

NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORTATION THROUGH YOUR MUNICIPALITY - QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE – MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2026 - Thunder Bay

Question 1: The Nuclear Waste Management Organization has a plan to transport, process, bury and then abandon all of Canada's high-level nuclear fuel waste at the Revell site between Ignace and Dryden in northwestern Ontario. NWMO's plan will involve 2-3 shipments per day for more than 50 years, with each truck hauling 35 tons of radioactive waste per trip. Over 90% of the shipments will come from southern Ontario, averaging 1,700 km per trip, with most of those kilometres travelled on the poorly maintained and mostly 2-lane roads of northeastern and northwestern Ontario. Do you have concerns about the transportation of high-level radioactive waste through your community?					
Question 2: Many municipalities, First Nations and treaty organizations have passed resolutions expressing concern or opposition to NWMO's project or calling for a robust impact assessment process. Many of the resolutions follow the same general format, but each resolution is tailored to the community's interests, concerns and location, often emphasizing either the risks for those along the transportation route or concerns about negative impacts on water in downstream communities. Would you support your municipality passing a resolution expressing your community's concerns related to the NWMO's project?					
Name	Q#1	Q#2	Add any additional comment here.	Municipality	Position
Aldo Ruberto	Yes	Yes	I would definitely need a lot more information regarding transportation and storage of nuclear waste	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Peter Diedrich	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Trevor Giertuga	Yes	Uncertain		Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Donald Baxter			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Doug Vincent			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Moe Comuzzi			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Peter Panetta			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Volker Kromm			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Wolfgang Schoor			No response	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Shane Judge	Yes	Yes	Your backgrounder says nothing about the possibility of rail transport. The workshop I attended suggested rail transport remains an open option.	Thunder Bay	Mayor/Reeve
Robert Trevisan	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	At Large
Tyler Goode	Yes	Yes	I do have concerns about the proposed long-term transportation of used nuclear fuel through Northwestern Ontario, particularly around road safety, emergency preparedness, protection of water, and the ability of communities along potential transportation corridors to understand and prepare for the risks involved. At the same time, I think it is important to approach an issue this serious using evidence rather than fear. Transportation of used nuclear fuel is federally regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and Transport Canada, and I recognize that there are significant safety, packaging, and emergency-response requirements already in place. My concern as a municipal candidate is making sure communities that could be affected are not left out of the conversation simply because nuclear regulation falls outside municipal jurisdiction. If Thunder Bay could be affected by transportation associated with this project, I would want the city to understand what that means for our roads, emergency services, drinking water, and surrounding environment; what responsibilities would fall on the municipality in an emergency; and whether additional training, equipment, or resources would be required. I would support the Thunder Bay Council considering a resolution expressing those concerns and requesting meaningful consultation, information, and appropriate safeguards from the responsible federal agencies and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. I would also want Indigenous communities and First Nations whose lands, waters, or treaty rights could potentially be affected to be meaningfully involved. I would not presume to speak on behalf of those communities. I am not prepared to declare the transportation plan safe or unsafe based on a campaign questionnaire alone. This project is now going through regulatory review and impact assessment, and I believe those processes need to seriously examine transportation, environmental protection, emergency preparedness, and Indigenous rights. My responsibility as a councillor would be to ask those questions, listen to the evidence, and advocate for the safety and interests of Thunder Bay residents.	Thunder Bay	At Large
Peng You	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	At Large
Julie Colquhoun	Yes	Yes	Thank you for providing the background information and links to other sources. I'm interested in understanding - and didn't see it in the material provided - why is northern Ontario being considered over locations closer to southern Ontario or Peace River. It would seem to me that those 'benefitting' from the facilities should also bare the risk and burden of the transportation and storage of the waste. That's a very surface-level reaction of course, and I would worry about the risks for any community, but given the context of your questions, I'd like a better understanding of why the waste would be transported here. I'm also confused by the messaging - it seems that the government website indicates that Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation and Ignace are open to further discussion, however much of the material provided would suggest otherwise. I agree with a more comprehensive risk assessment being needed - and a clear plan for decommissioning is entirely reasonable before any final decisions are made. I'd like to see Thunder Bay and north western Ontario be a place where people look for growth opportunities that benefit the communities. I am very concerned, both personally and from my perspective related to the municipality attracting and retaining people, and the real - or perceived risk associated with living or setting up a business within proximity of a nuclear waste site. I agree that this is a place where municipalities and affected communities should come together to voice their concerns to the federal government as it relates to the safety of their communities, and the growth plans that are needed in order to ensure long-term sustainability of services in northern Ontario communities.	Thunder Bay	At Large
Jamie Nichols	Yes	Uncertain	Canada's existing nuclear waste requires a safe, long-term solution and any permanent location will require transportation. I'm not qualified to judge the technical safety of the transportation system without relying on independent experts and a through public assessment. I do believe that the transportation of radioactive waste warrants serious scrutiny, strong regulation, emergency planning, and meaningful consultation with all affected communities. As a councillor, I would focus on areas within the municipal responsibility such as local roads, emergency preparedness, and drinking water protection. I would consider proposed resolutions based on their wording, evidence, and practical purpose rather than committing to support or oppose one in advance.	Thunder Bay	At Large

