



## NWMO funds a web-based geospatial database portal at GCT3

**May 2020** - In partnership with the NWMO and the Firelight Group, GCT3 is developing a web-based geospatial database portal (the “Portal”) that will function as a content and knowledge management interface. This will allow GCT3 and its member First Nations to use the Portal as a primary platform to acquire, distribute, use, maintain, and store geospatial data. The Portal also ensures that data and resources are available to communities and leadership to support decision-making as it relates to lands

and resources in the Treaty #3 Territory. The Portal will be designed to enable users to access the portal regardless of computer literacy and capacity.

Funding for the project is being provided by the NWMO through an amendment to an existing agreement authorized by Chiefs-in-Assembly in 2017. The Firelight Group will work the TPU to design and develop the Portal. The Firelight Group is multi-disciplinary research consultancy group that supports First Nations and First Nation organizations in

areas such land use, traditional knowledge, cartography and GIS.

The TPU will meet with GCT3 leadership, community members, and First Nation technical staff later to discuss data sharing protocols and agreements. It is anticipated the Portal will be completed and available for use by Treaty #3 communities and their by the end of 2020.

For more information, please contact Lucas King at:

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## Territorial Planning Unit launches online NWMO engagement survey

**May 2020** - The Territorial Planning Unit has launched a survey to learn how it can better engage with Treaty #3 members on the NWMO site selection process during the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of the survey is to determine how we can best continue to engage Treaty #3 membership on the site selection process given that restrictions on travel and in-person meetings may extend well into 2021. The survey is designed to obtain your feedback on the current

engagement strategy, tools or resources that we can adopt to better engage you during the pandemic, and perceptions about travel after the pandemic is over.

Information collected from the survey will be used to inform a renewed GCT3-NWMO engagement strategy moving forward.

The survey will only take 10-15 minutes of your time and survey respondents will be entered into a draw for one of

five Amazon.ca gift cards. The survey can be found at the following web address or by scanning the QR code below using your phone:

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/NWMO\\_Engagement\\_Survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NWMO_Engagement_Survey)



### Upcoming Events:

Dates of future forums and events will be announced as soon as social distancing guidelines & travel restrictions are lifted.

“Stay safe & Stay healthy”

## Territorial Planning Unit hiring new NWMO Liaison

**June 2020** - The TPU is currently recruiting a new NWMO Liaison whose primary responsibilities is to work with the current Contractor to manage the planning, delivery, and follow-up of activities related to GCT3's engagement activities with NWMO. This position will work with the Contractor over the summer and will be trained to take over the NWMO file once the Contractor leaves for law school in the fall.

Candidates should have a post-secondary education in natural resources, environmental sciences, engineering, or related field, as well as significant experience with First Nation communities. Project management experience is also considered an asset. For more details on responsibilities, qualifications, and how to apply, please visit: <http://gct3.ca/jobs/nwmo-liaison-2/>

Review of applications will begin in early June and will be ongoing until a suitable candidate is found.

## NWMO helps the Northwestern Health Unit respond to COVID-19

**May 2020** - The NWMO announced it is making a one-time contribution of \$50,000 to the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) to reach those most in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. The NWHU will use the funds to respond to community needs such as but not limited to, emergency food access and care packages for people who are in isolation without resources or family support, and hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies for organizations in the area who need assistance.

The NWMO has responded to the global COVID-19 pandemic by supporting municipal and Indigenous communities involved in the site selection process. The NWMO recently supported the Kenora District Municipal Association to help the organization establish reliable and secure communications between communities in the region in these difficult times.

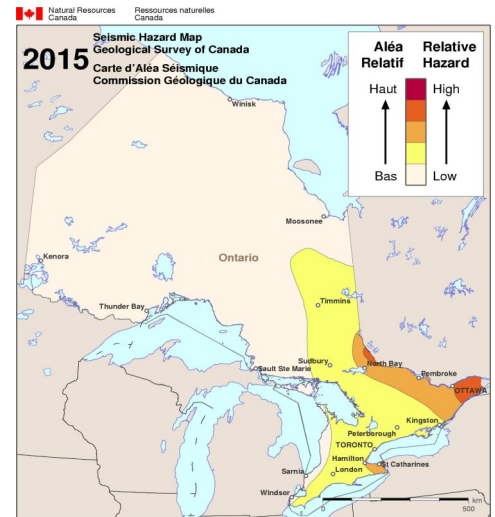
## Nevada earthquake raises doubts about Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository

**May 2020** - On Friday, May 15, 2020, a magnitude 6.5 earthquake rocked Nevada with the epicenter located about 100 miles away from the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository. No serious damage was recorded aside from cracked highway pavement in mostly remote surroundings. Nevada has not seen an earthquake of this size since 1954.

The Yucca Mountain Nuclear Repository in Nevada is currently the designated single facility for permanent disposal of high level nuclear waste in the United States even though there are no nuclear power generating facilities in Nevada.

As the map on the left (USGS craton map) shows, the Yucca Mountain site is not in an ideal location in terms of tectonic activity. Located near the boundary of the "accretionary belt" and the "deformed craton" the region has a history of volcanic activity within the past 2 million years. Nevada is ranked third in the nation for earthquakes.

In comparison, a Geological Survey of Canada map shows low seismic activity in the study area for the proposed deep geological repository for high level nuclear waste near the township of Ignace and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway, as well as in Northwestern Ontario as a whole.



Source: Natural Resources Canada



Source: Unites States Geological Survey

**For more information, contact:**

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Almost all seismic events that have been recorded in Northwestern Ontario are related to mining or blasting events. For more information and data on earthquakes, please visit Natural Resources Canada at:

<https://earthquakescanada.nrcan.gc.ca/>