



February 3, 2025

Executive Director's Message

SIMSA is well positioned to assist its members during the current trade dispute with the USA. Our well-developed relationship with Crestview Strategies in Ottawa, has given us a direct line into our Federal Government and greater access to information. They are, in short, a massive new employee for us. Our key contacts are:

- <https://crestviewstrategy.com/our-team/julian-ovens/>
- <https://crestviewstrategy.com/our-team/john-oleary/>

To better understand our members' work into/from the USA, we will be conducting a survey. The results will be shared with the Federal and Provincial governments to help mold policy.

If you got a hankerin' (a strong desire to have or do something) to help steer the ship known as SIMSA, now's your chance.

At our 2025 AGM May 14, we will be confirming up to 6 freshly-elected Board members from the "Regular" membership category. The exact number is yet to be solidified, but 6 is very close and this number includes incumbents.

Per SIMSA's [Bylaws](#), to be eligible for the SIMSA Board of Directors, the candidate must be:

1. a Saskatchewan resident and (SIMSA may ask for proof of this)
2. a direct employee with significant operational decision authority,
3. of a company which is a Regular or Open Member of SIMSA [this year all Regular]
4. and their membership is paid current.

The tentative election timelines are as follows:

1. March 7, 8:00 am - Call for nominations begins (via email) (you can nominate yourself)
2. March 21, 9:00 am - Nominations cease
3. April 1, 8:00 am - Notice of AGM with ballot sent (with nominees' bios)
4. May 12, 9:00 am - Completed ballot submission ends
5. Wednesday, May 14, at noon – AGM

SIMSA's first Board meeting after the AGM will be June 18, in SIMSA's office, in Saskatoon.

SIMSA held a virtual event with Cameco on January 28, that saw 137 persons attend. The event was inspired by Cameco's Saskatchewan mining operations, forecasting an increase in sustaining capital project work over the next three years. As a result, Cameco is looking for qualified, experienced, and

motivated contractors to complement their existing preferred northern contractors in safely and efficiently executing quality projects for their mining operations.

The session provided high-level information on their plans and requirements in the following scope areas:

- Brownfield Industrial Construction, requiring all trade disciplines with projects on surface and underground, in both mine and mill environments
- Commercial Facility Expansion and Renovation

Cameco's Craig King, Director, Sustaining Capital Projects and Kari Krueckl Lamont, Director, Procurement and Materials provided a brief presentation, followed by a Q&A session.

Member's News

[Vallen Canada Opens New Distribution Center](#)

[SRC Indigenous Action Plan Builds on Decades-Long Reputation of Collaboration](#)

[Team Power Solutions: Enhancing Safety and Efficiency at Saskatchewan's Newest Mine](#)

Advocacy

In addition to the tariffs work mentioned above, SIMSA has begun scheduling and holding, a series of meetings with Members of Parliament, to discuss issues impacting SIMSA's members. The meetings are commencing with Saskatchewan MPs and then will expand.



Eric Anderson with Brad Redekopp, MP Saskatoon West

SIMSA is also sharing member concerns on the Prompt Payment legislation, with the Government of Saskatchewan.

Conversations will not be detailed herein.

Nuclear

Behind the Scenes of Nuclear Power Stations During Construction and Operation

A. Construction of a Nuclear Power Plant - Vogtle Nuclear Power Station

Basic data on Vogtle units 3 and 4 is as follows:

Location: Waynesboro, GA

Operator: Southern Nuclear

Configuration: 2 x 1,110 MW Pressurized Water Reactors (AP1000)

Commercial Operation Date (COD): 2023 and 2024

Reactor Supplier: Westinghouse

Turbine and Generator Supplier: Toshiba

More information about the Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant (units 1 to 4) can be found here [vogtle-plant_brochure.pdf](#)

A wide cross section of photos taken during construction of the Georgia Power Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant between 2015 and 2024 can be found here [Construction Photo Archives](#)

B. A Look Inside an Operating Nuclear Power Plant – Heysham 2 Nuclear Power Station

Basic data on Heysham 2 units 7 and 8 is as follows:

Location: Lancaster, UK

Operator: EDF

Configuration: 2 x 680 MW Advanced Gas Cooled Reactors

Commercial Operation Date (COD): 1988

Reactor Supplier: National Nuclear Corporation

Turbine and Generator Supplier: NEI

An excellent video and commentary on the units at Heysham 2 can be found here [What's it like to stand on top of a nuclear reactor? Go behind the scenes of a nuclear power station](#)

More information about the Heysham 2 Nuclear Power Plant (units 7 and 8) can be found here [Heysham 2 nuclear power station and visitor centre | EDF](#)

Real time electrical output of Heysham 2 Nuclear Power Plant (units 7 and 8) can be found here [Generating status - EDF nuclear power stations](#)

Member Services

SIMSA, IMII, and Partners Further Culture of Innovation in Saskatchewan Mining

The International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII) and SIMSA were pleased to co-host a DEMODay 2024 Launch event on January 16, 2025.



