

Stephanie Smith appointed as incoming COG President and CEO

Becomes first female CEO in organization's history



On June 25, COG announced the appointment of Stephanie Smith to the role of president and CEO, following a transition period with COG's outgoing leader Fred Dermarkar, later this summer. Dermarkar announced his retirement from COG in February.

Smith is deputy SVP of OPG's Darlington Nuclear Station, a role she assumed in 2019 after a secondment at the World Association of Nuclear Operators. She is the first female president and CEO in COG's history, following a 30-year career at OPG that was marked by firsts.

As OPG's first female maintenance manager, she was responsible for 800 maintenance staff and 200 contractors. In 2016, Smith continued to make history, becoming OPG's first female director of Operations and Maintenance, overseeing

all maintenance activity at the plant, from fuel handling to safety systems.

Smith's career started at Darlington in 1990 as a graduate engineer-in-training. She spent eight years working in engineering, earning her PEng in 1994, before moving to the chemistry lab at Pickering Nuclear. In 2006, she became the first female licensed shift manager overseeing Pickering Units 5-8 (the units commissioned between 1983 and 1986).

Smith will take over from current President and CEO Fred Dermarkar, who joined COG in 2014, after a 30-plus year career with OPG. He departs having advanced the COG collaboration model and strengthened the organization through enhanced program delivery, continuous improvement in services and improved business efficiency. In 2019, Dermarkar received the Ian McRae Award given to an individual for substantive contributions, other than scientific, to the advancement of nuclear energy in Canada. The same year, COG received the John S. Hewitt Team Award.

[Click here](#) to read the full announcement.



The COG team is excited to welcome their new CEO later this summer.

Watch for a full interview with Smith in the fall-winter edition of COGnizant Magazine.