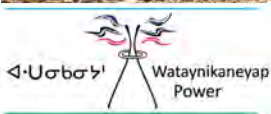


# Wataynikaneyap Power & Opiikapawiin Services



## Indigenous Participation Update

Photo Credit: Louis Simard

### Opiikapawiin and Wataynikaneyap

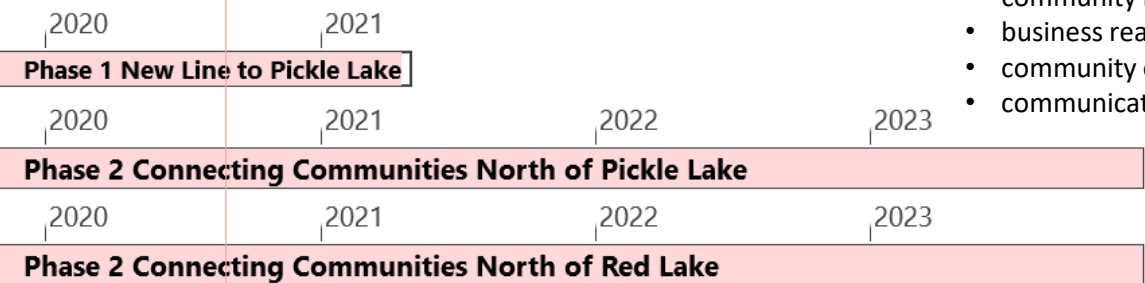
Opiikapawiin Services LP provides a variety of services to Wataynikaneyap Power through a service agreement. Opiikapawiin is also providing support and facilitation to Wataynikaneyap’s Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contractor Valard. as they engage with the Participating First Nations on Indigenous Participation activities. Opiikapawiin is owned 100% by 24 First Nations.

Opiikapawiin, Wataynikaneyap and Valard are working together to maximize Indigenous participation on the transmission line project.

Opiikapawiin’s services include:

- employment and training,
- community readiness,
- business readiness,
- community engagement, and
- communication.

Today



\* Schedule is subject to change

#### LOOK INSIDE FOR:

- Updates on Opiikapawiin activities including the current status of Indigenous participation and engagement
- Upcoming opportunities including training and employment

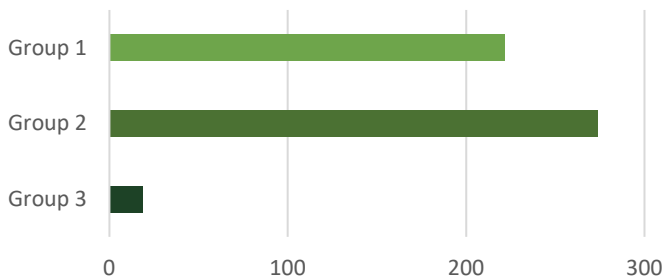
### Construction Update!

Valard began work on the Project in October of 2019. Some of the areas that have been progressing include:

- Design and Procurement of Materials
- Surveying and Clearing of the Right of Way
- Camp Setup and Services
- Foundation Construction
- Tower Assembly
- Tower Erection
- Substation Preparation

#### Kilometres of Right of Way Cleared up to end of July 2020

\* See map on the last page for the location of each “Group”



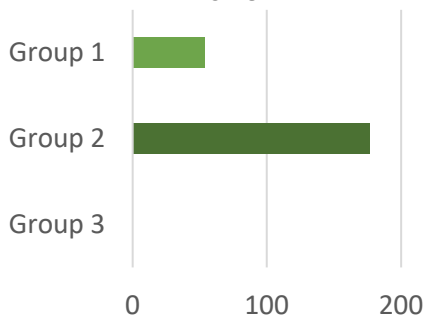
#### Table of Contents

#### Page

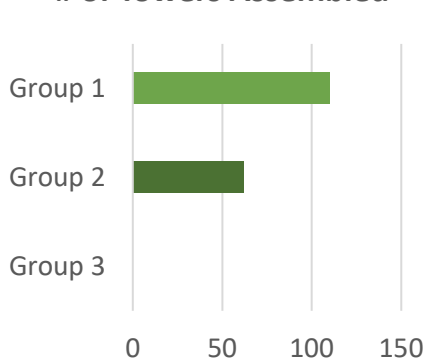
Construction Update	1&2
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## Construction Update – up to end of July 2020!

