

OCNI YOUTH SHADOW COUNCIL (OYSC) YEAR END REPORT

2023 - 2024



OYSC INTRODUCTION



OCNI YOUTH SHADOW COUNCIL 2023 - 2024

MEET THE TEAM



DAVID



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JONATHAN JEYARAJAH



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TRAVIS TUTZINGER



KEN SHYAKA



REEGHAN OSMOND



ANJALI SANKAR



TERRAN MORRIS



HAMDA NOOR



Goal: To educate the new generation of nuclear technology. This was achieved through:



Online Seminars

This year's webinars focused on how to break into the nuclear industry for newcomers, and nuclear fusion technologies.



Social Media

The OYSC page on LinkedIn was a huge success, targeting the upcoming generation about the nuclear industry, with weekly posts centered on nuclear technologies



Mentorship

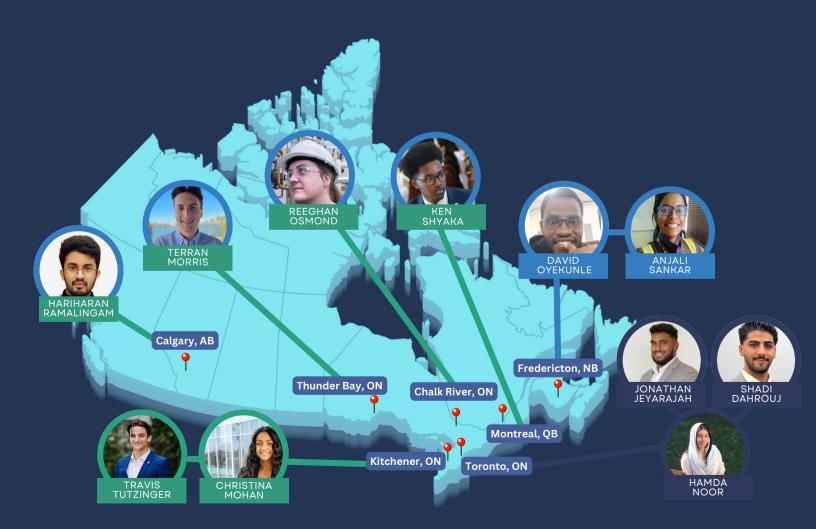
Each council member was paired with a mentor where the focus was on personal development.

COUNCIL DISTRIBUTION



Pan-Canadian Network

The OCNI Youth Shadow Council membership spans across Canada from East to West. Our members include those with backgrounds ranging from engineering to political science and law, combining technical knowledge with policy-making expertise. This diverse mix enhances our ability to tackle complex challenges and advocate effectively for the nuclear industry. These multidisciplinary perspectives are crucial in shaping innovative solutions and driving the sector forward.



SUMMARY OF OYSC EVENTS

Aside from our monthly meetings, the OYSC had several events, both internal and external, for personal and professional growth.

COFFEE CHATS

Every month, council members were randomly paired to get to know each other better, whether through in-person or virtual meetings. This worked marvelously, as council members who weren't geographically close to each still got to have 1-on-1 conversations. Our diverse backgrounds complemented each other, resulting in an overall stronger team.



INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL TALKS

The council had the privilege of having virtual "fireside" talks with industry professionals, gaining invaluable knowledge and advice on progressing as a young professional in today's world.

WEBINARS

The council hosted two webinars during the 2023-2024 term, both of which had excellent turnouts! These webinars allow attendees to participate through Q&A and interact with our esteemed guest speakers.



SUMMARY OF OYSC EVENTS

During the 2023-2024 OYSC term, two webinars were held with a total of 150 attendees!



2023

The OYSC kick-off event was a webinar on newcomers into the nuclear industry! The council members wanted the webinar to aid young professionals in navigating the start of their journey in the nuclear industry. Our three guests, Daniel Miller (Bruce Power), Margaret McBeath (Nuclear Promise X), and Noelle Frame (GE Hitachi), shared insightful information on what recruiters look for when hiring and how to foster strong relationships with peers and mentors.

In our monthly meetings, nuclear fusion frequently emerged when discussing exciting movements and innovations in the industry. Thus, we identified nuclear fusion and its potential as an exciting opportunity learning the broader OYSC community. Our guests, Todd esteemed Dr. (CNL) Whitehorne and Dr. Nitendra Singh (ITER), discussed the future of fusion, sharing their wealth of knowledge with us and the attendees.



2024

2023-2024 OYSC GALLERY (**)













MENTORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."

— Isaac Newton

At the start of the OYSC's term in September 2023, each council member was partnered with an industry professional with a similar background. This mentorship program allowed the OYSC members to get in-depth details about working in the nuclear industry through regular meetings, whether in person or virtual.

"Having had the privilege of being mentored by Margaret, an experienced professional from the nuclear industry, for eight months, I gained immensely in areas crucial to my personal and professional growth. Our monthly meetings were enlightening, focusing on essential leadership traits and characteristics that have sharpened my leadership approach. The guidance on public speaking and effective speech delivery has particularly transformed my communication skills, making me more persuasive and confident in front of an audience."





