



*Planning to 2050 for Materials Research  
with Neutron Beams in Canada*

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## **National Laboratory to Replace Aging Chalk River Reactor**

### **Canadian Scientists Describe the Proposed Canadian Neutron Centre**

**MONTREAL, CANADA, May 19, 2009** – The Canadian science community that uses the neutron beams produced by the NRU reactor in Chalk River has released its plan to replace it with a national laboratory.

“That the National Research Council asked us to produce our plan for the proposed Canadian Neutron Centre (CNC) shows that this is being seriously considered,” said Dr. Ryan, CINS President.

Today, the Canadian Institute for Neutron Scattering (CINS) released its description of this visionary facility summarized for non-scientists online ([www.cins.ca](http://www.cins.ca)).

“We worked closely with fellow scientists from the Canadian Neutron Beam Centre (CNBC) to produce this plan,” said Dr. Ryan.

This national laboratory will surpass the NRU reactor in all three of the aging reactor's missions. Those missions are (1) the production of medical isotopes, (2) nuclear energy R&D, and (3) materials research using neutron beams.

Completed in 1957, the NRU reactor has a long successful history. The CNC will build on that success and take full advantage of advances in technology and safety measures.

“The CNC will support a wide spectrum of basic research, and will also contribute significantly to Canada's priority areas,” said Dr. Ryan.

“To move forward, we need a government-mandated steering group that reflects the vision for the CNC as national infrastructure for science and industry. That vision is central: the CNC is not an issue of medical isotopes, nor is it an issue of AECL’s future. It’s much broader than that. The CNC is needed for the competitiveness of Canadian science and industry for the next 50 years.”

### **About CINS**

CINS is composed of the Canadian scientific community of neutron beam users. CINS was incorporated in 1989 and has over 400 members.

### **About CNBC**

The CNBC is Canada’s scientific hub for research using neutron beams as probes of materials. Neutron beams are versatile tools that provide unique information about materials with a broad range of applications including health, energy, and environmental technologies.

### **SOURCE: CINS**

A more detailed press release is available ([www.cins.ca](http://www.cins.ca)).