

Q1 2026 Progress Report

Presented to Saugeen Shores Town Council



Report to: Mayor and members of Council, Town of Saugeen Shores

From: Jessica Linthorne, President and CEO, Nuclear Innovation Institute

Date: March 31, 2026

Subject: Nuclear Innovation Institute 2026 Q1 Progress Report

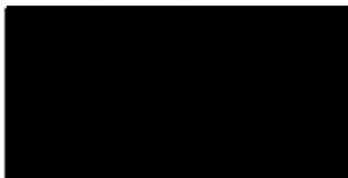
Executive Summary:

As part of the lease agreement signed on November 13, 2023, NII committed to a series of deliverables over the next several years. Below is a summary of recent work to fulfill those commitments. We look forward to our continued partnership with The Corporation of the Town of Saugeen Shores.

NII continued to meet the following deliverables for Q1 2026:

- Sec. 3.1.4 - Provide brand recognition for the Town similar to that of other Founding Members at NII
- Sec. 3.1.5 - The Town's Board representative will be invited to all Board activities and events
- Sec. 3.1.6 A & B - Social Media Posts and Invitations for town staff and council to NII events
- Sec. 3.1.6 C - Pass inquiries about local investment opportunities to the Saugeen Shores Economic Development Officer
- Sec. 3.1.7 - Provide opportunity for the Town to bring innovation project ideas forward to NII to evaluate and execute

Respectfully,



Jessica Linthorne
President and CEO, Nuclear Innovation Institute

**Nuclear Innovation Institute Deliverables and Report on
Schedule A on the Active Lease Agreement with The Corporation of the Town of Saugeen Shores**

Year	2026	Quarter	Q1	Status	On Track					
Item	Deliverable Description	Status				Actions and KPIs	Next Steps			
		Complete	On Going	In Progress	To be Started					
3.1.1	Maintain its head office in the Town for the Term of the Lease	X				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NII's main office continues to be in Saugeen Shores at 620 Tomlinson Drive 	Item Completed 2024			
3.1.2	Make space available to the Town for Council and Committee meetings and other meeting needs upon request according to the conditions set out in section 3. (c) of the Lease.	X				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NII's Facility Team has provided Council with the space for all Council, Committee of Whole and Planning Committee meetings from April 2024 –February 2025 Town staff will have conducted 31 council Meetings at NII's main space by March 31 2025. New Council Chambers were complete on Feb 5th. The last Town Council meeting at the NII was on Jan 27. All Town meeting tech stored at NII was removed by February 10th. 	Item Completed Q1 2025			
3.1.3	NII Board shall appoint a representative from the Council for the Town to fill a member- at-large seat on the NII Board of Directors within the parameters of its by-laws.	X				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council recommended Mayor Luke Charbonneau Mayor Luke Charbonneau appointed to NII's Board of Directors on November 22 2023 	Item Completed 2024			

	(Conditional on Council for the Town providing a recommendation to NII's Board for the appointment)						
3.1.4	The Town will receive brand recognition, similar to, that of other Founding Members at NII events and in NII's publications and on NII's website.		X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town logo listed on Founding Member Page on NII website • Logo on Founders Wall at Advance Campus • 12 media mentions in Q1 2026 • Town of Saugeen Shores membership was highlighted at the <i>2026 Confluence Forum</i> by the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative in Toronto on January 20, 2026, where NII presented on the Clean Energy Frontier Region. • Town of Saugeen Shores was highlighted alongside NII Founding Members at the <i>SMR Canada Summit</i> where NII presented on rural clean energy ecosystem development. 	<p>Next opportunities for brand recognition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mayor Charbonneau will be invited to provide welcoming remarks on behalf of the Town at the 2026 Clean Energy Frontier conference on October 8 & 9, 2026 at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Port Elgin.
3.1.5	The Town's Board representative will be invited to all Board activities and events such as meeting with visiting delegations, participating in NII special events, wherever they occur, and joining NII-led policy and advocacy initiatives		X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town representative is included on the Founding Member email list and sent all Board related invitations • Event invitations include: Board Meetings, special Board sessions, and committees as appropriate • Mayor Luke Charbonneau (as Warden of Bruce County) serves as a Co-Chair of the Clean Energy Frontier Regional Steering Committee. 	<p>The next biannual Regional Steering Committee meeting is to be held in Q4 2026.</p>

						The Q1 2026 meeting was held on March 10, 2026.	
3.1.6 A	Share clean energy advocacy content including social media posts with the Town’s communications department.		X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NII mentioned Saugeen Shores 4 times across social media in Q1 2026 • LinkedIn metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4,300 total impressions (number of times posts are displayed for users) - 10 shares - 6.5% average engagement rate (percentage of viewers who interacted with posts, e.g., likes, comments, clicks, shares) 	
3.1.6 B	Include Town elected officials and staff in relevant NII public and industry events, including meetups and workshops.		X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Saugeen Shores representatives in attendance at ROMA were invited to the <i>Powering Ontario’s Economic Engine: After Hours Reception</i>, hosted in partnership with the Western Ontario Wardens’ Caucus, Bruce Power, and NII. • An invitation to join NII’s table at The Empire Club of Canada’s event on April 8, 2026 — <i>Canadian at our Core: Advancing Nuclear Innovation For Canada’s Bright Energy Future</i> — featuring Eric Chassard, Bruce Power’s President and CEO, was shared with Town of Saugeen Shores representatives on the Clean Energy Frontier Regional Steering Committee. 	Next opportunity: Staff attending the Canadian Nuclear Association conference in April will receive an invitation to attend Bruce Power’s evening reception.

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A save the date to the 2026 Clean Energy Frontier Conference was sent to the Town's Clerk to share with council; more conference details to follow in Q2. 	
3.1.6 C	Pass any inquiries about local investment opportunities to the Saugeen Shores Economic Development Officer.		X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the December 2, 2025 NII Board of Directors' meeting, the Board received a presentation from Saugeen Shores staff regarding the Saugeen Shores Innovation Park. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following the Q4 meeting, the NII distributed a survey to all Founding Members inquiring about land expansion needs for their operations. Furthermore, management met with delegates from the Founding Member companies who expressed an interest to learn more about their needs. - This information was presented to the Board at the Q1 2026 NII Board of Directors meeting and a letter was sent to CAO Van Myall outlining findings. 	
3.1.6 D	Connect the Town to external innovation entities that could be of value to the Town.	X				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Opportunity presented through the Project Committee Invitations</i> 	<i>Item Completed 2024</i>

3.1.7	Provide the Town with the same opportunity as Founding Members to bring innovation project ideas forward to NII to evaluate and execute.	X			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Project Committee was disbanded as per Board direction in Q4 2025.• Active dialogue between municipal staff and NII Leadership with regards to project ideas and partnership is ongoing. Resulting proposals are to be brought directly to the NII Board of Directors for consideration.	
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