

Grant Cherkas, B.Sc., P.Eng.

CEO, Prairie Nuclear Consulting Inc.

Strategic Leadership | Successful Nuclear Programs and Solutions

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SUMMARY

Accomplished senior nuclear executive with a proven track record developing and leading nuclear organizations to achieve uncommon results. Over 30 years of experience, domestically and internationally, spanning nuclear organization leadership, design & engineering, safety analysis, training, nuclear operations, licensing, regulatory affairs, management systems, and business development. Strategically focused collaborator who enjoys mentoring and inspiring teams. Extensive experience working with organizations including COG, IAEA, NEA, OECD, WANO and international nuclear regulators.

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

[Prairie Nuclear Consulting Inc.](#)

Founder and CEO

2025 June – Present
Saskatoon & Ottawa

Providing management and engineering consulting services to the nuclear industry in Canada and the United States of America. Focused primarily on nuclear technology development, market development, supply chain development, quality assurance and management system, and nuclear logistics.

[Westinghouse Electric Canada Inc. \(and subsidiaries\)](#)

Vice President of Market Development and Chief Engineer

2019 August - 2026 June
Ottawa & Saskatoon

Chief Nuclear Officer – Seconded to SRC Nuclear Inc. (SRCN)

Part of the original Canadian Executive team that lead the acquisition and integration of NA Engineering (2020) and Rolls-Royce Civil Nuclear (2021) to form the present Westinghouse organization. Performed multi-faceted duties including:

- Strategy & Executive Leadership roles including V.P., Chief Engineer and Corporate Security Officer
- Chief Nuclear Officer – Secondment from Westinghouse to the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC)
- Market Development – V.P. responsible for market development
- Portfolio included Quality Assurance and Management System, Nuclear Fuel and R&D programs

[Jensen Hughes Consulting Canada Ltd.](#)

Director

2016 July - 2019 August
Ottawa

Launched and led the introduction of Jensen Hughes into the Canadian nuclear market and established the first Canadian office in Ottawa.

[Ontario Power Generation Inc. \(OPG\)](#)

Senior Manager

2014 June - 2016 July
Wesleyville

Managed OPG's Wesleyville Fire and Rescue Training Academy and 1,250-acre facility.

[Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission \(CNSC\)](#)

Technical Specialist

2003 September - 2014 May
Ottawa

Developed regulatory requirements and license conditions, verified compliance, and enforced regulatory requirements at nuclear facilities or where radioactive material is stored or used in Canada. Provided recommendations to the Commission, government agencies, and joint review panels on technical issues.

Key activities and projects:

- Represented CNSC nationally and internationally on committees, technical and scientific meetings with the USNRC, NEA and OECD in the areas of Emergency Response, Fire Protection, Engineering, Seismic Hazard, Pressure Boundary, Protection from Malevolent Acts and Safety Analysis;
- NRU Reactor Shutdown Evaluation Team member: participated as part of a multi-disciplinary team to assess the safety case for restarting the NRU reactor;

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

MBA Essentials 2021
Rodman School of Management,
University of Toronto

Bachelor of Science
(Mechanical Engineering) 1993
University of Manitoba

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- Focused Inspection Team member – Pickering NGS 'B' Simultaneous Loss of High-Pressure Emergency Coolant Injection System (HPECIS) and Emergency High Pressure Service Water System (HPESW) due to unavailability of Class IV power – August 14, 2003, Loss of Grid Event;
- Initiated the development of CSA Standard N393 "Fire protection for facilities that process, handle, or store nuclear substances" to address gaps in the CNSC regulatory framework,
- Managed CNSC's response to the events of 9/11 as it pertained to the engineering safety aspects of robustness and protection from malevolent acts;
- Led Canada's participation for OECD-NEA activities including:
 - Chair of the NEA-OECD CSNI WGIAGE task force on "High Energy Arcing Fault Events"
 - Canadian representative on NEA-OECD "Fire Incidents Record Exchange Project"

Leber-Rubes Inc.

2001 – 2003 August

Associate Pickering Nuclear Generating Station 'B' & Bruce Power NGS 'A' & 'B', 2001 to 2003. Design team leader for multi-disciplinary modification projects including pressure boundary and EQ at Bruce NGS 'A' and 'B'. Performed Third Party Reviews of fire protection modifications at Pickering 'B' NGS.

Vipond Fire Protection Inc.

1996 – 2001

Fire Protection Engineer

Winnipeg, MB

Designer and responsible engineer for fire protection, fire alarm and fire suppression systems, reviewed and professionally sealed fire protection design & shop drawings for construction and modifications to buildings in Winnipeg, MB. Interpret codes and standards. Supervised and mentored draftspersons, designers, and Engineers-in-Training.

SELECT COMMITTEES

Serving on nuclear industry committees enables Grant to be at the forefront of upcoming technical and regulatory changes and aware of international directions that may impact and influence the Canadian industry. Grant has integrated these insights into strategic leadership and planning to enable futureproofing and strategy development for organizations throughout his career.

Chair | Vice Chair | Committee Member [Canadian Standards Association \(CSA\)](#) 2003 - Present
N293, N393, N292.4, SMR Task Force, and Working Group on Functional Containment

Steering Committee Member [CSA](#) 2016 - Present
Nuclear Standards Steering Committee (NSSC)

Committee Member [International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#) 2023 - Present
Nuclear Harmonization and Standardization Initiative (NHSI)

Task Force Chair [CSA](#) 2021
N293AS1:21 Supplement No. 1 to N293-12, Fire protection for nuclear power plants (application to small modular reactors). The first CSA standard published to provide direction on how to apply a CSA standard to emerging SMR technologies.

While [my LinkedIn profile](#) includes many additional details, I welcome an opportunity to have a conversation. At PNC we aim to provide expert nuclear industry advisory, educational and technical services that are tailored to support our clients' planning, growth and success.



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LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Strategic Planning • Building Rightsized Organizations • Developing Lean Organizations • Team Leadership • Designing and Launching New Initiatives • Strategic Relationship Development • Change Management • Leading R&D Programs

NUCLEAR-INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC SKILLS

Nuclear Policy and Program Development • Licensing Strategies • Regulatory Affairs and Licensing • Management Systems • Safety Analysis • Pressure Boundary Engineering & QA • Regulation and Standards Development and Application • Risk Management