

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- To ensure that Canadians continue to enjoy the many benefits of nuclear technology, government investment in nuclear science and engineering R&D must be maintained. There is ample evidence to show that the benefits still to be realized will be at least as significant as those already achieved.
- The generation of nuclear electricity will continue to be economically viable, and it will play an essential role in driving the nation's economy while protecting the environment by avoiding greenhouse gases and other pollutants. Continuing research is needed to support and extend the productive lifetime of existing CANDU reactors in Canada and abroad, and to develop competitive advanced reactor designs.
- Canada's nuclear expertise supports the nation's strategic and diplomatic initiatives, including safeguarding nuclear material and the possibility of destroying weapons plutonium in Canadian reactors. It could also support other initiatives by providing GHG-free electricity and fresh water to developing regions of the world.
- To ensure that the benefits of nuclear technology continue for Canadians we must maintain the research base as a national asset. The immediate requirement is for the Canadian Neutron Facility, a dual-purpose facility that will support both CANDU-related research and the study of advanced industrial and biological materials.
- The use of nuclear power to generate hydrogen fuel would revolutionize transportation and would dramatically curtail the emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants.