

Wataynikaneyap Power & Opiikapawiin Services



Indigenous Participation Update

Photo Credit: Rod Duffy

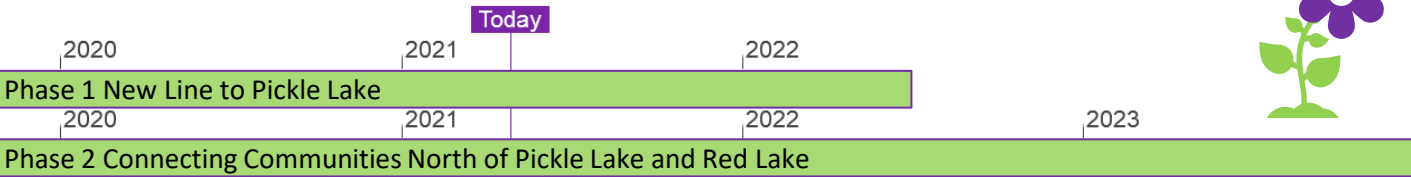
Opiikapawiin and Wataynikaneyap

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’s services include:

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

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



* 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

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COVID-19 and the Project

- During these unprecedented times, Wataynikaneyap Power LP ("Wataynikaneyap Power") is in the construction phase of building 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.

Construction Progress Dashboard Tool

Want to see construction activity in (almost) real-time?

To view and interact with the new construction progress mapping tool, visit:

www.wataypower.ca/construction-progress

or

www.oslp.ca/construction-progress

This online map provides regular progress updates for: right of way (ROW) clearing and raking; tower installation; and line stringing activities. The upcoming schedule for ROW clearing and raking can also be seen on the map. See below for tips on how to use the map!

Date of last Dashboard Update:

****Note that activities may happen on the ground before they appear on this dashboard**.**

Construction Progress
The dashboard was last updated on April 11, 2021.

The information presented on this page is based on reported progress from the constructor. Certain activities may be occurring on the ground before they are shown in the data due to factors such as how activities are deemed "complete" in reporting, and the timing difference between work occurring and then being validated and reported on.

Progress: % completion of project activities

- Clearing & Raking: 56%
- Installed Structure Progress: 16%
- Stringing Progress: 4%

Construction Camps: Active versus closed.

Legend

Camps/Accommodation STATUS

- Active
- Closed

Construction Progress

Construction Status

- Stringing Complete
- Installation Complete
- Clearing and Raking Complete

Clearing and Raking Schedule

- February 1 to April 30
- No Clearing Scheduled this Season
- Proposed Reroute
- On hold

Layers

- 24 Participating Communities
- Camps/Accommodation
- Construction Progress
- Clearing and Raking Schedule
- Pikangikum Route

Camp: Knox Lake Camp

Status	Active
Type of Construction	Construction Camp
Maximum Occupancy	57
Date Reported	April 15, 2021

Click on a square for more information about each camp including maximum occupancy!

You can choose which of the map "layers" are shown on the map (Camps/Accommodations, Construction Progress and/or Clearing and Raking schedule). Click on each of the "eyes" to turn a layer on or off!

Zoom in (+) to your area of interest!

Each colour represents the completion of an activity. Red is the first step (clearing and raking), then yellow, then green (line stringing).

Note: A section of green may indicate that stringing is complete; however, to energize the line, the substations at either end also need to be complete.

Different coloured lines distinguish portions of the line with no planned clearing from those with a defined schedule.

