

Changing of the Guard

COG New Brunswick board member Paul Thompson passes the baton to Deputy Chief Nuclear Officer Michael Hare

The CANDU Owners Group (COG) board is saying goodbye to a valued colleague and welcoming a new face.

Long-time New Brunswick Power board member Paul Thompson is passing the reins to incoming Deputy Chief Nuclear Officer Michael Hare.

"We have been so fortunate to benefit from Paul's experience and insights to help direct COG's evolution as an organization," says COG President and CEO Fred Dermarkar. "His dedication as a board member and his friendship to everyone here at COG will be long and fondly remembered."

Thompson, an influential force within the industry, has been a COG board member since 2014. In addition to his role on the COG board, he is a past president of the Canadian Nuclear Society and a lead for many COG committees. His career spanned all three phases of the NB Power Refurbishment Project. Over the years, Paul has been a resource to COG sharing knowledge from four decades of experience in both technical and managerial roles at NB Power and before that at Atomic Energy Canada Ltd.

Hare, who replaces Thompson on COG's board, began his career with NB Power as a system engineer in 1992. He started with nuclear process systems, moving into a supervisory position before transferring to the certification stream. Hare's previous roles include station director, operations manager, refurbishment lay up, commissioning and restart manager and a secondment to World Association of Nuclear Operators as the OP and OR peer reviewer. The depth of his experience will contribute to COG's strength as an organization.

"We look forward to having Michael's voice on the COG board," says Dermarkar. Like Paul, he brings tremendous experience in many facets of projects and operations and will be a tremendous asset for the organization."

Other COG board members include Gary Newman, Senior Vice President Engineering & Chief Engineer at Bruce Power; David Cox, Vice President Operations & Chief Nuclear Officer at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories; and Steve Woods, Senior Vice President Engineering & Chief Nuclear Engineer at Ontario Power Generation.



New Brunswick Power's Michael Hare, incoming COG board member.



New Brunswick Power's Paul Thompson, outgoing COG board member.



Below and left: A rear-view look at Paul Thompson's time as COG board member includes (l-r) chairing the C6 Fleet steering committee, sharing a laugh with President and COG CEO Fred Dermarkar on break at a COG General Business Meeting and a more formal moment with fellow COG board members.