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Stephanie Danylko	Yes	Yes	I was at the first public awareness protest that was somewhere near Waverly Park a few years ago. I had one of the Nuclear free signs on my lawn until someone ruined it. It is my opinion that the nuclear waste should not come to the North, No one knows the ramifications of putting that waste down into our bedrock. It saddens me beyond measure that we are at a time where such things have become normalized..where politicians are corrupt. People have become complacent in the face of our "leaders" and that is a big problem as there is no accountability going up the ladder. I stand by a nuclear free North. I want nothing more for us all to enjoy clean air, clean water and clean land.	Thunder Bay	At Large
Patrick Cully	Yes	Yes	We have enough problems with the semi transport trucks, passing through town and getting into accidents coming into or leaving Thunder Bay. Should absolutely be out of the question that we start transporting such dangerous materials across the country never mind through the city.	Thunder Bay	At Large
Dino Menei			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Gene Capar			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Heather Dahlstrom			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Kasey Etreni			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Mark Benz			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Rajni Agarwal			No response	Thunder Bay	At Large
Gary Christian	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	At Large
Stephane Kuziora	Yes	Uncertain		Thunder Bay	Current River
Andrew Foulds	Yes	Yes	I have consistently opposed the transportation of nuclear waste through Northwestern Ontario because I believe protecting our environment, waterways, and communities must be a priority. Any proposal involving the transportation of nuclear waste must be subject to rigorous scientific scrutiny, meaningful Indigenous consultation, full transparency, and strong public engagement. As a municipal leader, I support responsible decision-making that safeguards public safety and community well-being.	Thunder Bay	Current River
Cory Bagdon	Yes	Yes	Here in Thunder Bay we have no say in the decision on when, where, how much, etc. any of the spent nuclear fuel ends up going. The reality we do face though is that this waste does exist and needs to be dealt with. I am of the opinion that the waste should be dealt with as close to the place where it was created in the first place. Any amount of travel distance at all will always increase the risk of something going wrong. The further it travels, the larger that risk becomes.	Thunder Bay	Red River
Michael Giardetti	Yes	Yes	I am an advocate in storing nuclear fuel waste as close as possible and practical to where it is to avoid the risk in transporting across our country and communities	Thunder Bay	Red River

