

Nuclear Waste Management Organization and Municipality of South Bruce Community Survey Report

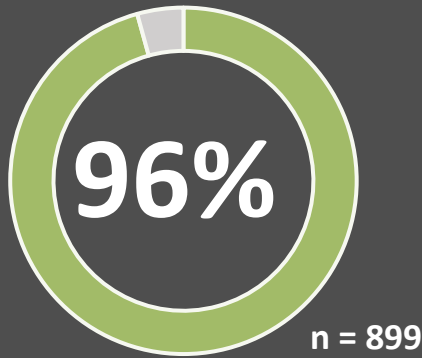
In January 2021, a survey was mailed to 2,099 South Bruce community households. The purpose of the survey was to understand awareness around the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) and the site selection process in the community, as well as to gather information about the level of community interest in learning about the findings of the various studies and topics. The survey was available in paper, telephone, and online formats, and responses were collected through April 2, 2021. A total of 908 residents completed the survey through one of these methods.

Thank you to all who participated!

The number of responses received to a question or within a comment theme are included throughout this report denoted by “n”.

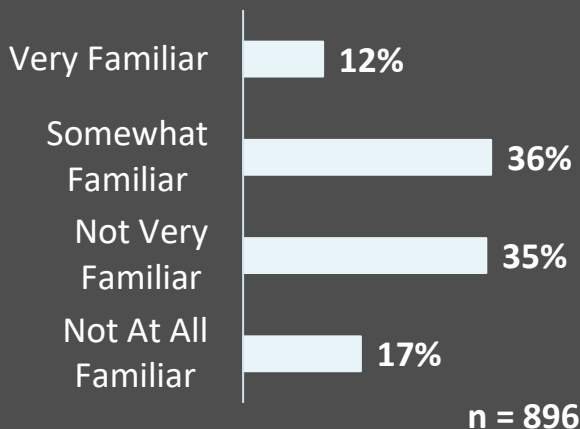
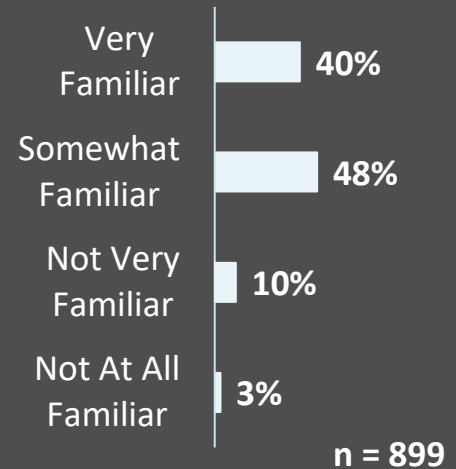
South Bruce Community Survey

AWARENESS, FAMILIARITY, & KNOWLEDGE



Almost all of the survey respondents (96%) indicated that they had heard of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) prior to receiving the survey.

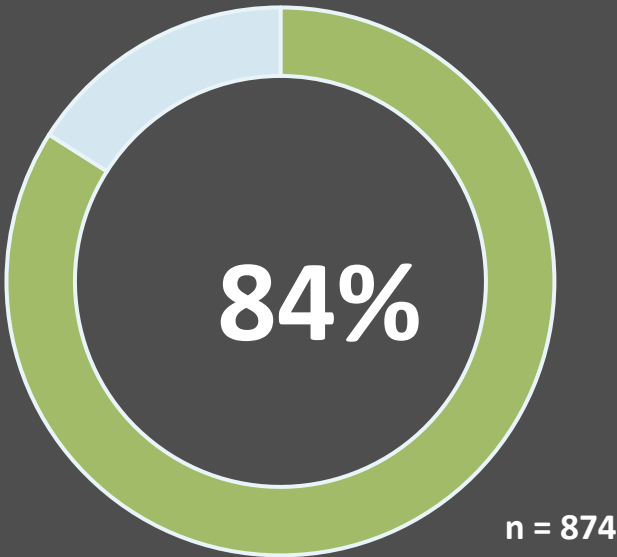
The majority of respondents (88%) were very familiar or somewhat familiar with the involvement of South Bruce in the site selection process for a deep geological repository for the long-term management of Canada's used nuclear fuel.



