



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q: What were the origins of this partnership?**

**A:** Since 2019, Bruce Power and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) have partnered to ensure SON benefits from medical isotope production and marketing. This included securing funding to invest in the Isotope Production System (IPS) for irradiating isotopes such as lutetium-177.

SON invested in isotopes through a virtual loan from Bruce Power and \$9.1 million from the Federal Government's Strategic Innovation Fund. Since 2022, this arrangement has generated millions of dollars, divided equally between both communities.

## **Q: How has the partnership grown?**

**A:** In 2023, the partnership expanded with additional support from the Strategic Innovation Fund, which in 2024 enabled the addition of a second lutetium-177 production line.

In 2025, the partnership expanded again. SON invested in Bruce Power isotopes through a \$250M private bond—still with no out-of-pocket funding—which will ensure long-term revenues for SON future generations as well as a stable supply of cancer-fighting isotopes. The partnership expansion also resulted in the creation of Gamzook'aamin aakoziwin Limited Partnership (GALP), a new limited partnership with Bruce Power L.P. as the General Partner and SON (through a SON-owned special purpose vehicle) as the preferred Limited Partner. SON, as a partner, also has enhanced rights under the 2025 expansion.

## **Q: How is the partnership expansion innovative from SON's perspective?**

**A:** The partnership expansion is a long-term investment in a proven, stable business without added burdens or risk to the communities.

Too often, Indigenous communities do not have access to the resources needed to participate in business opportunities of this scale. This time, all parties worked to ensure funding was in place and the communities did not have to put up any out-of-pocket costs.

As Limited Partner, SON has enhanced rights and protections not typically seen in other arrangements, such as impact benefit agreements, which have a short-term focus. For material decisions related to the partnership, unanimous partner approval will be required, which would include SON.

## **Q: How is Bruce Power involved exactly?**

**A:** Through Gamzook'aamin aakoziwin, Bruce Power's role in fighting cancer is to provide irradiation services. These services are an early step in the supply chain that transforms stable isotopes into unstable isotopes.

Later in the process, other supply chain partners refine and process these isotopes into cancer-targeting treatments delivered to hospitals and treatment centres worldwide. These therapies treat cancer by delivering radiation directly to cancer cells.

As a Gamzook'aamin aakoziwin partner, Bruce Power is proud to deliver critical irradiation services with exceptional reliability and the capacity needed to meet growing demand.

## **Q: What have isotope revenues been used for so far?**

**A:** Revenues are fully controlled by Saugeen and Nawash and used as each community sees fit. Projects so far include the Saugeen Amphitheatre, the Nawash arena, and food bank donations. Revenues are distributed equally between Nawash and Saugeen.

**Q: Will SON be involved if Bruce Power decides to produce new medical isotopes?**

**A:** Under the partnership agreement, SON will be approached first as an investor in new isotopes before any other partner.

**Q: Is there an oversight body for the partnership?**

**A:** Yes. The Gamzook'aamin aakoziwin Committee has an oversight role. This Committee includes representatives from Bruce Power, the SON Joint Council and SON community members.

The Committee's mandate is to review and provide input on annual work plans and progress, as well as evaluate new opportunities to enhance the partnership. It also makes recommendations for decision-making to their respective organizations.

**Q: What is lutetium-177?**

**A:** Lutetium-177 is a short-lived medical isotope used in precision oncology for targeted therapy of a growing number of cancers. It is primarily used to treat prostate cancer and neuroendocrine tumours in Canada.

**Q: How is lutetium-177 made?**

**A:** To make lutetium-177, ytterbium-176 from customer ITM is sealed in glass ampules and loaded into target carriers by Isogen, a supply chain partner. Bruce Power operations place targets in a shuttling system that irradiates the ytterbium-176 into lutetium-177. Shielded containers are then used to ship the targets to the hot cell. The glass ampules are removed from the target, shielded once again for shipment and sent to ITM in Germany, which then delivers the isotope globally.

**Q: How effective is lutetium-177 treatment?**

**A:** Clinical trials show lutetium-177 treatment significantly improves outcomes for advanced prostate cancer patients. In a major clinical trial, patients lived about twice as long

without cancer progression—12 months versus 5.6 months on standard therapy. These patients had advanced prostate cancer that no longer responded to hormone therapy and had already tried other treatments. Lutetium-177 gave them more time and a better quality of life.

Until recently, treatment was limited to those who had exhausted other options and had advanced disease.

In March 2025, the FDA approved its use before chemotherapy, tripling the eligible patient population and offering the potential for even better results. Source: Lutetium-177 shows significant rPFS benefit for metastatic prostate cancer - Mayo Clinic

**Q: Is lutetium-177 treatment available in Ontario?**

**A:** Yes. Eligible patients with advanced prostate cancer can access publicly funded lutetium-177 therapy in Ontario. Ontario was the first province to fund and provide lutetium-177 therapy in January 2025.

As of December 2025, several Canadian provinces publicly fund lutetium-177 for eligible prostate cancer patients, including Quebec, Alberta, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan, though eligibility and availability may vary by province.

**Q: What is cobalt-60?**

**A:** Cobalt-60 sterilizes over 30 percent of the world's single-use medical equipment such as surgical masks, gowns, syringes, and gloves. It is also used in cancer treatment, including treating brain cancer and other abnormalities in the brain.

**Q: How is cobalt-60 made?**

**A:** Cobalt-60 does not require the Isotope Production System built for lutetium-177. Instead, adjuster rods containing cobalt-59 are used as part of Bruce Power's safety systems. These rods are irradiated over 24–36 months in the reactor core and harvested during planned outages.



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