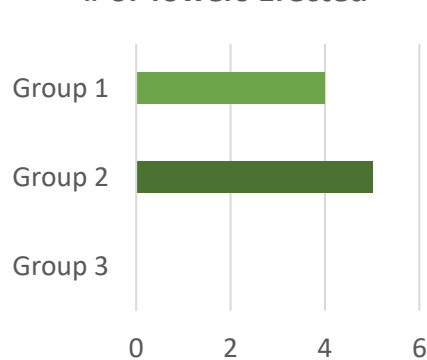
### # of Tower Foundations Built



### # of Towers Assembled



### # of Towers Erected



## COVID-19 and the Project

- During these unprecedented times, Wataynikaneyap Power LP ("Wataynikaneyap Power") is entering into the construction phase to build critical infrastructure to connect remote First Nation communities to the electricity grid (the "Project").
- The objective of Wataynikaneyap Power is to continue with aspects of the Project that limit the risk to health and safety, to keep the Project on time and on budget, and to protect shareholder equity.
- Wataynikaneyap Power is focused on the health and safety of its employees, partners, contractors, member First Nation communities and the general public.
- Wataynikaneyap Power follows the most up-to-date medical advice provided by the federal and provincial government in its own measures to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

\* See map on the last page for the location of each "Group"



Sioux Lookout tower assembly crew.  
(Photo credit: Aaron Kakakayaash)

## What is Indigenous Participation?

Participating First Nations will be actively involved, control, and will own development in their homelands to create meaningful, long-term benefits for their citizenship.

Participation benefits include:

- |                                 |                                  |                                |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Ability to Connect Renewables | • Entrepreneur Opportunities     | • New First Nations Businesses |
| • Business Support Services     | • Environmental Monitoring       | • Ownership and Profits        |
| • Capacity Building             | • First Nations Supply Contracts | • Partnerships                 |
| • Confidence Building           | • Industry Expertise             | • Pride of Ownership           |
| • Control                       | • Job Readiness                  | • Promoting Language           |
| • Economic Development          | • Joint Ventures                 | • Skills Development           |
| • Enhance Existing Businesses   | • Meaningful Employment          | • Transferable Skills          |
|                                 | • Mentorship                     | • Work Experience              |

If you have further questions about Indigenous Participation, contact Lydia Big George, Indigenous Participation Manager: [l.bgeorge@oslp.ca](mailto:l.bgeorge@oslp.ca) Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 202 Cell: (807) 630-1168.

## Education, Training and Capacity Building

Building capacity through meaningful participation is critical to the Project. Valard is expected to transition trainees into employment. Valard will be working with communities to address training gaps with job-specific training for the following roles: labourers, lattice labourers, survey assistants, environmental monitors, engineering technologists.

Opiikapawiin's Line Crew Ground Support graduates have an opportunity to become First-Year Power Line Apprentices. (See the profile of Anthony Begg on page 6).

If you have further questions about training opportunities, please contact Laura Calmwind, Training Coordinator: [l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto:l.calmwind@oslp.ca) Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 205 Cell: (807) 630.2196.

### Opiikapawiin Services Training to Date (up to end of July 2020)

Opiikapawiin Services Training Program	Total # Trained	Opiikapawiin Services Training Program	Total # Trained
Introduction to Powerline Construction and Work Readiness	149	Mechanical Harvesting	10
Line Crew Ground Support	48	Cross Cultural Awareness Training *	125
Remote Cook and Camp Services	14	*Two-day training for all employees from Wataynikaneyap Project Manager, Opiikapawiin, Owners Engineer, Advisors, Tribal Councils, Community Liaisons, and Valard participation.	

### Valard Training to Date (up to end of July 2020)

Participating First Nations members working on the project will complete various training programs at the worksite. The type of training required depends on the work activities. More details are provided during the hiring process.

