

HAROLD A. SMITH LECTURE: OUR NUCLEAR FUTURE

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Abstract

This lecture will present some reflections on Canada's nuclear future, from the point of view of an (almost) retired long-time participant in Canada's nuclear program. The future considered in this lecture will extend forward 3-4 decades. It has been demonstrated several times in the past that our ability to predict the future is limited. As management guru Peter Drucker famously stated, "the best way to predict the future is to create it". This talk will provide a personal opinion on the nuclear future which the current and next generations will, for better or for worse, create in Canada. This future will, of course, depend heavily on technology. But also (and perhaps equally) important will be non-technical considerations such as public acceptance, a pipeline full of qualified future employees, public policy in several levels of government, and of course, finances. The lecture will touch on these elements.