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Jamie Scrimger	Yes	Yes	Yes. I have concerns about the transportation of used nuclear fuel through Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario, particularly regarding emergency preparedness and our capacity to respond if an incident occurs. I recognize that the transportation of used nuclear fuel is highly regulated. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) requires transportation packages to meet stringent safety standards and reports a strong safety record for the transportation of used nuclear fuel in Canada. That is important and should be acknowledged. However, my experience in emergency management has taught me that a strong safety record does not eliminate the need to prepare for an emergency. NWMO's current planning estimates approximately 650 shipments annually over roughly 50 years, averaging two to three transportation deliveries per day. Whatever final transportation routes are selected, the scale and duration of the proposed program mean that Northwestern Ontario communities need to understand and prepare for the possibility of a transportation incident. Of particular concern to me is what happens locally if an incident occurs. Ontario's Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP), which is Southern Ontario focused, is clear that local governments and agencies have responsibilities for protecting public health and safety within their jurisdictions during radiological emergencies. It also recognizes that local police, fire and emergency medical services may be the first to identify and respond to an incident, and that a localized incident may initially be handled by the affected community with provincial and specialized technical assistance. That means the NWMO, the CNSC and the Province will not arrive and manage everything from the beginning. Thunder Bay's emergency services and municipal emergency management system will be expected to manage the incident. Before transportation begins, I want clear answers. What would be expected of Thunder Bay Fire Rescue, Thunder Bay Police, the City's Community Emergency Management Coordinator and the Emergency Operations Centre? What radiation detection equipment, protective equipment, decontamination capability and specialized training would they require? Where would the radiological response teams be located, and what would their response time be to Thunder Bay and other locations across Northwestern Ontario? We also need to know who will pay for the planning, equipment, training and exercises required to ensure our responders are prepared. A national nuclear waste transportation program should not result in additional emergency preparedness costs simply being downloaded onto municipalities and local taxpayers. I am not suggesting that a serious radiological release is inevitable. I am saying that emergency management requires us to plan for credible emergencies before they happen. When hundreds of shipments are proposed annually for approximately 50 years, we have a responsibility to ensure that our community and our first responders are prepared before the first shipment travels through the region. Yes. I would support Thunder Bay Council considering a resolution expressing our community's concerns and expectations regarding the NWMO project, provided I had an opportunity to review the specific wording and the resolution was evidence-based, focused on Thunder Bay's legitimate municipal interests, and did not overstep our jurisdiction. Although the proposed repository is not located within Thunder Bay, our community may have an important role as used nuclear fuel would be transported through or near our city. NWMO identifies transportation from existing interim storage facilities to the deep geological repository as a major component of Canada's long term used fuel management plan. Federal law also makes it clear that transportation is subject to significant regulatory oversight. The CNSC's Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations apply to the preparation, handling, loading, and storage during transportation and unloading of nuclear substances. The regulations also require anyone transporting radioactive material to comply with Transport Canada's Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations. However, federal regulation does not eliminate municipal responsibilities if an emergency occurs. Ontario's Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan specifically includes transportation accidents involving radioactive material. It states that local governments (City of Thunder Bay) and agencies are responsible for taking appropriate measures to protect public health and safety within their jurisdictions and that municipalities which identify radiological incidents as a potential risk through their Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment should incorporate appropriate measures into their emergency plans. This has not been done yet by the City of Thunder Bay (at least I can not find it publicly posted) and would need to occur For these reasons, I believe Thunder Bay has a legitimate interest in the NWMO project and specifically the transportation and response plans. I would support a municipal resolution that asks for meaningful consultation with communities and First Nations along the transportation corridor and seeks clear information about proposed transportation routes, emergency response responsibilities, specialized response capabilities, training and equipment requirements, environmental protection, mutual aid and funding. I would also support having the proximity principle considered as part of that discussion. In simple terms, the principle asks that radioactive waste be managed as close as reasonably possible to where it was generated, thereby reducing the amount and distance of transportation required. If Thunder Bay is going to be affected by this project for decades, I believe Council should have a voice in the process and should advocate for the safety of our residents, our environment and the first responders who may be called upon when something goes wrong.	Thunder Bay	Red River
Dino Cicchitano			No response	Thunder Bay	Red River
John Murray			No response	Thunder Bay	Red River
Brian Phillips	Yes	Yes	I'm in full support of a free Nuclear free Thunder Bay. And I'm against the Transportation of nuclear waste through our city !! Again you have my full support and backing.	Thunder Bay	Mcintyre
Albert Aiello			No response	Thunder Bay	Mcintyre
Donnalee Morettin	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	McKellar
Marco Cupelli			No response	Thunder Bay	McKellar
Tony DiPaolo			No response	Thunder Bay	McKellar
Brian Hamilton			No response	Thunder Bay	McKellar
Tracey MacKinnon			No response	Thunder Bay	McKellar
Syed Kabir	No	Yes	I believe decisions of this magnitude should be based on science, evidence, and a thorough, transparent assessment. I'm not opposed to safe transportation if proper standards are met, but affected communities deserve a strong voice, and concerns about road safety, emergency preparedness, water protection, and long-term environmental impacts must be fully addressed.	Thunder Bay	Northwood
John Ongaro			No response	Thunder Bay	Northwood

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André Gagné	No	Yes	I believe decisions of this magnitude should be based on science, evidence, and a thorough, transparent assessment. I’m not opposed to safe transportation if proper standards	Thunder Bay	Northwood	
Angel Gamble			No response	Thunder Bay	Westfort	
Stephen Margarit	Yes	Uncertain	Without the exact wording of the resolution, it is hard to declare my support. However, I do have concerns related to transportation and the long-term impacts of nuclear waste storage.	Thunder Bay	Westfort	
Clint Harris	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	Westfort	
John Beals			No response	Thunder Bay	Neebing	
Greg Johnsen	Yes	Yes		Thunder Bay	Neebing	
George Saarinen	Yes	Yes	If many municipalities object will that ensure the NWMO does nor proceed I fear they will do what they want regardless of the objections	Thunder Bay	EPSB	
Notes:	1. This table provides answers as entered by the candidate; there were no edits.					