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Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) and Canadian delegation embarked on Wales Trade Mission

July 27, 2022 – Pickering, Ontario. The Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI), along with six Canadian-based companies, traveled to Llandudno, Wales, on July 18-19, 2022, to establish Canadian and Welsh partnerships for nuclear opportunities.

There were 15 Canadian delegates representing OCNI who joined the mission to Wales, including ARC Clean Energy, Westinghouse Electric Company (Canada), Hatch Ltd., Ontario Tech University, Terrestrial Energy, and Niagara Energy Products (NEP). This mission was filled with site visits, conferences, talks about decommissioning, SMRs, and ongoing collaboration between the two countries.

On OCNI's end, the mission was spearheaded by Brian Fehrenbach, OCNI Director of Business Development and SMR Supply Chain Development, as well as Sarina Harrison, OCNI Manager of Stakeholder Relations. "This trade mission to Wales was our first in-person mission since 2019 and we couldn't have chosen a better destination. Our Welsh partners put up a two-day agenda that covered a wide range of interests and opportunities," Brian exclaimed.

The Trade Mission kicked off at the northwest coast of Wales, Anglesey, where all participants attended the M-Sparc Anglesey Business Centre to discover opportunities in Wales' nuclear sector. The mission continued later that day with a tour of Wylfa, Llandrillo Menai, and Mona Lifting Ltd. The delegation was also invited to Bangor University for a Nuclear Futures Institute visit and a Meet the Buyers event with numerous Welsh Suppliers. The first day concluded with a Welsh cultural dinner and whiskey tour hosted by The Wales Government.

The delegates finished off their tour in Wales with a site visit to Trawsfynydd Visitor's Centre where they eagerly heard presentations on decommissioning programs and the status of the local, regional, and national supply chain development. Additionally, Carpenter and Paterson Ltd. and Zip-Clip Limited welcomed the delegates into their facilities for their final tours in Wales. Both Canadian and Welsh representatives felt privileged to build partnerships with one another. "Following the successful visit to Wales, which certainly exceeded most expectations including the sunny weather, we look forward to working with OCNI and members to develop meaningful collaborations and sharing bilateral opportunities," said Richard James, Nuclear Business Manager, North Wales, Wales Government. OCNI Director, Brian noted that, "after only two days here I can see that the existing and potential new opportunities for collaboration between Canada and Wales are plentiful."

"As a company with global aspirations, ARC Clean Energy is grateful to OCNI for the opportunity to participate in this successful international trade mission," says Keith Miller, Executive Principal at ARC Clean Energy. "The energy and level of interest in our advanced SMR technology and supply chain opportunities was extremely encouraging. ARC Clean Energy looks forward to building on this foundation to continue to explore future partnerships in the UK and Wales." After leaving Wales, the Canadian delegation continued the trade mission across the United Kingdom.



The Canadian delegation and Welsh government representatives with Trawsfynydd nuclear site in the distance.

About OCNI

Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) is an association of more than 240 Canadian suppliers to the nuclear industry that employ more than 15,000 highly skilled and specialized engineers, technologists, and trades people. OCNI companies design reactors, manufacture major equipment and components, and provide engineering services and support to CANDU nuclear power plants in Canada as well as to CANDU and Light Water Reactor (LWR) plants in offshore markets.

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