About half of responding South Bruce residents (48%) indicated that they were familiar with local Indigenous communities' involvement in the site selection process for the deep geological repository.

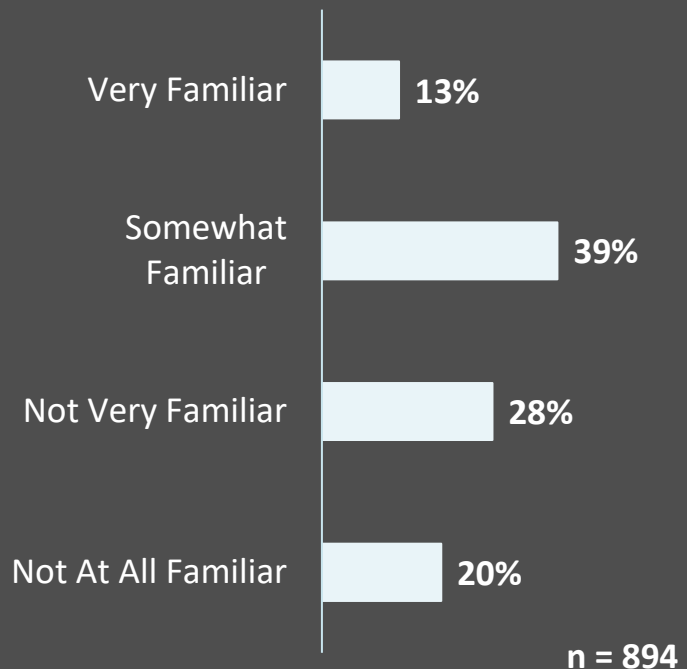
South Bruce Community Survey

SITE SELECTION



The majority of survey respondents (84%) indicated that they were aware that the project will only be implemented with the involvement of an informed and willing host.

About half of respondents (52%) were very familiar or somewhat familiar with the Municipality of South Bruce's "36 Guiding Principles" prior to receiving their survey.