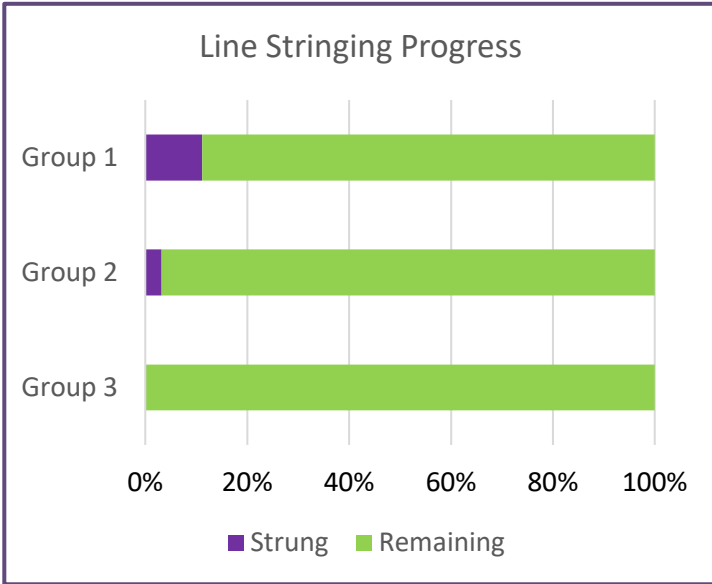
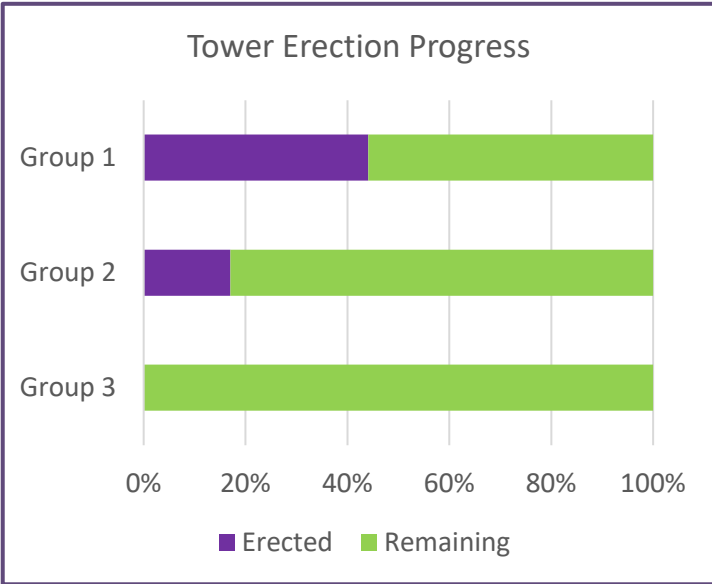
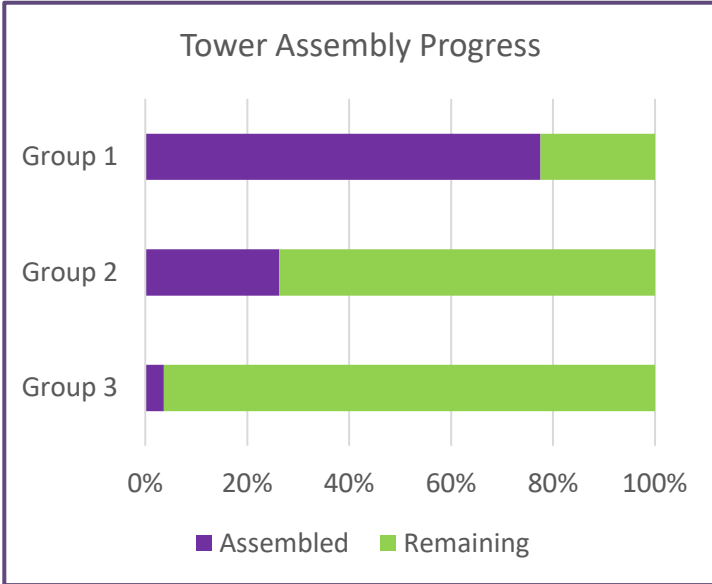
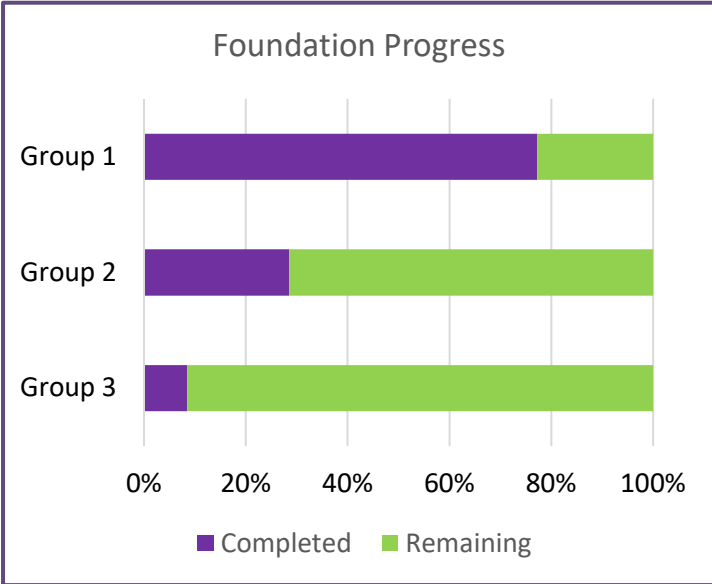
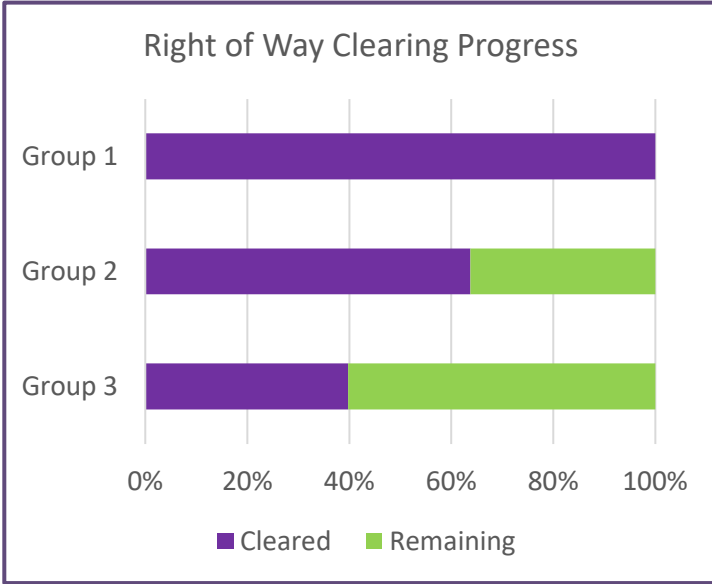
Contact us if you have questions about construction progress or would like help using the online map:
Phone: 807-633-1499 e-mail: WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca

Construction Update – up to April 3, 2021

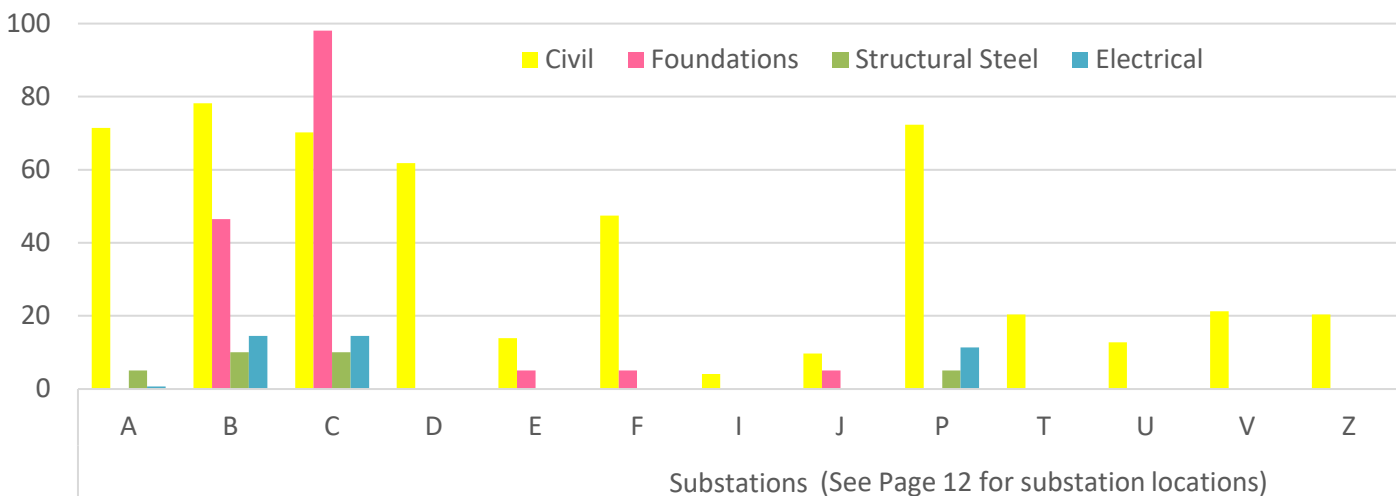
Valard began work on the Project in October of 2019. Some of the areas that have been progressing include:

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

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



Substation Construction Progress (% complete as of April 3, 2021)



Employment

Active/Recent Job Postings

View at www.oslp.ca/careers – where there are over 20+ positions posted!

Positions	Deadline	Details
VALARD		
Tower Assemblers, Project Field Quality Control Lattice Steel Assembly/Erection, Emergency Medical Responder, Primary Care Paramedic Level 1-2, Environmental Monitor, Assemblers	Ongoing	See job postings on the Valard-Wataynikaneyap Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/watayproject) the Valard Wataynikaneyap website (www.valard-watay.com), the Opiikapawiin website (https://www.oslp.ca/careers) or the Opiikapawiin Facebook page (www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP).
Indigenous Construction Liaison/Knowledge Holder, Community Support Partner, Community Indigenous Relations Advisor	Until filled	
Class A Driver, Excavator Operator, Foundations Labourer	May 31, 2021	
Project Field Quality Inspector – Stringing, Substations, Foundations, Lattice Steel Assembly Erection	May 31, 2021	Forward resumes to: watay-resumes@valard.com or projectjobs@oslp.ca . Questions? Call Valard at 780-986-6180
YATAW CAMPS AND CATERING (JV Partner to 4 communities)		
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 cmilligan@outland.ca
SYNTERRA SECURITY SOLUTIONS (JV Partner to 3 communities)		
Licensed Security Guard, Yard Attendant	Ongoing	Send resumes to: ann@synterra.ca
SIGFUSSON GROUP LP (JV Partner to 2 communities)		
Skilled Labourer, Dozer and Excavator Operators	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resume and two references to: HR@sigfusson.ca or gpower@sigfusson.ca
NORTHERN MAT & BRIDGE (JV Partner to 4 communities)		
Shuttle Operator	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resumes and questions to Speterson@northernmat.ca

Opiikapawiin Employee Profile

Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor, Elaine Keesick



Booshoo, kukenuh! My name is Elaine Keesick. I am a member of North Spirit Lake First Nation. I became part of this great team at Opiikapawiin Services LP as Training Coordinator in January 2019 starting on a short-term contract. After that, I applied for and was hired as the Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor.

In this role, I liaise between First Nations and Contractors on employment opportunities and employee relations issues; communicate employee prerequisites for construction jobs; identify skill shortages and implement training supports to address them; and chair the Opiikapawiin Human Resources Committee.

I have been in this role since May 2019 and have been enjoying my job ever since which is a lot of work! I have always been passionate about helping our First Nation people and improving our situations on Turtle Island. Those that know me know I'm always ready to help. My educational background and work experience includes the fields of Education, Management, and Human Resources.

Although I look forward to the day that the north is energized, this journey that we are all on is what is exciting. Many of our First Nations members are building Wataynikaneyap, and we at Opiikapawiin are here to provide support services for anyone interested in becoming a part of the Project. This support is also meant to build capacity for your communities because once the Project is completed, your communities will need your members to maintain these lines.

In my spare time I like to play Hagi Bingo on Saturdays; haven't won yet (lol) and watch hockey. I am a Toronto Maple Leafs fan. Go Leafs Go! 🍁 What else to do when you're in a lockdown?

*If you have any questions about **employment** on the project, please contact:*

Elaine Keesick, Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor,

E-mail: e.keesick@oslp.ca, or cell:(807-633-7446)