Valard Training Program	# of Participating First Nations Trainees	Valard Training Program	# of Participating First Nations Trainees
Cultural Awareness (Full) **	23	Working at Heights	13
Cultural Awareness (Interim)	33	Basic Rigging and Hoisting	2
Alcohol and Drug Awareness for Workers 2018	66	Mobile Crane Operator 0-8 Ton	2
Electrical Safety Awareness	66	Ontario Joint Health and Safety Committee Member Certification	3
Hydraulic Safety Awareness	65	Powered Mobile Equipment, Aerial/Elevated Work Platform	3
Valard ES Orientation	67	Poletop Rescue	2
Valard Safety Orientation	60	Chainsaw Safety Awareness	2
Valard Wataynikaneyap Site Orientation	53	Telecom Work Zone Traffic Control and Safety Course	2
WHMIS 2015 with GHS	43	Traffic Control Person	2
Worker Health and Safety Awareness (4 steps)	43	IHSA Utility Work Protection Code	2
Emergency First Aid	1	Telecom Ladder Safety	1
Standard First Aid	6		

\*\* Has not been fully implemented because of the constraints of COVID-19

## Training and COVID-19 – We are Adapting!!!

There has been a lot of uncertainty around training in light of COVID-19 and keeping everybody healthy. In July, Opiikapawiin hosted two Webex sessions with accepted applicants to the Ground Crew Line Support training program. These sessions included representatives from the Infrastructure, Health and Safety Association and provided an opportunity for trainees to learn more about the program and each other (including the trainers). The focus was to provide updates on COVID considerations associated with training and to make sure participants questions were answered before in-person training began.

Opiikapawiin has developed a COVID-19 Pandemic Preparedness Plan to protect the health and safety of trainees participating in training programs. The plan provides details on how training can safely resume with trainees leaving the communities and returning when they have completed the training. Contact Laura Calmwind for further details.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

Training Program	Offered by:	Training Dates	Details
Remote Cook and Camp Operations	Opiikapawiin	8 weeks TBD	14 trainees will be selected. Details to be confirmed pending approval.

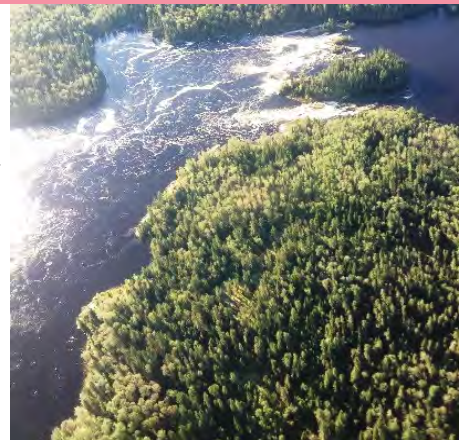
Future opportunities will include security guard training.

## Ganawenjigewin Environmental Protection Training

This four-week land-based training program put on by Opiikapawiin will run in the fall of 2020. The program will include daily outdoor activities, teachings from the land, and learning circles to prepare students to take part in Indigenous-led environmental monitoring. Trainees will learn:

- Indigenous Environmental Practices - *How Indigenous Peoples take care of the Land*
- Western Science Environmental Knowledge - *Western Science Approach to Environment Protection*
- How the two systems of knowledge can be used to help protect the environment.

For more information contact Laura Calmwind, Training Coordinator: [l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto:l.calmwind@oslp.ca) Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 205 Cell: (807) 630-2196.



## Employment

Opiikapawiin is working with Valard to maximize employment opportunities for members of the 24 Participating First Nations. Valard is working to address potential barriers to employment, and to develop transition strategies to move trained individuals into jobs, and advance employed individuals through to positions of increased responsibility.

Valard, is in the process of contacting all interested individuals for employment on the project. Submit a resumé to either [projectjobs@oslp.ca](mailto:projectjobs@oslp.ca) or [watay-resume@valard.com](mailto:watay-resume@valard.com). Better yet, go to page 5 and learn how to add yourself to the Labour Pool Database for the project.

Valard is hiring members of Participating First Nations in the following areas:

- Clearing / Access
- Community Relations
- Engineering Technologist
- Environmental Monitor
- Equipment Operator
- Labourers: Lattice Tower, Substation, Camps
- Lineperson
- First Aid Attendant
- Foreperson
- Maintenance
- Survey Assistant
- Truck Operator

We have reached the milestone of 500 Labour Pool Profiles! And we continue to grow! Look for additional features in the future. We will keep you posted about new developments

## Get Yourself into the Wataynikaneyap Labour Pool Database!

### Two Ways!!!

**Already in the Labour Pool Database? Don't forget to update your profile!**

1. Find the Wataynikaneyap Labour Pool Questionnaire form at [www.wataypower.ca](http://www.wataypower.ca). In the top menu bar, go to "Project" then "Employment and Careers". Scroll down to the Labour Pool Database section. The form can either be filled out online and printed, or printed and filled out on paper. Fax/email completed forms to the contacts on the form.

