IESVic Seminar

DATE: Monday, February 4, 2019

TIME: 2:00-3:00 pm

LOCATION: Engineering Computer Science Bldg. [ECS] Room 660

SPEAKER: John Stewart

Director of Policy and Research Canadian Nuclear Association

TITLE: Canadian Nuclear Energy: Moving from Mainframe to Laptop?

Abstract: Small modular reactors (SMRs) appear to have the potential to transform the application of nuclear energy worldwide. Moreover, Canada appears to have a greater opportunity to demonstrate and deploy SMRs than other leading industrialized countries, due to an established nuclear science and industry base, many potential deployment locations, and a trusted yet adaptable regulatory framework. Energy systems, like other complex human systems, are not just about the technology or the machines; they are about interactions among many stakeholders and interconnected networks. John will describe the SMR Roadmap Project's ongoing endeavour (www.smrroadmap.ca) to hold a pan-Canadian discussion of the potential, opportunity, and challenges of SMRs for Canada.

Biography: John leads the development of policy and research products to support the Canadian Nuclear Association's national advocacy organization, and co-chairs the CNA's Public Affairs Advisory Committee. During 2018 he project-managed the Pan-Canadian SMR Roadmap, which is a national, multi-stakeholder conversation on the potential of small modular reactors (SMRs) for Canada (report at www.smrroadmap.ca).

John recently chaired the Policy Committee of Canada's National Electricity Roundtable, which is an industry-government consultative group, and he is CNA's representative to the Washington-based Global Nexus Initiative, which is a multi-country group looking at climate, energy, and global security. John worked with the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa from 1990 to 2010, where he was a member of a Climate Outreach Team that in 2006 received a Superior Honor Award for effectively communicating U.S. foreign policy on the environment and climate change. An advocate for the productive integration of immigrants into Canadian society, he has volunteered in this area since 2000 and has led two of Ottawa's immigrant services organizations, as well as working for other community service and international development efforts. He will be on the teaching faculty of the Max Bell School of Public Policy at McGill University in 2019-20.

For further information, please contact the IESVic office (250) 721-6295.