

This third lecture in the Fall 2012 Sustainable Energy Lecture Series delves into the future prospects for nuclear energy following the nuclear accident at Fukushima in March 2011. The Carleton Research Unit in Innovation, Science and the Environment (CRUISE) and the Carleton Sustainable Energy Research Centre (CSERC) invite you to attend and learn more from one of Canada's leading students of nuclear energy.

The world will need much more clean electricity to meet the aspirations of the emerging countries. Nuclear energy delivers large amounts of base load power with virtually no greenhouse gas emissions. Before the Fukushima accident, there was even talk of a modest renaissance in nuclear energy.

But the tsunami and its aftermath have led a number of countries to plan the eventual phase-out of nuclear power. At the same time, other countries are going ahead. Concerns remain about cost, safety, waste, and the possible connection to weapons. Dr. Morrison's talk will examine nuclear electricity in comparison with other options. What are nuclear's prospects for the longer term? How sustainable is it? What are the pros and cons? What are the costs and risks of continuing versus those of replacing it with other energy technologies? Ontario gets more than half of its electricity from nuclear power, so the question is germane, both close to home and abroad.

Bob Morrison has combined science and public policy throughout his career. He served for 17 years as Director General, Uranium and Nuclear Energy in Natural Resources Canada. He has worked as a nuclear consultant with the OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency, Foreign Affairs, NRCan, Ontario Hydro, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, and the Belgian government. He served on an expert panel of the International Atomic Energy Agency studying the possibility of international approaches to sensitive fuel cycle technologies. At Carleton, his teaching has included courses in physics, risk management, life cycle analysis, and science.



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