**OR**

2. Sign up to the labour pool online and fill out the online Wataynikaneyap Labour Pool Questionnaire.
  - Head to the labour pool site at: <https://wataypower.knack.com/labour-pool#home/> and click the "Sign Up" button.
  - Enter your email address and choose a password, then click "Submit".
  - Once your account has been approved, login and click "Update My Profile" in the top right to enter your info
  - To print a copy for your records, go to the "View My Profile" page and click the "Print this page" button at the top or bottom of the page.

**It is important that all members in this Database have an updated resume uploaded to their profile.**

**NEED HELP?** Please see your local Community Liaison, or you can contact Elaine Keesick, Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor, Opiikapawiin Services LP at [e.keesick@oslp.ca](mailto:e.keesick@oslp.ca) or cell (807) 633-7446.

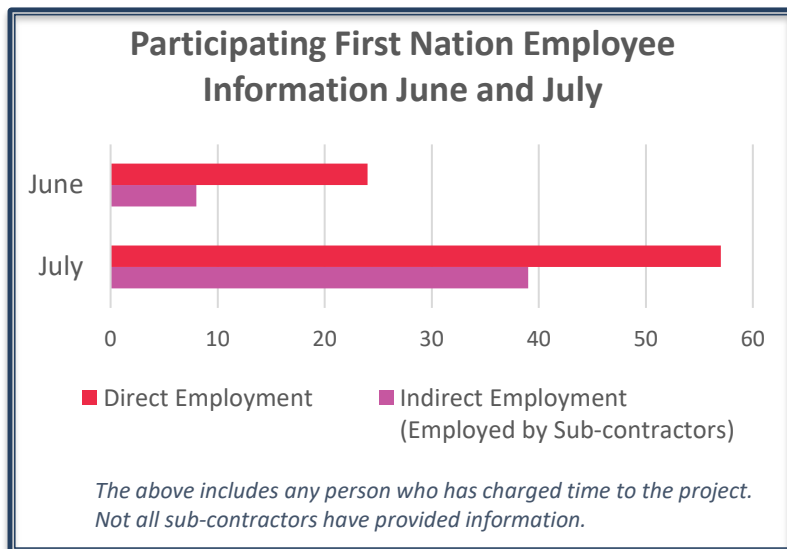
### BUT WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A RESUMÉ ?!?

The Resumé Builder will be implemented into the Labour Pool Database shortly. We are working out the final kinks. Be on the lookout!

This new feature will help members of the 24 First Nation participating communities who do not have access to creating their own resumés.

Members will be able to save, print, and send resumés via email/fax to employment opportunities they are interested in. This works well with the Jobs Tab in the Labour Pool Database; individuals can save and email their resumés in response to job ads.

## Who Has Been Working?



## Project Employee Spotlight - Anthony Begg - Kingfisher Lake First Nation

Hobbies: working out, fishing, drawing.

I took the Line Crew Ground Support Training in Thunder Bay with Wataynikaneyap Power. I enjoyed the training and now I actually use what I learned in the field working with Valard.

Work on the line benefits me as I am learning and am now able to teach others new to this line of work. I will also be able to tell my future kids that I built the line that connected the north to power.

Camp life has been good; nice food, working out, a recreation area. I'm enjoying it out here. I get along with my crew members and am making new friends from different provinces in Canada

My work ethic is just to keep going; working at my own pace. Safety has been the first priority for us. We've got each other's backs. It's a good environment to work in. I'm having lots of fun and learning new things every day. I especially like assembling and erecting towers. I like the climbing very much. I would recommend taking the training and getting on the project.

It's worth it!



