



# Staff Report to Council - for Direction

**Title:** Regional Coalition Partner - Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition

**From:** Claire Dodds, Commissioner of Community Development

**Date:** March 7, 2024

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## Staff Recommendation:

That Bruce County join the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition as a Regional Collaborative Partner.

## Report Summary:

This report accompanies the delegation provided by the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition and provides background on the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition.

## Background:

In October 2023 representatives from Bruce, Grey and Huron counties were invited to attend the launch of the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition (SOIC). This public-private partnership was initiated by the City of Owen Sound, The Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council (CNIC), and the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII). Since that time SOIC hosted an initial meeting with regional partners in Kincardine in December 2023. A subsequent meeting of regional partners is scheduled for March 2024.

The Coalition's role is to work alongside the CNIC to convey the message of the region's role in the isotope ecosystem to federal and provincial governments, policymakers and leaders in healthcare. The SOIC will help attract public and private investment to expand the region's position within the global isotope ecosystem.

Staff is of the opinion that joining the SOIC will provide positive interactions within the broader isotope community. By joining of the coalition, Bruce County will be able to grow its network, while building and implementing Bruce County specific actions intended to attract and build the isotope sector locally.

**Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:**

There is no financial or legal commitment to becoming a regional collaborative partner with the SOIC. There will be staff and council time committed to participating in events and meetings hosted by the coalition.

**Interdepartmental Consultation:**

The Office of the CAO was consulted in development of this report.

**Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:**

Community and Partnerships - Enhance and grow partnerships

**Link to Departmental Plan Goals and Objectives, if any:**

Joining the SOIC directly links to the goals of the Community Development Office to focus on the Growth of the Clean Energy and Medical Isotopes sector. Additionally, involvement in the coalition supports the Economic Development Strategic Plan's goals of diversifying Bruce County's core sectors.

**Report Author:**

Jeffrey Loney, Economic Development Manager

**Departmental Approval:**

Claire Dodds, Commissioner of Community Development

**Approved for Submission:**

Christine MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer