

NEIGHBOURS

PICKERING NUCLEAR • DARLINGTON NUCLEAR



WINTER 2019

Pickering and Darlington are Bringing Back the Salmon



Hatchery launch day at the Darlington Information Centre with students from St. Joseph and St. Michael Catholic Schools.

This winter, both the Darlington and Pickering sites kicked off their *Bring Back the Salmon* programs. This is the eighth year the program has been running at Pickering, and the first year for Darlington.

Early February, Grade 5 and 6 students from St. Joseph and St. Michael elementary schools in Cobourg, and St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic School in Pickering joined OPG, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority staff for the opening of two educational salmon hatcheries. Each of the Information Centres host their own hatchery.

Over the winter and spring months, the students will track the progress of the 100 salmon eggs being hatched at each site. In late spring, they will release the fry (young salmon) into Duffins Creek in Claremont Conservation Area and Cobourg Creek in Cobourg.

OPG is the lead sponsor in the *Bring Back the Salmon* program, partnering with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, OFAH and a number of other organizations. This important program is designed to help restore the Atlantic Salmon population in Lake Ontario by 2020, and to educate elementary school students about the importance of habitat, stewardship, and biodiversity.

To date, almost 1,000 salmon fry have been raised as part of the restoration program through support of Pickering Nuclear and local partnering schools.

Please visit www.bringbackthesalmon.ca for more information on this program. ■



Students take a closer look at their salmon eggs in the hatchery.



On the Move!



A familiar face returned to Darlington Nuclear in the fall, as Steve Gregoris, former Director of Operations and Maintenance, assumed the role of Senior Vice President (SVP). Steve most recently completed a secondment to the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) in Atlanta and returned as Deputy Site Vice President at Pickering Nuclear prior to moving back to Darlington.

Former Darlington SVP Brian Duncan has assumed the role of SVP Nuclear Fleet Operations and is responsible for overseeing Fleet Operations, Maintenance and Training, Security & Emergency Services and Regulatory Affairs.

OPG's X-Labs Look to the Future with Innovation

From virtual reality headsets to specialized glasses that deliver real-time information, there's a whole lot of innovation going on behind the doors of the Pickering and Darlington Nuclear X-Labs.

This forward-thinking team is tapping into the latest technology to improve training and build efficiencies at both stations and across OPG.

"The goal is to build on ideas we've received from employees and supervisors who manage the plant," said Viktor Borodinas, team member and a manager at Pickering Nuclear.

The X-Lab teams are also experimenting with augmented reality via Google Glass and Microsoft HoloLens smartglasses. The glass technology can communicate and deliver real-time information on changing conditions in work areas.

The HoloLens can even overlay dynamic 3D images; for instance, a cutaway of a pump or valve, which can be examined and manipulated in a 360-degree environment.

"Currently, we're looking at the potential value of using glasses to walk employees through certain nuclear procedures," Borodinas explained. "Instead of stopping work to consult a hard-copy of the procedures, the glasses would provide the same step-by-step instructions while the work is being done."



Experiencing virtual reality headsets first hand.

Dave Tyndall, Senior Manager - Plant Design at Darlington is working with the team on augmented reality and smart wireless technology projects.

"We're working to maximize learning and improve efficiencies in various areas," Tyndall said. "As an example, our employees are trained and tested in a classroom setting; so we're looking at how virtual reality (VR) can augment the training by providing employees with a more realistic experience."

Currently in the testing phase are VR kiosks where you'll find new employees wearing a Vive headset as they 'walk through' a 3D simulation of the station reactor vault.

"Our goal is to improve reliability, efficiency and human performance through creative thinking in a way that also helps drive down costs," Tyndall said. ■

KI Pills101

Preparedness=Power

In the extremely unlikely event of a nuclear emergency, provincial and/or regional officials would notify the public of any required actions, through a combination of warning sirens (within 3 km), automated phone calls to landlines (within 10 km), plus widespread television, radio, online and social media, and the National Public Alerting System.

Everyone has a role to play. Visit opg.com/nuclearsafety for more information.



Pickering Wind Turbine to be Removed this Spring

This April, you'll see a change as you stroll along the Waterfront Trail at Alex Robertson Park. Ontario Power Generation's wind turbine has reached its end of life and will be dismantled.

While it's located beside the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station, it is operated and maintained by OPG's Renewable Generation Group.

Did you know, the turbine has been in operation for almost 20 years, and at full power would produce enough energy to power about 330 homes? But now, the cost to replace older parts is too high, and it is unsafe to leave the turbine in place when it's not operating.

The work will happen over the course of a few days in April and will not impact the use of the Waterfront Trail. ■



Pickering's Wind Turbine.



OPG's Nuclear Stations Awarded Highest Safety Ratings



Operator at Control Room Panels

Darlington's ninth consecutive year; Pickering's third year in a row.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has once again awarded Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington and Pickering nuclear stations its highest safety rating of "Fully Satisfactory". For nine consecutive years, Darlington Nuclear has achieved the highest possible safety rating while Pickering Nuclear has achieved the highest possible safety rating for the third year in a row. Combined, the plants provide about 30 per cent of the electricity used in the province.

"Excellence in Nuclear Operations remains our focus at Ontario Power Generation," said Sean Granville, OPG's Chief Nuclear Officer. "We remain committed to providing clean energy while protecting the public, the environment and our staff."