Anthony Begg - Level One Apprentice/Assembler

## Active/Recent Job Postings

Position	Deadline	Details
<b>VALARD</b>		
Tower Assemblers	Ongoing	See job postings on the Valard-Wataynikaneyap Facebook page ( <a href="https://www.facebook.com/watayproject">https://www.facebook.com/watayproject</a> ) the Valard Wataynikaneyap website ( <a href="http://www.valard-watay.com">www.valard-watay.com</a> ) or the Opiikapawiin website ( <a href="https://www.oslp.ca/careers">https://www.oslp.ca/careers</a> ).
Indigenous Construction Liaison/Knowledge Holder	Until filled	Forward resumes to: <a href="mailto:watay-resumes@valard.com">watay-resumes@valard.com</a> or <a href="mailto:projectjobs@oslp.ca">projectjobs@oslp.ca</a> . Questions? Call 780-986-6180
<b>YATAW CAMPS AND CATERING (JV Partner)</b>		
Camp Manager, Camp Administrator, Head Chef, Cooks, Bakers, Kitchen Support, Housekeeper, Maintenance	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resumes and questions to <a href="mailto:cmilligan@outland.ca">cmilligan@outland.ca</a>
<b>SYNTERRA SECURITY SOLUTIONS (JV Partner)</b>		
Licensed Security Guard, Yard Attendant	Ongoing	Send resumes to: <a href="mailto:ann@synterra.ca">ann@synterra.ca</a>
<b>SIGFUSSON GROUP LP (JV Partner)</b>		
Skilled Labourer	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resume and two references to:
Dozer and Excavator Operators	Ongoing	<a href="mailto:HR@sigfusson.ca">HR@sigfusson.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:gpower@sigfusson.ca">gpower@sigfusson.ca</a>

## Business Readiness and Procurement of Goods and Services

Numerous Indigenous businesses exist that are owned and operated in the 24 First Nations. Opiikapawiin maintains a business registry and helps the EPC contractor Valard to identify new businesses, identify gaps in business, overcome barriers, and engage when required.

Valard will procure goods and services from Participating First Nations for the following work where capacity and scope can be successfully achieved by the business. These items are sometimes referred to as “set-asides”. Where new set-aside businesses from the Participating First Nations are established, Valard is expected to transition the work from the non-Participating First Nations businesses.

- Access road construction and maintenance (e.g. aggregates and matting)
- Camp set up and management
- Catering and food services
- Clearing and grubbing
- Environmental monitoring
- Equipment rentals
- Local knowledge holders
- Training
- Transportation services, such as helicopters and charters
- Security
- Storage facility rental
- Surveying

Other goods and services that Participating First Nations can provide during the construction phase include:

- waste hauling,
- drill and blast,
- print shops (signage),
- temporary fencing,
- garbage bins,
- survey,
- fencing,
- substation civil.
- Porta Potties,
- trucking / logistics,
- medics,
- communication (fibre)

## Business Registry

Opiikapawiin Services LP maintains a business registry with information about Indigenous businesses. This information can be shared with potential contractors/subcontractors to help facilitate First Nation business opportunities. For information on how to register your participating First Nation business or joint venture, please email Ivan Donio at [i.donio@oslp.ca](mailto:i.donio@oslp.ca).

**There are over  
400  
businesses in  
the registry!!!**

## Indigenous Businesses on the Project to Date

**As of July 2020 there have been 21 Indigenous Joint Venture Partnership Businesses providing the following services to the project:**

- Right of Way Clearing
- Drilling and Blasting
- Excavation
- Foundation Construction
- Road Construction
- Freight
- General Construction
- Aggregate Supply/Delivery
- Camp Services
- Rig Mats
- Portable Bridges
- Fuel Transport
- Water delivery
- Aviation
- Helicopter
- Internet
- Security
- Health and Safety Services

### Valard's Selection Process Considerations:

- Ability to meet Health and Safety requirements
- Capacity to perform the required work scope
- Capabilities of the business align with the required skillsets
- Cost relative to budget and market

If you have further questions about business readiness, procurement and contracting opportunities, please contact:

Richard Chukra, Indigenous Business Relationships Advisor -  
[r.chukra@oslp.ca](mailto:r.chukra@oslp.ca) Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 212, Cell: (807) 630-8684

Ivan Donio, Indigenous Strategic Sourcing Advisor -  
[i.donio@oslp.ca](mailto:i.donio@oslp.ca) Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 211 Cell: (807) 633-4856

