



Jeff Blackburn

I have spent the past 14 years in senior leadership roles at Exco Technologies and lead Exco Energy, which brings world class capability in advanced manufacturing, precision machining, metal printing, and engineering to the nuclear sector. Prior to this I spent 8 years in Deloitte's Supply Chain Strategy practice gaining experience in manufacturing & distribution, ERP systems implementation, and strategic sourcing. My educational background includes undergraduate and master's degrees in mathematics as well as an MBA. I am a passionate advocate for rebuilding and strengthening Canada's industrial base and believe that reshoring advanced manufacturing is critical to the country's long-term economic strength, resilience and energy security. I also believe one key to doing this successfully is through innovation—embracing advanced technologies, automation and new manufacturing methods that allow Canadian industry to compete and lead globally.

I am seeking election to the OCNI Board of Directors because Canada's nuclear opportunity will depend, in large part, on whether its domestic supply chain can deliver. The industry is entering a period in which Ontario refurbishment work, CANDU new builds, SMRs and international projects will compete for qualified manufacturers, materials, skilled trades, engineering expertise and nuclear-qualified capacity. OCNI should continue to ask a direct question: where are the gaps, and what must we do now to ensure Canadian companies are ready to fill them? I am a passionate advocate for rebuilding and strengthening Canada's industrial base and believe that reshoring advanced manufacturing is critical to our long-term economic strength, resilience and energy security. But reshoring cannot simply mean recreating the industrial base of the past. We need to build the industrial base of the future by embracing innovation, automation, advanced manufacturing technologies and new production methods that allow Canadian companies to compete and lead globally. OCNI has already made supply-chain capability a significant priority. The opportunity now is to build on that work and translate it into practical value for members: clear visibility into priority gaps, credible pathways for capable companies to enter or expand in the nuclear market, and stronger Canadian capacity where it is most needed. As Vice President and General Manager of Exco Energy, I lead a Canadian manufacturing business expanding its role in the nuclear sector. I see first-hand what it takes to enter and succeed in this market: understanding customer requirements, investing in equipment and people, achieving the necessary quality qualifications, developing credible estimating and project-execution capabilities, and ultimately earning a place in an established supply chain.

If elected, I would support OCNI's continued focus on:

1. Identifying priority supply-chain gaps tied to refurbishment, new-build and SMR demand.

2. Helping capable Canadian companies become nuclear-ready by clarifying the quality, qualification, traceability, technical and commercial requirements for priority products and services.

3. Developing practical supply-chain strategies for priority gaps and regions, including approaches that help provinces with limited nuclear manufacturing capability build credible local participation in new-nuclear programs.

4. Building Canadian capacity where it is genuinely needed through investment, partnerships, expansion by established suppliers, entry by capable adjacent-industry manufacturers, technology adoption and workforce development.

I would bring a manufacturing-led, commercially practical perspective to the Board, with a strong focus on innovation, Canadian industrial capability and tangible value for OCNl members. I would appreciate your support.