

Canadian EPREV Working Committee

John S. Hewitt Team Achievement Award



Left to Right (Top Row): Richard Hadden, Bernie Beaudin, Laura Anderson, Dominique Nsengiyumva, Michelle Smith. Left to Right (Middle Row): Brian Ahier, Emma Fuchs, Daniel MacDonald, Andrea Bellingham, Wendy Ellis. Left to Right (Bottom Row): Chris Cole, Dominic Mendoza, Peter Wright, Roger Shepard, Nick Reicker.

In June of 2019 Canada became the first G7 nation to host an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) mission, which assessed Canada's national preparedness and ability to deal with a nuclear or radiological emergency. An IAEA team of experts from ten countries conducted the mission, led by a senior expert from the USA.

Preparations for the mission began two years earlier in February 2017, when Canada requested to host the mission. The preparatory requirements were enormous and required a diverse team that was not only dedicated to the cause, but could remain flexible, innovative and receptive to new ideas. The members of Canada's EPREV Working Committee are, from Health Canada: Brian Ahier, Dominique Nsengiyumva, and Peter Wright; from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC): Laura Anderson, Christopher Cole, Dominic Mendoza, Bernie Beaudin, Daniel Macdonald, Andrea Bellingham, and Michelle Smith; from the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Ontario: Emma Fuchs; from the Regional Municipality of Durham: Wendy Ellis; from NB Power, Point Lepreau Generating Station: Nick Reicker; from the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization: Roger Shepard; and from Ontario Power Generation: Richard Hadden.

The IAEA team of experts viewed the Canadian mission as a model of excellence for other member states wishing to host an EPREV mission, from its self-assessment to its organization, through to execution. At the conclusion of the mission, the IAEA review team commended Canada for having a well-developed and mature preparedness system in place, and for its robust implementation of the IAEA Safety Standards.

The success of the EPREV Mission to Canada is attributed to the dedicated efforts and excellent collaboration across various levels of federal and provincial government in Canada.