

BUSINESS VIEW February, 2005 Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce

Saskatoon Chamber States Support for Value Added Processing of Province's Resources .

The Board of Directors of the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Chamber recently endorsed the following resolution: The Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce categorically supports the environmentally sound development and expansion of value added processing of Saskatchewan's mined and grown raw resources.

These resources include uranium, potash, other mined materials, oil natural gas, as well as agricultural and forestry products.

The environmentally sensitive development and value added processing of these resources is fundamental for enhancing provincial prosperity, establishing additional employment opportunities for the people in this province especially young families and Aboriginal communities, while expanding and diversifying our tax base.

To meet our potential, the province requires an approach to public policy starting with a positive business and regulatory climate and an appreciation of the ethos of enterprise, innovation and entrepreneurship which helped to shape this province one hundred years ago.

BUSINESS VIEW September, 2005 Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce

The Moral Argument for Uranium Processing in Saskatchewan

There are significant benefits for Saskatchewan if we pursue additional value added processing of many of our raw resources.

Much of our business community wants to further value add our remarkable uranium resources.

Further uranium value adding activity includes: refining, processing, conversion, enrichment, fuel fabrication, medical application, power generation, spent fuel management, reprocessing, and hydrogen generation.

Securing these activities in Saskatchewan would help keep our kids here and could result in several billions of dollars of economic opportunity.

The lack of clear policy support for uranium processing in Saskatchewan has resulted in low levels of value added uranium activity in Saskatchewan.

We needn't focus just on the economic argument to support more development, but one example illustrates the connection between economic activity and social benefit.

The opportunity cost for Saskatchewan from not securing the Warman Uranium refinery in the late 1970s was over \$12 Billion.

This lost opportunity delayed many projects of significant public benefit.

Fewer jobs are available today than would be the case had this project occurred in Saskatchewan.

These jobs would have resulted in more and better training for Saskatchewan citizens, including our

indigenous people, and for Saskatchewan youth in particular.

The resulting larger tax base would have allowed for more public services and lower taxes.
This project would have improved the lives of many, many Saskatchewan citizens.
The world will develop uranium resources and will value add this material.

Uranium is relatively prevalent in the world.

The world needs reliable power and access to nuclear medicine technology.
Uranium will be used for power generation and for health based uses like food safety, medical diagnosis, and cancer treatment.

The question is not if, but where these processes will be developed.

Opponents to uranium development are worried about weapons.

World security and environmental concerns have grown.

Careful development of uranium resources now and in the future is of great concern to those seeking to improve the world.

The need to reduce dependency on carbon based energy for future development is becoming clear.
As underdeveloped parts of the world emerge to feed and educate the people, the need for electricity will rise significantly.

Much of the electricity will be provided by uranium.

Appropriate mining techniques, careful protection of the environment, worker safety, security of supply, and traceability that protects against future dangerous uses of uranium and its value added components are all issues that face world citizens.

These issues will grow in importance.

There is a strong argument that future development in the nuclear cycle should occur in a responsible jurisdiction like Saskatchewan.

The track record of the industry in Saskatchewan has been one of remarkable leadership.
The industry has helped indigenous people, safeguarded the environment, protected the workers, developed local infrastructure, provided support services to adjacent communities, and offered world leadership in sound environmental management.

As the use of uranium for medical and energy purposes grows, the need for good stewardship will become even more important.

Based on our province's experience and third party validation, additional uranium processing and energy production should occur in Saskatchewan to ensure the ethical management of this resource.
The industry in Saskatchewan has improved its techniques in environmental stewardship to the extent that the Saskatchewan industry is now regarded as being the best in the world.

In environmental protection, and worker safety, as well as working with local indigenous people that are most directly impacted by the development of this resource, Saskatchewan's industry is the best in the world.

The high success rate in achieving aboriginal employment targets within the industry shows just one element of these achievements.

The high environmental standards achieved by the industry in Saskatchewan, and its ongoing commitment to improvement proves this case.

The track record of the industry in Saskatchewan justifies our Chamber's view that the future development of the uranium value chain should occur in this province.

This will ensure that these standards are used as a benchmark to measure the safe and careful value added activity of uranium resources world wide.

Uranium processing development in Canada, and most particularly in Saskatchewan, should be encouraged and embraced as a means of: protecting the future environment, developing a secure world supply, ensuring traceability, and promoting work force safety.

As Saskatchewan expands its activities in the uranium cycle in medical usage, spent fuel storage, and ultimately the reprocessing of spent fuel, the principle of safe and careful usage will be promoted to the rest of the world.

The industry in Saskatchewan offers the most stringent controls available and is built upon the best available technology.

The Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce believes it is in the interest of the world to see the additional development of this industry in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan will serve as a comparison point for jurisdictions where the controls and track records may not meet the standards that have been met and surpassed in this province.

The excellence of the Saskatchewan uranium industry needs to be celebrated and encouraged to develop further value added activity through the cycle in the province.

In 1951 Saskatoon led the world in the peaceful use of radiation technology through the application of radiation treatment for cancer.

Today, Saskatchewan based companies lead the world in the safe, environmentally sound and socially responsible mining and processing of this resource.

The Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce wants to continue this tradition of world leadership by embracing the uranium industry and all its value added aspects for the benefit of Saskatchewan and for the good of the world.