A mining hackathon followed on January 25th for the students of the University of Saskatchewan, and Saskatchewan Polytech in collaboration with the Tech Innovation and SIGMA program at College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

The IMII released a list of [innovation needs](#) on behalf of its minerals member companies – BHP, Cameco, Fission Uranium, Mosaic and Nutrien, and more than 75 persons from innovative suppliers and mining companies were in attendance for the DEMODay launch. The launch event facilitated many great discussions between suppliers and industry and was seen as a big success this year by mineral company attendees.

In an affiliated event, a total of 40 people persons from the mining industry, SIMSA members, post-secondary students and faculty attended the Hackathon the week after DEMODay.



Students and Industry attend Hackathon opening.

The Hackathon is an event where students brainstorm solutions to the same industry's needs and present their solutions to a panel of judges.



Students presenting their Hackathon solutions.

For over 8 hours students worked in 6-groups of 3-5 students, to “hack” or propose solutions to the list of the Innovation Industry needs that the IMII released as a part of DEMOday. Students ranged from 1st year students, all the way to doctoral candidates.

Sector News

With Trudeau stepping down, a looming Federal election and a likely change of the governing party and thus several environmental related items in flux, plus Trump being elected in the USA, things are “fluid” to say the least.

On the same day, we heard that FCL “paused” their \$2.5B Integrated Agriculture Complex project (from [here](#)) and SaskPower will examine the long-term continued operation of their coal plants (from [here](#)).

The January 17, FCL story partially read:

Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL) is announcing today, that it has paused, the two main projects related to its proposed Integrated Agriculture Complex in Regina.

Due to regulatory and political uncertainty, potential shifts in low-carbon public policy, and escalating costs, FCL's proposed renewable diesel facility and joint venture canola crush projects, as originally conceived, are paused for the foreseeable future.

“The decision to press pause on these two projects is not one we took lightly,” said Heather Ryan, FCL CEO. “When making this decision, we undertook a robust due-diligence process, that carefully considered our best pathway to meet compliance obligations, while ensuring investments are appropriate, provide value and benefit to the Co-operative Retailing System and support our short and long-term sustainability goals.”

As indicated, FCL and joint venture (JV) partner AGT Foods, have paused their proposed JV canola crush facility, which would have supplied feedstock to FCL’s wholly-owned renewable diesel facility.

The SaskPower story contained comments from Crown Investments Corporation Minister Jeremy Harrison, of:

Across the country and indeed the world, there is a growing uncertainty around the future of power production. In Saskatchewan we are working hard to provide that certainty based on two primary lenses: affordability and reliability.

The question that is informing our decisions is a simple one: does our path keep your costs as low as possible and does it keep your lights on?

The province has already invested substantially into solar, wind, biomass, and natural gas generation along with planning and exploration for nuclear power which we see as being a central part of our long-term future.

But, we need to get there first. And that is why reliable baseload power generation is integral as we bridge to that nuclear future. Our strategy must take an all-of-the above approach for power production and that includes coal.

And make no mistake, the provincial government believes there is a future for coal. We have already announced that both Boundary Dam Unit 3, and Shand Power Station will continue to operate as long they are viable. In the case of Shand until at least 2042. SaskPower is currently seriously examining whether to extend the operating lives of other coal generation units at Boundary Dam and Poplar River. I recently toured both of those facilities and committed to employees that we will have firm answers by summer as to what this future looks like.

Electricity generation is exclusively within our constitutional authority as a province, and it is imperative that we maintain a reliable and affordable power supply to support our regional needs and growth.

Saskatchewan has the resources, expertise, and proximity to be at the centre of North American energy security. We are going to fully and unapologetically utilize our natural blessings to ensure we realize our full potential.

New Members

New members to SIMSA from the month of January were:

- [CP Distributors](#)
- [Canadian Linen & Uniform Service](#)
- [Flocor Inc.](#)
- [Insole by the Roll](#)

Upcoming Events

Register for Upcoming Events [HERE](#)

- **Mastering Negotiation Through Terms and Conditions: A Tactical Guide for Industrial Sales Teams – February 4, 2025**
Unlock the secrets to negotiating impactful terms and conditions that drive success in industrial sales.
- **Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum (MSCF) – April 9 & 10, 2025**
Co-hosted by SIMSA, the Saskatchewan Mining Association and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade & Export Development, the 17th Annual Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum will take place on April 9 and 10, 2025 at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon. Tradeshow now sold out!
- **SIMSA AGM – May 14, 2025**
Save the date! Our 2025 AGM will be on May 14, 2025 at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon.
- **Saskatchewan Supplier Energy Forum (SSEF) – October 8, 2025**
Save the date! The 11th Annual Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum (SSEF) will be on October 8, 2025 at Delta Hotel in downtown Regina.

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