



Staff Report to Council - for Direction

Title: Southwestern Ontario Isotope Council - Updated Terms of Reference

From: Claire Dodds, Commissioner of Community Development

Date: April 18, 2024

Staff Recommendation:

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

That Bruce County Council appoint the Warden and the Manager of Economic Development to represent the County on the SOIC Steering Committee.

Report Summary:

This report provides an update about the changes made to the terms of reference for the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition since the March 7th, 2024, SOIC Delegation to County Council.

Background:

Following a report on March 7th, 2024, staff received direction from Council to work with the Southwestern Ontario Isotope Council (SOIC) to request consideration of updates to the Terms of Reference prior to the County joining SOIC. Staff have since had the opportunity to provide direct input to SOIC on the nature and scope of changes being requested to reflect Council's discussion at the March 7th, 2024, Council meeting.

Changes to the terms of reference were discussed at the March 15th meeting of SOIC. The terms of reference were circulated to all Regional Collaborative Partners, including the County of Bruce, to provide comments. Staff provided comments through this process that resulted in subsequent updates to the terms of reference.

The full updated terms of reference are attached to this report for review, below is a summary of notable updates.

The structure of the SOIC was further defined and mapped out in an appendix of this document.

A summary of the key changes to the Terms of Reference are below:

- Governance was outlined to clearly define the Steering committee being responsible for overseeing the SOIC's activities, decision-making and coordination. The Steering Committee is made up of Regional Collaborative Partners. A process was developed for decision-making involving consensus and simple majority voting.
- There will be an annual election of four co-chairs by the Steering Committee. These positions will be re-evaluated on an annual basis and the next appointments will occur at the Q1 meeting of the SOIC in 2025. Appointments will be made annually moving forward.
- The Working Group will include staff representatives from the Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council, the Nuclear Innovation Institute and the 4 SOIC Co-Chairs (as appointed by the Steering Committee).
- Further amendments to the terms of reference can be made in writing and will require the mutual agreement of all parties.

Staff are satisfied that the updated SOIC Terms of Reference provide opportunities to advance partnership and collaboration to promote research, development, production, and growth across the isotope industry in the region.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There is no financial or legal commitment to becoming a regional collaborative partner with the SOIC.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

The Office of the CAO was consulted on the development of this report

Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:

Strategic Goals

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