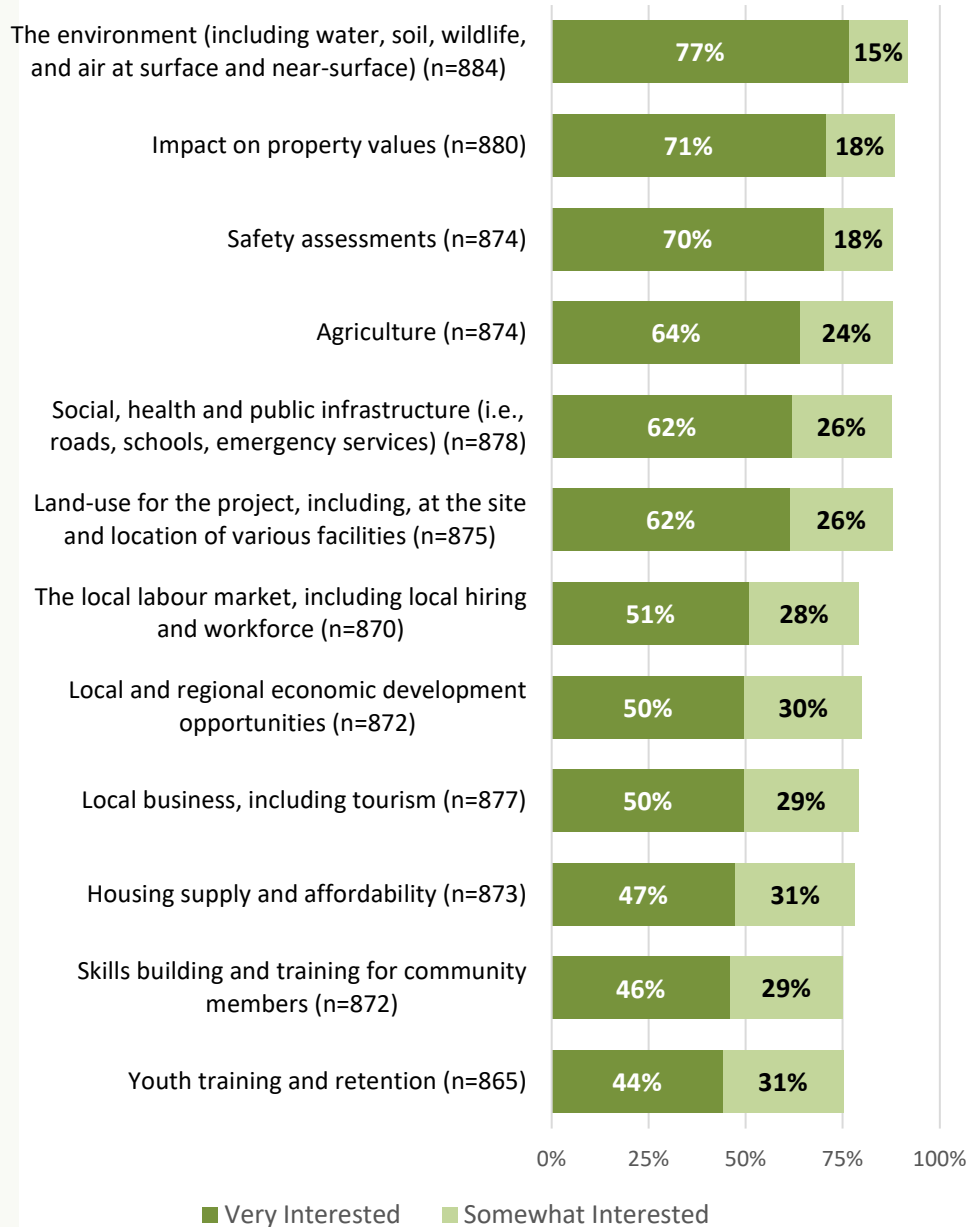
South Bruce Community Survey

INTEREST IN STUDIES AND TOPICS

South Bruce residents responding to the survey were asked to indicate their level of interest in learning about the findings of various studies and topics. Overall, combined “Very Interested” + “Somewhat Interested” was high for all items (75%-92%).

The studies and topics with the highest “Very Interested” results were, the environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface) (77%), followed by the impact on property values (71%), and safety assessments (70%).

INTEREST IN STUDIES AND TOPICS



*Detailed results for Question 6 are provided in Appendix A of this report.

South Bruce Community Survey

OTHER COMMENTS

Survey respondents were also given the opportunity to provide an open-ended response on any additional information they wanted to receive from NWMO. In total, 388 (43%) of responding South Bruce residents provided a comment which conveyed a variety of responses and questions. Where a common pattern existed (at least 10 comments of a similar nature), comments were grouped into the following themes*. Overall some respondents asked that NWMO keep residents informed in general (n=45), while many indicated they would like to receive more information on:

- If there would be a referendum as part of the site selection process (n=82)
- How the security of the site and safety of the community would be maintained (n=55)
- How an informed and willing host was defined (n=43)
- Planning for the protection of local waters (lakes, river, groundwater) (n=42)
- Details of the site selection process (n=40)
- Effects on the local economy (n=35)
- Planning for the protection of the local environment (air, forests) (n=20)
- Impacts on the local community and residents (n=16)
- Impacts on local traffic and infrastructure (n=13)
- Timelines of the projects and plans moving forward (n=12)

In addition, some of the respondents who chose to answer the question also took the opportunity to express their opinion on the project with positive and supportive comments (23) or comments of an unsupportive, or critical nature (125). However, these cannot be interpreted as reflective of the overall level of support among the 908 survey respondents given that no question about support for the project was asked as part of the survey.

*Comments can be included in more than one theme where more than one idea was presented.

APPENDIX A:

Question 6 Detailed Results

South Bruce Community Survey

APPENDIX A: Question 6 Detailed Results

All results from question 6 of the survey are detailed in the table below.

