

# MEDIA RELEASE

## NUCLEAR FREE THUNDER BAY

[www.wethenuclearfreenorth.ca/nftb/](http://www.wethenuclearfreenorth.ca/nftb/)



## Nuclear Free Thunder Bay Releases Results of Candidates' Poll on Nuclear Waste Transport

**Oct. 12, 2022 – Thunder Bay** – Nuclear Free Thunder Bay has released the results of their two-question email poll of Thunder Bay municipal candidates regarding the possible transport of nuclear fuel waste to a proposed burial site in Northwestern Ontario.

### Questions:

1. Do you, as a candidate for municipal office in the City of Thunder Bay, oppose the transport of nuclear waste through the City of Thunder Bay? **Yes No Undecided**
2. Do you, as a candidate for municipal office in the City of Thunder Bay, support the request to City Council (see deputation Sept. 12, 2022) to ask that the Ontario government adopt the Proximity Principle with regards to nuclear waste management? (The Proximity Principle directs that waste should be managed as close to the point of generation as is technically feasible. The Proximity Principle has been embedded in the European Community's Strategy for Waste Management since the 1990s.) **Yes No Undecided**

Of 56 municipal candidates for Mayor or Councillor with published email addresses, 22 responded YES to both questions, which comprised a large majority of the 36 responses received. Of the remainder, most were undecided or responded in paragraph form. The group did not interpret the candidates' paragraph responses, but has made them available. Twenty candidates with published email addresses did not respond.

The full results of the poll can be viewed on Nuclear Free Thunder Bay's webpage here:

[www.wethenuclearfreenorth.ca/nftb/](http://www.wethenuclearfreenorth.ca/nftb/).

"During this busy election period we really appreciate that candidates took the time to respond to our questions," commented Charles Faust, a volunteer with Nuclear Free Thunder Bay.

"We are looking forward to our engagement with the incoming Council, and feel that these candidates' responses provide a good indication that the issue of nuclear waste transportation and burial is going to be a matter of shared concern in the upcoming term of Council."

Nuclear Free Thunder Bay, part of the We the Nuclear Free North alliance, opposes the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO's) proposed plan to bury all of Canada's nuclear fuel waste – more than 3 million fuel bundles – in a deep geological repository (DGR) between Ignace and Dryden. There is no operating DGR for nuclear fuel waste anywhere in the world.

The group favours the alternative of maintaining the waste in long-term, hardened and secure facilities close to the nuclear reactors where it was produced, but not directly adjacent to the Great Lakes. Such an approach would eliminate the dangers of transporting the waste up to 2,400 km by road or rail, into Northwestern Ontario.

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