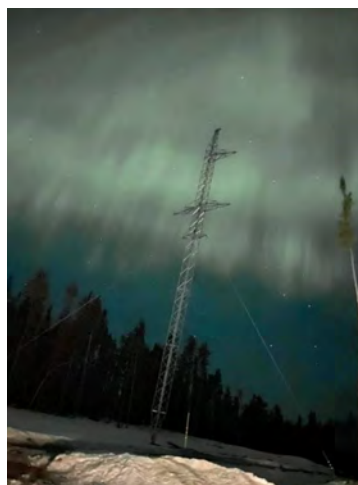
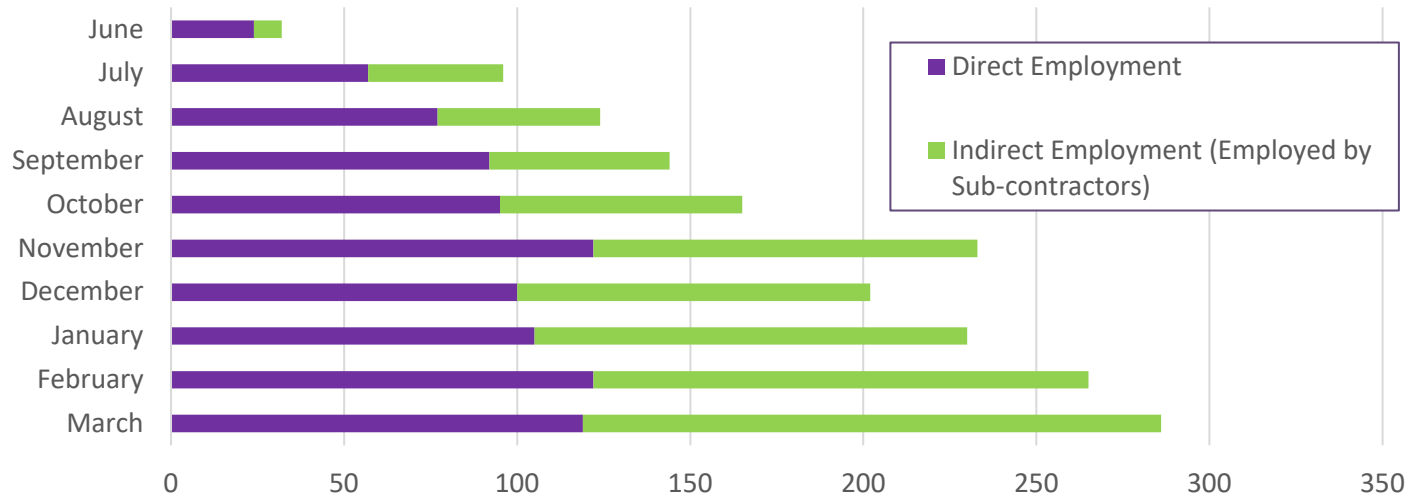


Photo Credit(s): Ellen Tait, Community Liaison for Sachigo Lake First Nation

Photo Credit(s): Sherri Lynn Graham, Lac Seul First Nation member.

Monthly Participating First Nation Employee Information – June 2020 through March 2021



Not all sub-contractors have provided information. The above includes any person who has charged time to the project.

Indigenous Participation by Activity	% of Total Project hours worked by Valard Participating First Nation Employees						
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Assembly	44	40	45	39	40	35	41
Environment	Not reported.					31	25
Foundations and Anchors (Valard Crews only)	10	12	15	20	17	15	16
Survey (Geomatics)	7	8	8	10	8	15	12
Guy Wire	37	31	27	25	27	27	34
Material Handling	18	17	26	29	28	23	24
Grounding	Not reported.					12	21
Hauling	Not reported.					4	5

Want to Work on the Wataynikaneyap Project?

ADD YOURSELF TO THE LABOUR POOL DATABASE!

Head to the labour pool site at: <https://www.oslp.ca/labour-pool> and click the "Sign Up" button.

There are currently over 680 profiles in the Labour Pool Database!!

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

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

Don't Have a Resumé? Try the Resumé Builder!

NEED HELP?

Please see your local Community Liaison,

or contact **Elaine Keesick, Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor**, Opiikapawiin Services LP at e.keesick@oslp.ca or (807) 633-7446.

Education, Training and Capacity Building

TRAINING AND COVID 19

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 safely leaving and returning home.

For further details, contact **Laura Calmwind**, Training Coordinator: l.calmwind@oslp.ca, (807) 630-2196.

ALL – WOMEN LINE CREW GROUND SUPPORT TRAINING

Line Crew Ground Support (LCGS) is a certificate course that includes climbing at heights, operating equipment, classroom learning and training outdoors. The program is specifically designed with 25 certified courses that will prepare participants to work on a powerline construction ground crew and apply for apprenticeships.

After offering five LCGS courses, an all-women course is being offered for 14 weeks planned for the Fall of 2021 to encourage women to join the powerline work crews.