	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not very Interested	Not at all Interested	D/K
Safety assessments (n = 874)	70%	18%	5%	6%	2%
The local labour market, including local hiring and workforce (n = 870)	51%	28%	10%	10%	1%
Skills building and training for community members (n = 872)	46%	29%	12%	12%	1%
Youth training and retention (n = 865)	44%	31%	13%	11%	1%
The environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface) (n = 884)	77%	15%	2%	5%	1%
Land-use for the project, including, at the site and location of various facilities (n = 875)	62%	26%	5%	6%	1%
Impact on property values (n = 880)	71%	18%	6%	5%	1%
Housing supply and affordability (n = 873)	47%	31%	12%	9%	1%
Local business, including tourism (n = 877)	50%	29%	11%	9%	1%
Agriculture (n = 874)	64%	24%	7%	5%	1%
Social, health and public infrastructure (i.e., roads, schools, emergency services) (n = 878)	62%	26%	5%	6%	1%
Local and regional economic development opportunities (n = 872)	50%	30%	9%	10%	1%

APPENDIX B:

Community Survey Instrument

Nuclear Waste Management Organization

South Bruce Community Survey

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO), in partnership with the Municipality of South Bruce, is continuing their dialogue with residents. Thank you for participating in this survey. Your response is important.

If you are 18 years of age or older, please return this paper survey in the envelope provided
OR complete the online survey (go to www.cci-survey.ca/NWMO and enter your survey code <CODEXX>)
OR call 1-888-246-8068 and enter extension 0.

A. Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO)

The NWMO is responsible for implementing Canada's Plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel. The plan is designed to safely isolate and contain the used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository.

1. Before receiving this survey, had you ever heard of the NWMO?

- ① Yes ② No

Currently there are two Ontario areas participating in this site selection process. One of the two is the South Bruce area. A preferred location is expected to be identified in 2023.

2. How familiar are you with South Bruce's involvement in a site selection process for a deep geological repository?

- ① Very familiar ② Somewhat familiar ③ Not very familiar ④ Not at all familiar

3. How familiar are you with local Indigenous communities' involvement in a site selection process for a deep geological repository?

- ① Very familiar ② Somewhat familiar ③ Not very familiar ④ Not at all familiar

The site selection process requires that communities take the initiative to enter and to move through the process. It is intended to be community driven, and designed to ensure that the selected site is safe, secure, and has an informed and willing host.

4. Before receiving this survey, did you know that the project will only be implemented with the involvement of an informed and willing host?

- ① Yes ② No

In November 2020, the Municipality of South Bruce endorsed 36 Guiding Principles available at <https://tinyurl.com/y5aeuo32>

5. Before receiving this survey, how familiar were you with the Guiding Principles?

- ① Very familiar ② Somewhat familiar ③ Not very familiar ④ Not at all familiar

B. NWMO and South Bruce Project Studies

Based on the priorities and objectives which have been expressed by the community guiding principles, and the questions the community has raised at the Project Visioning Workshop, NWMO and the Municipality of South Bruce will be planning studies to address those key questions and aspirations.

The list of studies is still being developed and the initial findings are expected to be available later next year. The list will include technical, environmental, safety and socio-economic studies.

6. How interested are you in learning about the findings of the following studies and topics:

Very Interested Somewhat Interested Not very Interested Not at all Interested Don't Know

Safety assessments	①	②	③	④	⑤
The local labour market, including local hiring and workforce	①	②	③	④	⑤
Skills building and training for community members	①	②	③	④	⑤
Youth training and retention	①	②	③	④	⑤
The environment (including water, soil, wildlife, and air at surface and near-surface)	①	②	③	④	⑤
Land-use for the project, including, at the site and location of various facilities	①	②	③	④	⑤
Impact on property values	①	②	③	④	⑤
Housing supply and affordability	①	②	③	④	⑤
Local business, including tourism	①	②	③	④	⑤
Agriculture	①	②	③	④	⑤
Social, health and public infrastructure (i.e., roads, schools, emergency services)	①	②	③	④	⑤
Local and regional economic development opportunities	①	②	③	④	⑤

7. In addition to the potential studies set out above, what other information would you like to receive?