



# CANHC

## Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities

### Press Release

May 29, 2023

#### **Global Partnership of Municipalities Hosting Nuclear Facilities outlines steps for greater community engagement**

**Clarington, Ontario** – Recently, a coalition of municipalities hosting nuclear facilities came together to advocate for increased community involvement in the development of nuclear energy capacity. This unprecedented collaboration aims to foster cooperation, exchange best practices, and strengthen the sustainable development of nuclear energy worldwide.

The Global Partnership of Municipalities Hosting Nuclear Facilities comprises a diverse group of communities from around the world that share a common interest in safe and responsible nuclear energy production – including the Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC), the U.S.-based Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) and the Group of Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities in Europe (GMF Europe).

“Without willing host communities, there is no nuclear industry. To help deliver a low-carbon future, local communities need meaningful engagement and support from governments and the nuclear industry,” said CANHC Chair Adrian Foster.

The group met at the recent ECA Nuclear Development Forum in Paducah, Kentucky and released a joint statement acknowledging the central role of local government in advancing a low-carbon energy transition and the accompanying need to provide communities with appropriate resources to fully engage in the siting of nuclear facilities.

At the local level, the Global Partnership of Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities highlights best practices for governments and the nuclear sector for an inclusive approach to projects. That gold-standard engagement includes:

- Proactive involvement of host municipalities in all aspects of the project from an early stage.
- Allocation of resources for establishing enduring local and nuclear partnerships.
- Enhanced socio-economic prospects for both host and neighbouring communities.
- Strengthening the skills and abilities of the local community and workforce through capacity-building initiatives.
- Safeguarding human health and the environment.

These municipalities recognize nuclear power's vital role in meeting global energy demand while addressing climate change and achieving sustainable development goals. Host municipalities of nuclear facilities serve a crucial role in enabling the supply of safe and reliable energy.

The Global Partnership of Municipalities Hosting Nuclear Facilities seeks to promote dialogue and collaboration between its member municipalities and the nuclear industry. By pooling their expertise and resources, this group aims to enhance the socio-economic opportunities for communities, increase the safety, security, and sustainability of nuclear facilities, and improve public acceptance and engagement on nuclear energy-related issues.

This partnership will serve as a platform for municipalities to exchange experiences and lessons learned in nuclear energy regulation, waste management, emergency preparedness, and community engagement. Through regular meetings, conferences, and knowledge-sharing initiatives, the host community coalition will facilitate the dissemination of best practices, share innovative solutions to common challenges and promote transparent and inclusive decision-making processes related to the siting and operation of nuclear facilities. By involving local communities, fostering public dialogue, and implementing effective communication strategies, member municipalities will work towards building trust and ensuring the long-term sustainability of nuclear energy.

The joint statement of the Global Partnership of Municipalities Hosting Nuclear Facilities marks an important step towards global collaboration in the nuclear sector. The participating municipalities are committed to harnessing the potential of nuclear power while ensuring the highest standards of safety, security, and sustainability.

### **Background:**

- The Global Partnership of Municipalities Hosting Nuclear Facilities is a coalition of cities and communities worldwide that host nuclear facilities or are candidates to host nuclear facilities. It was formed after a meeting at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna in November 2022. The partnership aims to promote cooperation, knowledge sharing, and sustainable development of nuclear energy to benefit the communities that host them.

- The Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC) is a not-for-profit association that supports local governments by acting as a resource for all current, future, and interested nuclear host communities while maintaining the best interests of their communities in an ongoing proactive relationship with the Canadian nuclear industry and regulators. For more information, please visit [www.canhc.ca](http://www.canhc.ca).

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Media inquiries:  
Jennifer O'Meara  
Policy and Communications Advisor  
905-260-2844 or [jomeara@clarington.net](mailto:jomeara@clarington.net)