The Pickering nuclear station is one of Ontario's most important generating assets. OPG will continue operating Pickering until 2024 to ensure a reliable, clean source of power during the Darlington refurbishment project. This continued operation will save Ontario electricity customers up to \$600 million, avoid 17 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions and protect 4,500 jobs across Durham Region.

In October 2016, OPG started work on the \$12.8 billion refurbishment of Darlington nuclear station. The Darlington refurbishment project is on budget, ahead of schedule and Canada's largest clean energy project. An independent report by the Conference Board of Canada estimates that the project and subsequent 30 years of station operation will generate a total of \$89.9 billion in economic benefits for Ontario, including supporting approximately 14,000 jobs.

Darlington Nuclear's "Fully Satisfactory" rating for the ninth year in a row is the strongest continuous performance by any Canadian nuclear power plant. ■

Project Administrator Finds the Right Fit through OPG's Indigenous Jobs Program

Danielle Sero is now helping to support the Darlington Refurbishment project after her successful job placement through OPG's Indigenous Opportunities in Nuclear (ION) program.

"ION was with me every step of the way," Sero said about OPG's Indigenous recruitment process, which requires the completion of a skills assessment, security clearance and training.

"I thought the program was only targeting people interested in working in the skilled trades, but ION places people with all kinds of work experience and interests," she added.

A member of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte from Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, Sero grew up in Newcastle and completed a Bachelor of Arts

degree in Sociology at Nipissing University. After working three years in Health and Safety at Black and McDonald, she was contracted by OPG.

Towards the end of her contract, Sero had reached out to Gary Paulin, a fellow member of OPG's Indigenous Circle, an employee group that recognizes members' contributions within the organization and community. Paulin also happened to be the program coordinator for ION, and encouraged her to apply.

Soon after, Sero was notified of an organization looking for someone with her professional experience and skill-set, and she is now working full-time as a project administrator at CanAtom Power Group, supporting OPG's Darlington Refurbishment – Canada's largest clean energy project.



Danielle Sero supporting the Darlington Refurbishment project.

"The people I work with are great," Sero said. "CanAtom has really welcomed me. It's a great place to work."

Now settled into her new role, Sero has only positive things to say about OPG's Indigenous Opportunities in Nuclear program. "The process was seamless, and with the placement being geared to my strengths and interests, I immediately felt part of the team. This very personalized program provides value to all involved." ■



ONTARIO POWER
GENERATION

MARCH BREAK MADNESS 2019

BROUGHT TO YOU BY OPG'S
PICKERING AND DARLINGTON NUCLEAR STATIONS

MON.
MARCH
11

FREE

FOREST FRIENDS*

WHEN: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
WHERE: Claremont Nature Centre
4290 Westney Rd. N., Goodwood

Come meet wildlife that call our forest home, learn about animal tracks and explore the trails around the Claremont Nature Centre. Finish up with hot chocolate by the campfire.

**Registration is required at opg.com.*

WED.
MARCH
13

FREE

COMMUNITY SWIM

WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.
WHERE: Pickering Recreation Complex
1867 Valley Farm Rd., Pickering

Lots of splashing, lots of laughing and great exercise for everyone! Admission is free during program hours.

Pool has maximum occupancy, so it's first come, first served.

MON.
MARCH
11

FREE

SPRING WATER SURPRISE*

WHEN: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
WHERE: Darlington Nuclear Information Centre
1855 Energy Drive, Courtice

Join the team from the **Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority** to learn about fish habitat in our local watersheds and spring water safety through cool science experiments and fun activities.

**Registration is required at opg.com.*

THU.
MARCH
14

FREE

FAMILY FUN AT THE FARM*

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHERE: WindReach Farm (see windreachfarm.org)

Enjoy snowshoeing, wagon rides and a campfire; make crafts and meet the farm animals.

**A \$20 charitable donation to the farm is appreciated. Please dress for the weather. Food and refreshments are available for purchase.*

TUE.
MARCH
12

FREE

KIDS SAFETY VILLAGE

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHERE: Kids Safety Village of Durham Region
1129 Athol St., Whitby

Explore safety in a kid-sized village.

All activities are outdoors. Please dress for the weather.

FRI.
MARCH
15

FREE

MAPLE TIME FUN*

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 12 to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: Purple Woods Conservation Area
Maple Syrup Festival, North Oshawa

Discover the wonders of Canada's famous maple trees!

**Admission tickets to Purple Woods (\$6 per person) must be purchased in advance at cloca.com. All OPG activities are FREE.*

WED.
MARCH
13

FREE

COMMUNITY SKATE

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: South Courtice Arena, 1595 Prestonvale Rd., Courtice
Gather your skates, helmet, family and friends. Beginner or expert, young or old, skating is fun for everyone!

Pad B – General Public Skate

FRI.
MARCH
15

FREE

SCIENCE BOUND*

WHEN: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
WHERE: Pickering Nuclear Information Centre
1675 Montgomery Park Rd., Pickering

Join **Pickering Public Library** for an action-packed program filled with crazy circuits, coding, and augmented reality!

**Registration is required at opg.com.*

Programs are suitable for children ages 6 to 12. All children must be accompanied by an adult.
For more information, please visit opg.com.

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