## Raising Awareness About the Project – Sachigo Lake First Nation Community Contest Results!

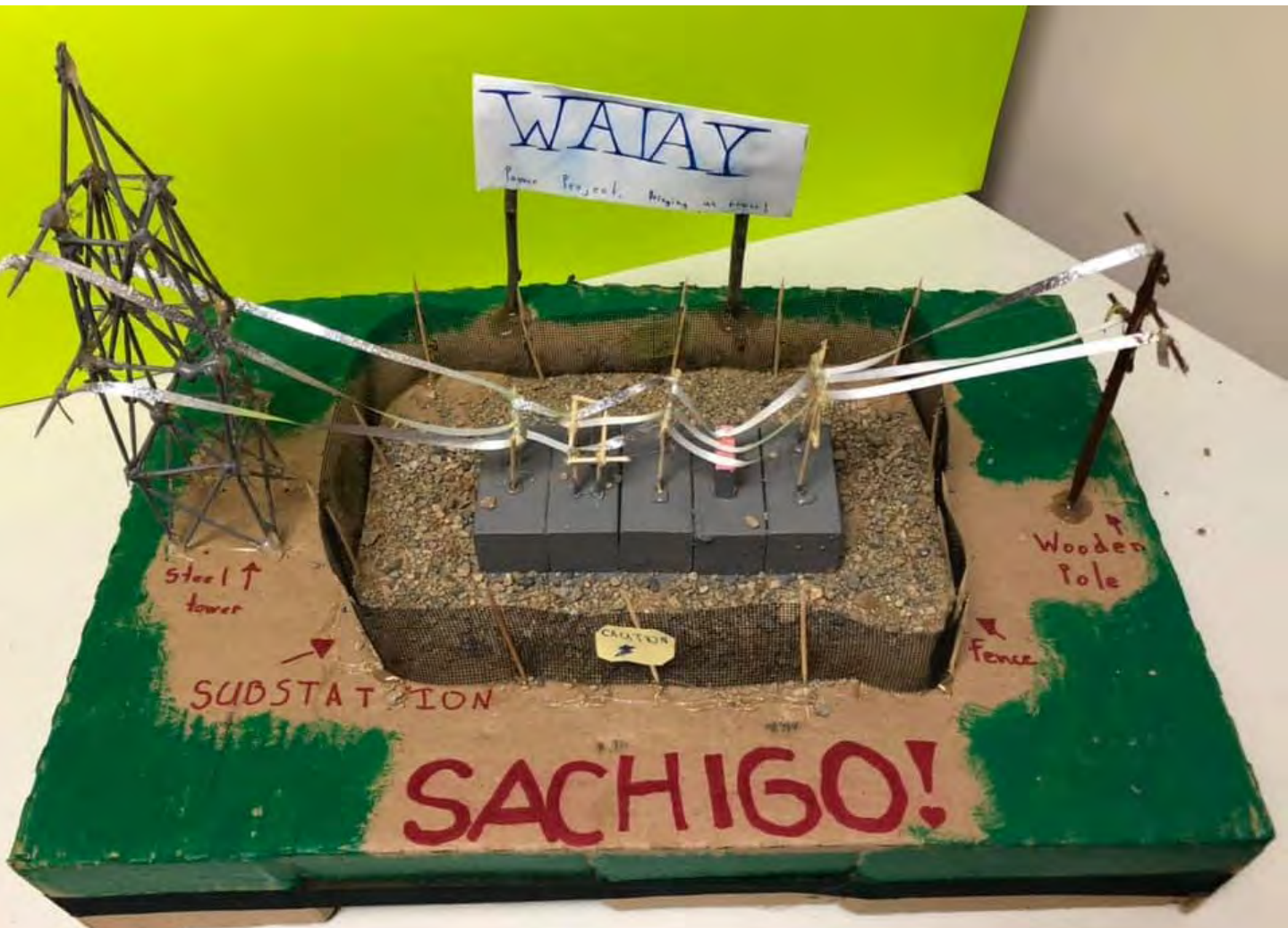
In July, Sachigo Lake First Nation's Community Liaison Ellen Tait hosted a contest for the youth in her community. The challenges were as follows:

- Grade 1 and younger: Draw and color two wooden poles connected with a transmission line
- Grade 2-4: Draw and color a steel pole and wooden pole connected with transmission line
- Grade 5-8: Make a steel pole, wooden pole and substation connected together

Eleven-year-old Juliana Chapman built a detailed model to win herself first prize in the oldest age category.



