



COG President and CEO Fred Dermarkar (left) chatting with OPG Nuclear President Dominique Minière at COG's General Business Meeting on Dec. 4, 2019.

# OPG leader shares a vision for Canadian nuclear industry in COG one-on-one

*At the recent COG General Business Meeting, President and CEO Fred Dermarkar spoke one-on-one with OPG Nuclear President Dominique Minière about the importance of on-time, on-budget performance, SMRs and the nuclear industry's role in addressing climate change.*

**O**ntario Power Generation (OPG) Nuclear President Dominique Minière has spent nearly 40 years building, operating and refurbishing nuclear plants, worldwide. He believes the next decade will be critical to the future of nuclear in Canada.

At the CANDU Owners Group (COG) December 2019 General Business Meeting, Minière talked with COG President and CEO Fred Dermarkar about a range of issues affecting the nuclear industry from the need for new nuclear construction to the importance of industry collaboration. Minière, who previously served as Chief Operating Officer at Électricité de France (EDF), which operates one of the world's largest nuclear fleets, also weighed in on how the Canadian nuclear industry is well-positioned for growth in the next decade, and stressed the need for technological innovation and investment.

Minière links Canadian nuclear success to the construction of new and renewed nuclear facilities, delivered on-time and on-budget, by 2030. Following the shutdown of OPG's Pickering Nuclear Plant, there will be an increased need for electricity generation but fewer nuclear plants to address that demand. Minière says that new investment in nuclear is probably needed by 2022 to provide enough time to plan and build new nuclear facilities and respond to the coming need for new electricity generation.

"Showing that new nuclear can be delivered on-time and on-budget is key to future investment," says Minière. "Time is of the essence and it will not be an easy journey. The financial community needs to believe in nuclear and we need to deliver a return on investment. We need to take advantage of our momentum and stay united as an industry. New [nuclear] technologies need to succeed, need to be completed and continue to be developed all in parallel."

According to Minière, OPG, in collaboration with Bruce Power, New Brunswick Power and COG, will do its part to help the industry to innovate and develop the technologies that will carry it forward into the next decade and beyond. He says OPG is continuing to work to advance small modular reactor (SMR) technology development and push for more action on the Canadian SMR Roadmap.

Minière also touched on the importance of building awareness of nuclear's critical role in addressing climate change through low carbon electricity generation and how nuclear and renewable technologies can work together as alternatives to carbon-generating competitors.

"New nuclear is still a future possibility in Canada and it can be part of the climate change solution, complementing renewables," says Minière.

He emphasizes that nuclear's role in Canada's response to climate change is contingent on the industry continuing to demonstrate continuous improvement, focusing on collaboration as well as delivering cost-effective, reliable electricity for Canadians in the next several years.