



Communications and Consultation The Role of the CNSC

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Canadian Nuclear
Safety Commission

Commission canadienne
de sûreté nucléaire

Canada

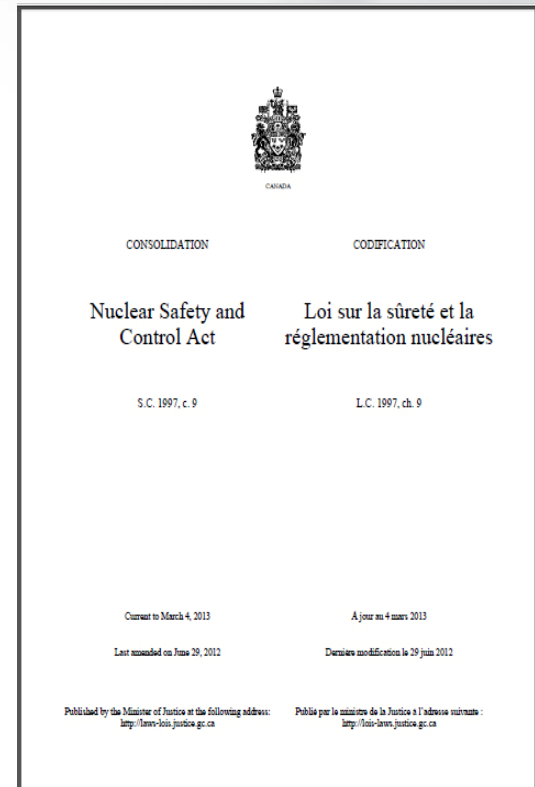
Overview

- Mandate and legislative requirements
- Commitment to transparency
- Communications activities
- A focus on Port Hope
- Regulatory requirements for licensees



Mandated through legislation

- Independent Commission
 - Established at arm's length from government with no ties to the nuclear industry
- *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*
 - Section 9(b) states an objective of the Commission is to “disseminate objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public”
- Duty to consult with Canada's Aboriginal Peoples, pursuant to the *Constitution Act, 1982*



Commitment to Transparency

- Commission Hearings and Meetings are open to the public and web cast live
- All decisions are made public
- Stakeholders are consulted in developing or updating regulatory documents
- CNSC staff participate in
 - Project specific outreach
 - Trade shows and special events





Commitment to Transparency

- In times of emergency regular updates are provided to the public

Looking back at Fukushima

- *Information Updates* issued daily as event developed then weekly as significant developments occurred
- CNSC Web site traffic increased 459% during that period
- Getting info out early positioned CNSC as go-to source for information

The screenshot shows the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Canadian flag, the CNSC logo, and the text "Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission" and "Commission canadienne de sûreté nucléaire". Below this is a banner for the "65th ANNIVERSARY" of the CNSC. The main content area is titled "CNSC Information related to Japan Earthquake" and includes a "Situation in Japan" section with links to "Latest Updates" (marked as "UPDATED") and "Radiation Dose Rates in Canada". There is also a "CNSC Safety Review" section with several bullet points detailing the commission's response to the Fukushima incident, including the creation of an external advisory review committee and requests to all Class I nuclear facilities in Canada. A "Related Links" sidebar on the right contains links to IAEA updates, accident update logs, and travel advisories. The website footer includes a navigation menu with options like "Home", "Contact Us", and "Help".





CNSC Communications Activities

- Activities range from informing, engaging and collaborating
- Informing:
 - Development of plain language information pieces
 - Comprehensive and regularly updated Web site
 - Proactive disclosure of events at facilities with safety significance
 - Over 2,200 subscribers to our Info Account
- Engaging:
 - Social media (Facebook & Youtube)
 - Media engagement
 - Public inquiries
 - CNSC 101, community meetings and open houses





CNSC Communications Activities

- Collaborating:
 - Emergency communications materials (crisis Web site)
 - Partnership with other government organizations
 - Partnerships with NGO's - Let's Talk Science, Canada Science and Technology Museum





A Focus on Port Hope

- Port Hope My Community Web page
- CNSC Annual Report on the Performance of Canadian Uranium Fuel Cycle and Processing Facilities
- CNSC published two studies on the health of workers and residents in the Port Hope community in March 2013
- CNSC 101 in March 2011
- Vision 2010 Environmental Assessment Open House in September 2011

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
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Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
nuclearsafety.gc.ca

Port Hope

Latest updates

2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009

2013

- March 14, 2013: The CNSC has been published in the February edition of the British Medical Journal Open, outlining the results of one of the largest cohort studies on workers exposed to radium, uranium and γ -ray doses. In this published article, the CNSC and its collaborators presented the results of a study that looked at new cancer cases and deaths from uranium and radium processing workers in the Port Hope community. Overall, workers had lower mortality and cancer incidence compared with the general Canadian population. Read the technical abstract: [Mortality \(1950-1999\) and Cancer Incidence \(1969-1999\) Of Workers in the Port Hope Cohort Study Exposed to a Unique Combination of Radium, Uranium and Gamma](#)
- March in the article cases differ and the conduct around abstract to 200
- January (source

2012

- November Ottawa with P Manag
- September

October 2012

CNSC Staff Report on the Performance of Canadian Uranium Fuel Cycle and Processing Facilities: 2011





Regulatory Requirement

- Regulatory requirement and guidance for Public Information and Disclosure Program (RD/GD 99.3) came into effect March 2012
- Replaced previous guidance to licensees on public information
- Prior to this, licensees with facilities of interest to the public were providing information to the public, but there was a need to bring consistency and formality to communications practices
- RD/GD 99.3 applies to uranium mines and mills, Class I (power reactors, research reactors and fuel processing facilities) and certain Class II (irradiators, commercial isotope production) facilities



RD/GD 99.3

- Ensures that information related to the health, safety and security of persons and the environment and other issues associated with the lifecycle of nuclear facility are effectively communicated to the public
- Commensurate with the public's perception of risk and the level of public interest
- Requires licensees to:
 - Define and engage target audiences
 - Identify an appropriate strategy and products
 - Provide timely, current and ongoing information
 - Establish and consult with community interest groups
 - Proactively disclose information





Cameco's Public Information Program

- Meets the requirements and intentions of RD/GD 99.3
- Developed a Disclosure Protocol to inform the residents of Port Hope about routine and unplanned events



Closing thoughts

- Informing the public is a joint responsibility: industry, regulator, government
- Factual, science-based, timely information reduces misinformation and fear
- Proactive disclosure and transparency fosters public trust





Questions?

Learn more at
nuclearsafety.gc.ca

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[Youtube.com/cnsc/ccsn](https://www.youtube.com/c/nsc/ccsn)