- Travel, accommodations, meal allowance and training stipend are included
- Mentorship and additional supports are available during training. Workshops could include Personal Health and Safety, Family Care, Indigenous Women’s Health and Wellness, and Impacts of Intergenerational Trauma.
- Valid G driver’s license and Grade 12/GED are an asset but not mandatory
- Must be age 18+

We are hosting online information sessions to answer your questions and hear from women working in the trades. Contact us to join the online sessions!



Go to <https://www.oslp.ca/lcgs> to view/download the poster and the registration form for the Information Webinar!

For information about the program and to obtain a link to the online information sessions that will be held in May and June, contact your Community Liaison, or **Laura Calmwind**, Training Coordinator
C: (807) 620-2196 F: (807) 474-3213 E: l.calmwind@oslp.ca

Upcoming Training Opportunities



Contact Laura Calmwind if you’re interested in training opportunities.

Training Program	Offered by:	Training Dates	Details
Remote Camp Cook and Camp Services	OSLP	TBD	6 weeks with 2 weeks on the job training.
Community-Based Certified Mechanical Harvesting	OSLP	TBD	For experienced heavy equipment operators. To be hosted by one of the Participating First Nations (PFN).
Line Crew Ground Support	OSLP	TBD	**All-women** LCGS training program, tentatively Fall 2021.
Powerline Construction and Work Readiness	OSLP	TBD	2 Weeks. To be hosted by one of the PFN. Planning is ongoing. Watch for announcements.
Pre-Employment Training Sessions	OSLP	TBD	A 4-week program to enhance employability and life skills. Delivery in 9 PFN communities and 1 regional session from April 2021 to March 2022.
Security Guard Training	OSLP	TBD	10 PFN members to be selected for this 40-hour program that is to be facilitated in Sioux Lookout. Watch for announcements.
Land Based Environmental Monitor Training Program	OSLP	TBD	Planning for Summer 2021. Delivered over 4 weeks; provides hands-on instruction in Indigenous Ecological Knowledge and Western Science.

Subcontractor Profile – Moncrief Construction Limited



Obish Construction – Segment PQ Line Clearing

Moncrief Construction Limited (MCL) is a general contractor specializing in powerline construction, heavy civil construction, and aggregate production. Based out of Kenora, MCL has been working throughout Northwestern Ontario for over 50 years and has grown to employ close to 100 year-round personnel with up to 200 seasonal workers.



Missabay – Right of Way Clearing on segment BC.

MCL and its longstanding partners have recognized the importance of strong relationships to the success of construction projects in Northern Ontario. The relationships go beyond the projects at hand and contribute to developing and fostering community skills and knowledge bases.



Missabay – Pickle Lake Station

Thanks to the Wataynikenayap Power Project, MCL has had the opportunity to form new relationships and partnerships. Our Indigenous partners for the Wataynikenayap Power Project include:

- Mishkeegogamang First Nation (Missabay Contracting LP)
- Lac Seul First Nation (Obish Construction LP)
- Kingfisher Lake First Nation (Kingfisher Lake Construction LP)
- TKG Group (TKG MCL LP)
- Wunnumin Lake First Nation (Wunnumin MCL JV)

MCL supports its partners by offering employment opportunities to community members beyond the scope of the Wataynikenayap Power Project and expanding to our wide variety of regional projects. We offer hands-on training and mentoring, allowing employees to expand their skillsets and learn from our experienced core group of individuals.

During 2020 and 2021 to date, MCL and its partners have been subcontracted by Valard to undertake substation civil works at the Pickle Lake and Pipestone sites, various sections of right-of-way clearing works (over 200 km), tower and anchor foundation installation (earth and rock), and access trail construction and maintenance. Our work for the Wayatnikenayap Power Project covers an expansive area, including line segments AB, BC, CJ, and PQ to date. Future work on the Wataynikenayap Power Project will include aggregate production, additional substation civil works, and continuing with clearing and foundation works.