Sachigo Lake First Nation Community Liaison Ellen Tait presents Juliana Chapman with her prize.



Juliana's incredible winning model of a transmission line entering a substation so that power (voltage) can be stepped down for use in the First Nation's distribution system.



## Identified Indigenous Participation Challenges and Opportunities

Opiikapawiin and Wataynikaneyap have been working hard to maximize opportunities for communities. We need communities to help us out by responding to requests, participating in conversations and staying engaged.

### Two-way communication is key!

The COVID 19 Pandemic continues to be a challenge for Indigenous Participation and Engagement. Opiikapawiin has been working with communities to try to keep informed about each community's individual pandemic plans as they evolve so that this information can be used to help support participation in the project.

### Meet Your Community Liaisons



#### Una Gott Sandy Lake First Nation

“The Wataynikaneyap Power project is exciting! The reliable power will support more services, better houses, more job opportunities and my kids will benefit from cleaner energy. There are opportunities for renewable energy projects for our community too. We’re building a new health centre and need more power every year. With the community ownership and strength among the communities, this project is already making a difference. I like being a part of the network of Community Liaisons, sharing ideas and learning about training, business and other energy projects that can support my community. I also enjoy family time at the beach, beading, fashion and makeup and I’ve been doing some running.”



[Ugott21@gmail.com](mailto:Ugott21@gmail.com) (807) 774-6327

### Indigenous Engagement

If you have any questions or suggestions about project engagement and communications (including the contents of this update), and how best to engage with your community during the pandemic, contact Karen Saunders, Indigenous Engagement Manager: [k.saunders@oslp.ca](mailto:k.saunders@oslp.ca) or Cell: (807) 620-1902.

## Available Information Flyers

Information flyers are available in English and Anishininimowin and can be found on the Opiikapawiin and Wataynikaneyap Facebook pages under “Timeline Photos”.

- Steel Structures – provides a summary of the design and highlights difference from wood poles
- Right of Way (Clearing) – provides a summary of how vegetation is cleared
- Structure Assembly – provides a summary of where and how steel structures are built.

\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*

- Construction Camps – describes required permits/approvals and typical infrastructure/amenities for workers.
- Mobile Wastewater Treatment Plants – describes what they look like and how they work.

## Other Sources of Information

Source	Types of Information
Opiikapawiin Services Website <a href="http://www.oslp.ca">www.oslp.ca</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job opportunities with Opiikapawiin, Valard, Wataynikaneyap and subcontractors (when provided)</li> </ul>
Opiikapawiin Services Facebook Page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP">https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training opportunities with Opiikapawiin and Valard</li> <li>• Job opportunities with Opiikapawiin, Valard, Wataynikaneyap and subcontractors (when provided)</li> <li>• Project updates and announcements</li> <li>• Information Flyers</li> </ul>
Wataynikaneyap Website <a href="http://www.wataypower.ca">www.wataypower.ca</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training opportunities</li> <li>• Employment opportunities with Wataynikaneyap</li> <li>• Labour Pool Database entry questionnaire</li> <li>• Detailed description of the Project</li> <li>• Fact sheets and Frequently Asked Questions</li> <li>• Project Schedule</li> <li>• Environmental Updates</li> <li>• Contact Information</li> </ul>
Wataynikaneyap Facebook Page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Wataynikaneyap-Power-101077908260416">https://www.facebook.com/Wataynikaneyap-Power-101077908260416</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project announcements and updates</li> <li>• Employment opportunities with Wataynikaneyap</li> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Contests</li> </ul>
Valard Wataynikaneyap Website <a href="http://www.valard-watay.com">www.valard-watay.com</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job opportunities with Valard</li> <li>• Project schedule and progress</li> </ul>
Valard Facebook Page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/watayproject">https://www.facebook.com/watayproject</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training opportunities with Valard</li> <li>• Job opportunities with Valard</li> </ul>

## Wataynikaneyap’s Complaints Resolution Process

Opiikapawiin provides support to Wataynikaneyap to manage issues and complaints arising from Project-related activities. This includes following Wataynikaneyap’s complaints protocol to document formal complaints, identify the most appropriate parties to respond, and track complaints through to their resolution.

