



June 30, 2017

From the President's Desk

Greetings from the Ottawa office. One of the ways that the Energy Council is commemorating energy during Canada's 150th anniversary as a Dominion is a series of articles written by energy leaders across Canada on a topic of their choice.

I am very pleased to report that the first batch of articles has just been posted. The Foreword to the publication and the first four articles provide interesting information and insights on the past and future of energy policy, and on two important energy technologies. I encourage you to check them out at www.energy.ca. Just to pique your interest...

Bob Skinner's article on ***A National Energy Strategy: The Holy Grail of Canadian Public Policy*** traces the successive series of energy policy initiatives, starting with the 1842 launch of an assessment of the country's mineral and resource potential, to more recent environmental and energy strategy initiatives. Two immutable realities strongly influence the evolution of energy policy-making – the widely-varied nature of Canada's resources and geography, and the constitutional and legal provisions which define the role of governments and the rights of Canada's First Nations.

In ***a New Energy Future for Canada?*** Michael Cleland reflects on whether Canada has an energy decision system that mirrors today's realities and that is capable of dealing with tomorrow's challenges, given the complex interplay of policy, planning, regulation and a growing cast of active participants from federal, provincial and territorial governments; Indigenous and municipal governments; and a wide range of private stakeholders. He opines that the growing list of controversies and confrontations associated with decisions on major energy projects indicates that Canada has some work to do.

Two articles examine the prospects for two important components of Canada's electricity generation portfolio.

Rob Hornung, in his article entitled ***Wind Energy Coming of Age***, sees the world resolutely moving towards a low-carbon future. Canada, with its huge quantity of high-quality clean energy reserves, has a unique opportunity to lead the transition. After briefly pointing out highlights of wind energy developments in Canada and rapidly-growing global investments in wind energy, he indicates that a recent study found no operational barriers to the integration of 35% wind energy generation into the grid provided a number of cost-effective transmission investments were made.

John Barrett and John Stewart share their thoughts on ***Five Possibilities for Energy Technology*** arising from Canada's nuclear sector and how they could unfold in the medium-to-long term. Starting with what they see as the most likely scenario, they profile recycling of nuclear fuel, advances in small and/or advanced nuclear reactors, district energy systems driven by nuclear energy, fusion energy, and widespread penetration of electric vehicles.

The next date for posting additional articles is mid-September.

Looking forward to a great Canada Day weekend.

Graham Campbell
President
Energy Council of Canada