➔ **Please contact us at moncrief@moncrief.ca or call (807) 468-8484 to learn more!** ←

Business Readiness and Procurement of Goods and Services

Indigenous Businesses on the Project to Date

There have been many successful Indigenous Joint Venture Partnership Businesses providing the following services to the project:

- Access Matting
- Administration Services
- Aggregate Supply and Delivery
- Air Transport
- Blasting
- Camp Construction and Infrastructure
- Camp Services
- Catering
- Clearing and Access
- Communication Services
- Drilling
- Dunnage and Lumber Supply
- Electrical, Plumbing and Utilities
- Environmental Services
- Engineering
- Earthwork and Construction Support
- Equipment Rentals
- Excavation Services
- Fencing
- Foundations
- Freight
- Fuel Supply and Transportation
- Geotechnical and Soil Services
- Heavy Civil Construction
- Health and Safety Services
- Helicopter Services
- Machining and Fabrication
- Medic and First Response
- Prefabricated Steel Structures
- Propane Mobile Tank and Trailer
- Portable Bridges
- Rentals
- Rigmat Rentals
- Road Construction and Maintenance
- ROW Clearing
- Safety Training
- Sewage
- Security Services
- Site Maintenance
- Substation
- Survey (Construction and Legal)
- Trucking and Logistics
- Waste Management
- Water Delivery
- Welding
- Winter Road Maintenance

Business Registry

Opiikapawiin Services LP maintains a business registry with information about Indigenous businesses that can be shared with potential contractors/subcontractors to help facilitate First Nation business opportunities. Email Ivan Donio at i.donio@oslp.ca to register your participating First Nation business or joint venture.

Opiikapawiin Employee Profile

Indigenous Strategic Sourcing Advisor, Ivan Donio



Ivan Donio is Opiikapawiin Services' Indigenous Strategic Sourcing Advisor and has been in this position since June 2019. In this role, Ivan's responsibilities include: maintaining the database for the First Nations' businesses and equipment; identifying and communicating shortages of businesses and equipment on the Project; monitoring the Project for Indigenous participation related to businesses, procurement and associated commitments; and representing Opiikapawiin on project Health and Safety matters.

Ivan is originally from Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek, and is very happy and proud to be part of this very large project that will be a great benefit for our people. Ivan believes that OSLP has an amazing team to work with, and that together we can help our community members and businesses take part in this project.

On his time off, Ivan enjoys time with his grandchildren along with some billiards during the week, and camping on most weekends. Ivan still travels 2-3 times per year to his community's traditional hunting area to take part in the traditional community hunt.

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

Ivan Donio, Indigenous Strategic Sourcing Advisor - i.donio@oslp.ca, (807) 633-4856.

OR Richard Chukra, Indigenous Business Relationships Advisor - r.chukra@oslp.ca, (807) 630-8684

Indigenous Engagement

If you have any questions or suggestions about project engagement and communications and how best to engage with your community during the pandemic, please let us know. We would also love any suggestions for the content of this update. Contact **Karen Saunders**, Indigenous Engagement Manager: k.saunders@oslp.ca or (807) 620-1902.

Early Construction Engagement

Ask your Community Liaison about the **Transmission Line Four-Part Mini-Series**

Community Liaisons can share presentations and videos with you about: Right of Way and Access; Substations; Tower Assembly; and Tower Erection and Stringing



Stay tuned for upcoming Community Radio Shows featuring Wataynikaneyap Power updates and opportunities to phone in with questions.

Available Information Flyers

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

- **Timber Bulletin** – arrangements for accessing timber from the right of way; description of burn process
- **COVID Bubble** – how Wataynikaneyap and Valard are managing the spread of COVID-19 on the project
- **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.
- **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.
- **Endangered Species Act (ESA) Permit** – summarizes Indigenous commitments/opportunities and survey programs

Wataynikaneyap Power Project Character Winning Entries

In 2020, Wataynikaneyap Power wanted to get the Participating First Nations' youth thinking about the Project and sharing their perspectives! Wataynikaneyap invited the Community Liaisons to involve their schools with a character art contest; the characters could then be used to in communication materials to help promote safety, careers and other project information. Your Community Liaisons voted on the entries and Wataynikaneyap recognized the winning submissions by sending prizes to the artists. Congratulations to all the winners! Stay tuned to find these and other characters in future promotions for Wataynikaneyap Power/Opiikapawiin Services.



Rebecca, Grade 6

Sachigo Lake First Nation



Kyree, Grade 7

Sachigo Lake First Nation



Cohen, Grade 6

Bearskin Lake First Nation

Questions or Concerns about the Project?

you can provide it formally via phone or email to the contacts below.

