk posed to the public, employees or the environment. Cutler continued to provide an update on Indigenous relations, outlining that BWXT is committed to positive and progressive Indigenous relations. She shared that BWXT in Canada joined the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) in 2017 and has been actively participating in their Progressive Aboriginal Relations (PAR) program. She noted that BWXT is applying for Certification with CCAB and will participate in a full day verification this summer. Cutler shared that BWXT's Indigenous Relations Committee meet every 6 weeks and works to make progress in the four PAR Drivers: Leadership Actions, Employment, Business Development, and Community Relationships. A CLC member asked how BWXT is supporting local

Indigenous communities. Cutler noted that BWXT is working on determining ways to support local Indigenous owned businesses, reviewing a career fair and will share more progress at the next meeting. A CLC member mentioned it would be a good idea for BWXT to include land acknowledgements before CLC and other meetings and offered to review the land acknowledgement before use. Augustin shared some ways BWXT has provided support to the local Peterborough community. She noted that employees held a fundraiser for the YES Shelter and raised \$1,580. She also shared that some employees are virtually volunteering as judges at the Peterborough Regional Science Fair and that she would be participating as a judge at the virtual Fleming College Innovation and Technology Showcase.

Cutler then asked the CLC for input on some feedback received in the 2021 evaluation. The first item was an employment themed event/meeting based off the following feedback: “I like the idea of an employment themed meeting or perhaps it should be an event” and “there has been significant discussion about the need for “good jobs” in the community. As a larger employer in this region, it may be beneficial to highlight the various skills and professions, especially trade and technology jobs that BWXT brings to this community.” The next item was more awareness on natural uranium based off the following feedback: “a lot has been said about this subject but I believe anxious thoughts can be alleviated through more education.” Cutler asked the CLC for some input on how BWXT can better educate the public on natural uranium. A CLC member noted it would be helpful for BWXT to include links to research on natural uranium and how BWXT is keeping up with current research to reduce risk. Another CLC member asked how BWXT could independently include this research. Cutler shared that there is research conducted by the CNSC and likely information from the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks and that BWXT would review adding more detail on its website. A CLC member shared that BWXT could do a panel discussion or have guest speakers that are representatives outside the industry to talk about natural uranium.

Before the meeting ended, Cutler asked if CLC members had any other questions or topics to discuss. A CLC member mentioned her business as a builder and asked for detail on the facility with regards to escaping air, air changes, and blower door testing. Cutler noted she would ask operations for more information on this topic. Another CLC member asked how many years it would take if BWXT moved pelleting from Toronto to Peterborough and whether the footprint of the site would increase. Cutler shared that BWXT does not speculate and there is no concrete plan at this time, but that it would likely be a number of years but she would check with operations. A CLC member asked why the pelleting was added to the licence without a plan. Cutler shared that the reason for this inclusion in the licence application was to have long term flexibility. She also noted that the CNSC concluded there was enough information from the Environmental Risk Assessment and BWXT’s long history operating the facility safely in Toronto that it gave confidence to their decision. She also shared that there would be a number of items BWXT would need to complete to move pelleting if the company chooses to do so, and that this isn’t something that would be decided without informing the public.

Cutler mentioned the next meeting would be held in May or June and that pending COVID-19 restrictions, BWXT would like to hold the meeting in person and offer tours to new members.

The meeting terminated.