If you have an issue to raise about the Project, you can provide it formally via phone or email to the contacts below.

**Phone: 807-633-1499**

**Email: [WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca)**

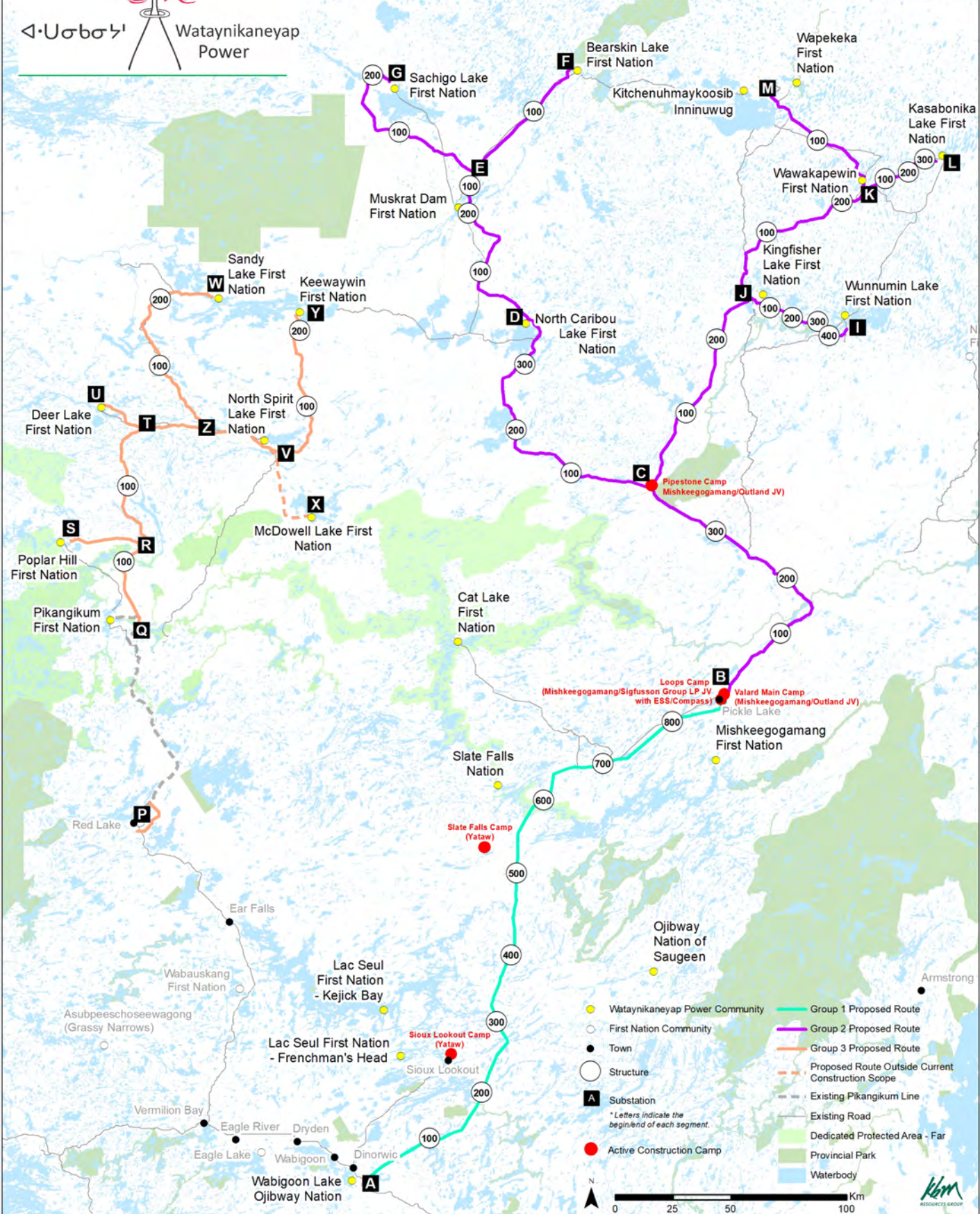
# Questions, Ideas, Notes:



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Wataynikaneyap Power

# WATAYNIKANEYAP POWER



\*Note: Final routing of some portions of line is subject to ongoing engagement with communities.