Phone: 807-633-1499

e-mail: WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca

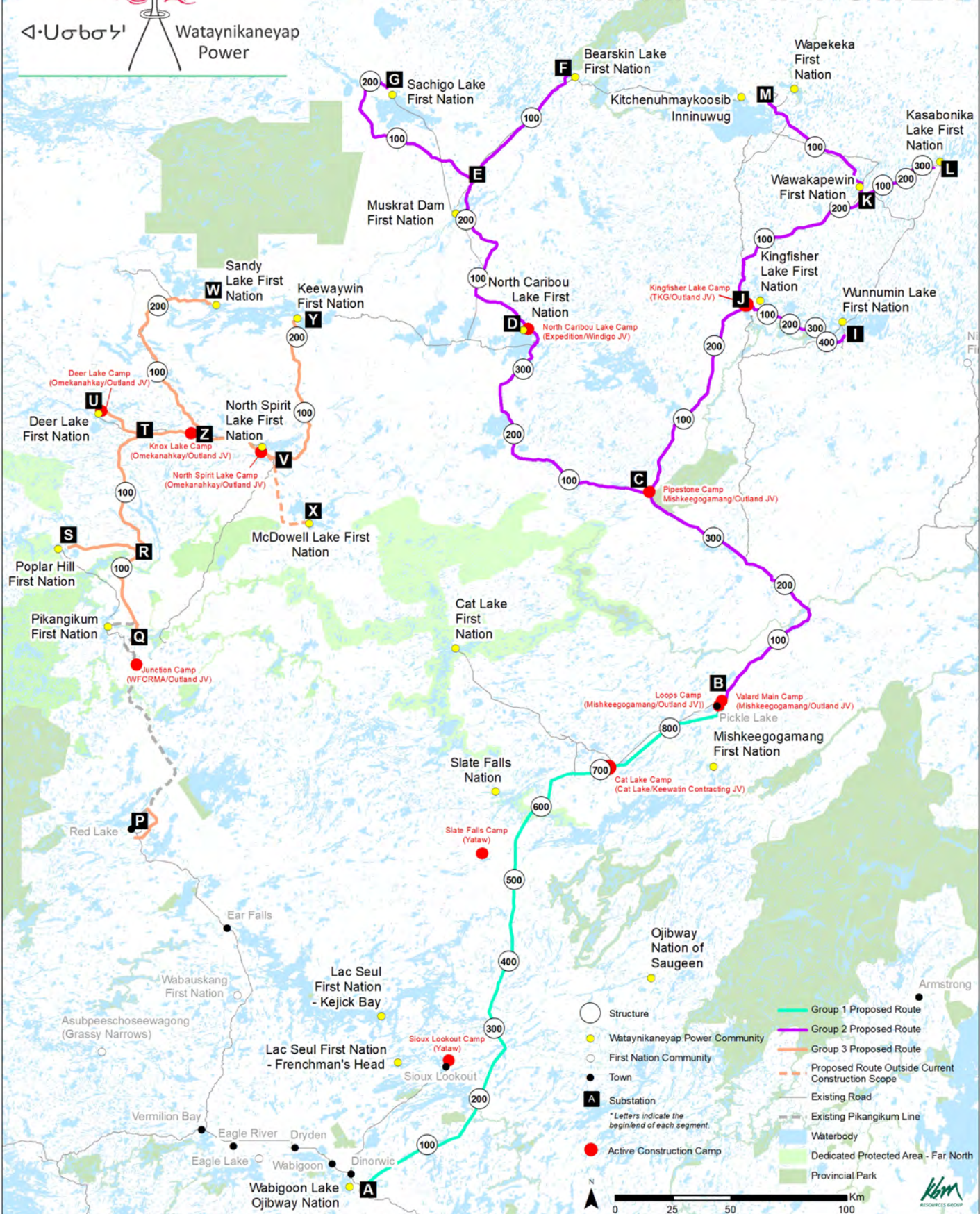


Other Sources of Information

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



WATAYNIKANEYAP POWER



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

For a more detailed map of construction progress, visit: <https://www.oslp.ca/construction-progress>