"I couldn't have asked for a better mentorship match! Jeremy's academic and industrial background mirrored mine in certain areas, enabling him to convey technical details in a manner that resonated with me. Our sessions, focusing on nuclear reactor equipment, maintenance, and troubleshooting, were immensely enlightening. Moreover, our casual conversations provided valuable opportunities to connect and share experiences."

"Over the OYSC term, having the opportunity to engage with Chad has been enlightening and refreshing. Through our monthly conversations, Chad introduced me to niche areas of the nuclear industry that I might have overlooked. His knowledge of the nuclear landscape in Canada provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the policy considerations that shape the field. I look forward to continuing our relationship and am thankful to OCNI for facilitating this experience."



WHAT ABOUT THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY APPEALS TO YOU?

"The nuclear industry appeals to me as I have realized that achieving a reliable source of baseload net-zero power supply will not be possible without the nuclear fleet. Being a part of the OCNI Youth Shadow Council allowed me to connect and meet with likeminded individuals who want to see the industry's growth in Canada and beyond. Through this council, I have learned more about the policy and challenges ahead in energy decarbonization. Further, I have expanded my network in the nuclear industry through the mentorship opportunity, which gave me insight into the industry's modulus operandi of work-life balance."



DAVID OYEKUNLE



OSMOND

"During my undergrad, I did a project on misconceptions about nuclear energy. I was blown away by the reliability of nuclear power plants and the high energy density of the fuel. And of course, since nuclear produces low carbon emission energy, it is needed to help combat climate change. Having spent the last few years in the industry, I am also extremely excited by all the new build possibilities!"

"What I find most appealing about the nuclear industry is its potential. Throughout my experience on the OYSC, I have been introduced to an extremely diverse range of individuals and professions. From cutting-edge technological advancements to the critical importance of community engagement, I've learned that the nuclear field offers a dynamic environment where some of society's most pressing challenges can be addressed."



TRAVIS TUTZINGER

TESTIMONIALS



Council member feedback!

We asked a few of our council members to give some insight on their experience being part of the OYSC and this is what they had to say:

Before joining the OYSC, my understanding of nuclear-related matters was quite basic. Although there's still a vast amount to explore, I've undoubtedly deepened my knowledge of the industry over the past year. With most (if not all) of council events being virtual, being located away from most of the other members didn't present itself as a problem at all. Connecting with students and industry experts who share a common zeal for nuclear power and clean energy has been an enriching experience, broadening my professional network significantly.





"The OYSC has truly been an eye opening experience. Coming from a non-nuclear background, the council gave me the opportunity to immerse myself in the nuclear industry and explore a variety of opportunities. The relationships built through our monthly meetings, coffee chats, and industry insight nights were a highlight of the year and foundational to my personal growth. Overall, this experience has expanded my nuclear network and provided me with mentorship, support, and inspiration."

"I decided to return to the OYSC because it truly helped grow my network in the nuclear industry. I believe that for young professionals and students looking to get involved in the nuclear industry, the OYSC is a great starting point! The council provides a forum to work alongside other passionate individuals looking to promote nuclear energy and facilitates many opportunities to network with experienced experts in the industry."



LINKEDIN SHOWCASE



Every week during the 2023-2024 OYSC term, one of the council members created a LinkedIn post with the goal of nuclear education in mind. Each week, information and illustrations regarding different aspects of the nuclear industry were published, reaching quite far across the platform!

Nuclear Power Plant: General Layout

Nuclear Fuel in Canada

Nuclear Industry & the UN's Sustainable Development Goals













Defense-in-Depth Safety Structure Nuclear: A Clean Energy Source

SMR Overview



ADVISOR INSIGHT



This section brings you the wisdom and guidance of seasoned advisors from previous years supporting this year's council. These experienced internal mentors offer valuable insights and feedback on important matters, ensuring the group's ongoing success, improvements, and growth.



"Having both experienced the successes and challenges of the previous council, it was great to have the opportunity to share lessons learned with the current council. For example, the last council did not significantly emphasize internal networking, so an improvement in the current council was the monthly coffee chats between different council members to help strengthen their networks. As a result, there was improved engagement within the council."



"I enjoyed being an advisor on this year's council! The council used lessons from previous years to hold two successful webinars on Nuclear Fusion and Breaking into the Nuclear Industry. The 2023-2024 council focused on developmental initiatives such as internal networking via coffee chats, industry professional talks from OCNI board members, and attending conferences like the 2024 CNA. Overall, this year, the council continued to build on the solid foundation of previous years and developed new initiatives to strengthen its nuclear network."

CONCLUSION



The OCNI Youth Shadow Council, a nationwide collective with representatives from all corners of Canada, presents an invaluable chance for council members to expand their professional network within the nuclear sector.

Noteworthy aspects of the council include informal discussions among members over coffee, informative sessions led by industry experts, and organizing two webinars: the first focusing on entering the nuclear industry and the second on nuclear fusion.

Moreover, testimonials by members on the significant benefits from mentorship opportunities, aimed at bolstering connections in the nuclear field, are highlighted. Additionally, a showcase of selected LinkedIn posts made by council members, demonstrating their professional growth and achievements, is included in this report.

Finally, at the start of the 2023/24 cohort of council members, a LinkedIn account with zero followers now has nearly 200 followers, indicating its growing influence and reach in the professional social media space.



