



# Wataynikaneyap Power & Opiikapawiin Services



## Indigenous Participation Update

Photo Credit: Rod Duffy

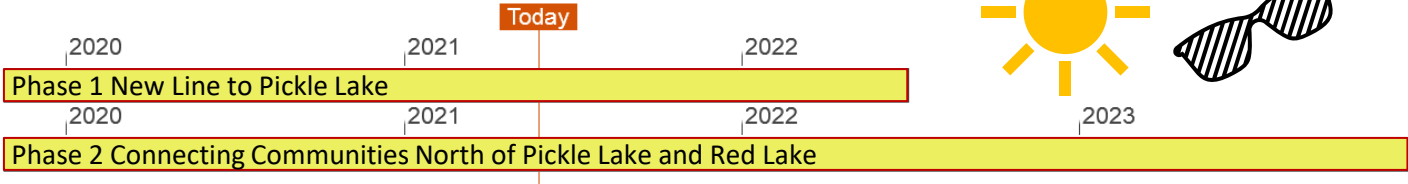
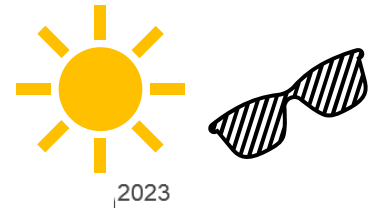
### Opiikapawiin and Wataynikaneyap

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

**Cover Photo Description:** Sets of guy wires are prepared in a workshop at a camp near Pickle Lake, then bundled up for delivery to sites between Dinorwic and the Pipestone Camp (Musselwhite turn-off). Wires get colour-coded so workers can easily tell which part of the structures they attach to.

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### COVID-19 and the Project

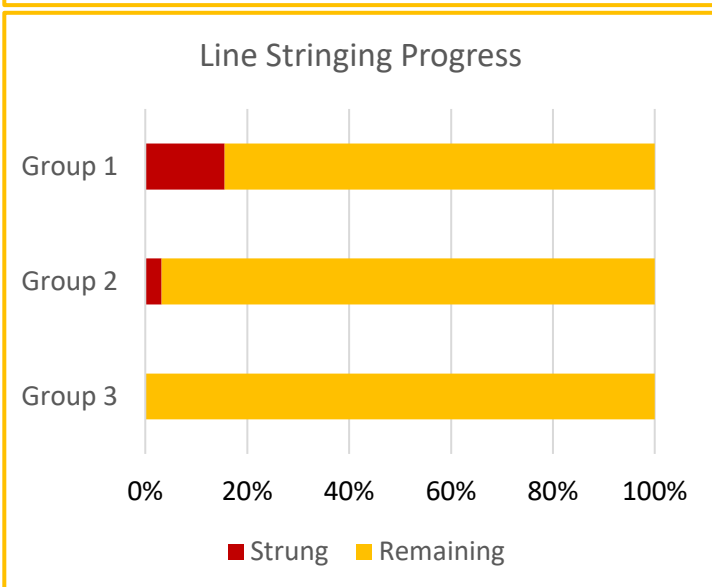
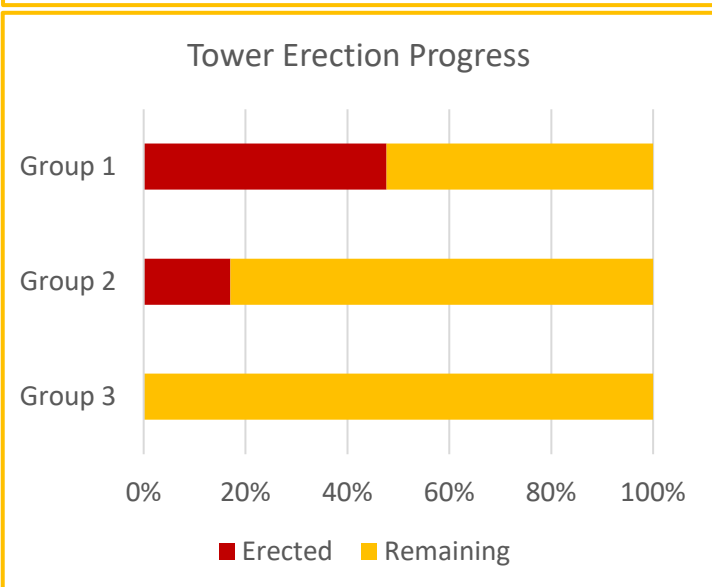
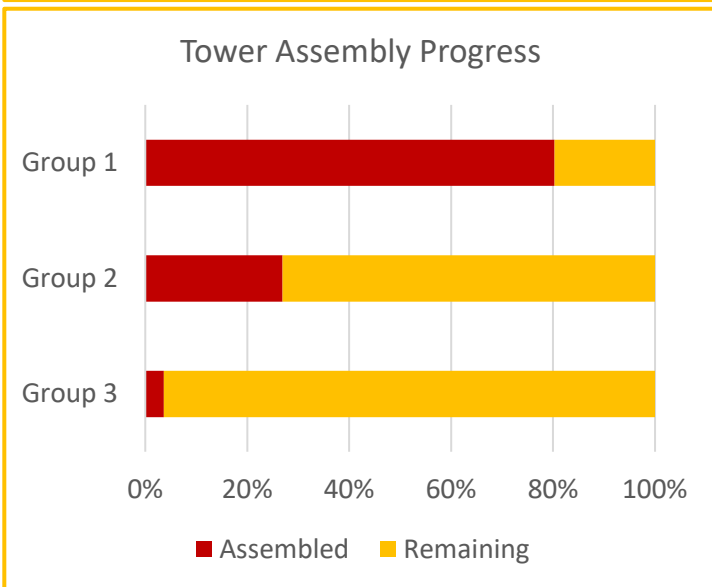
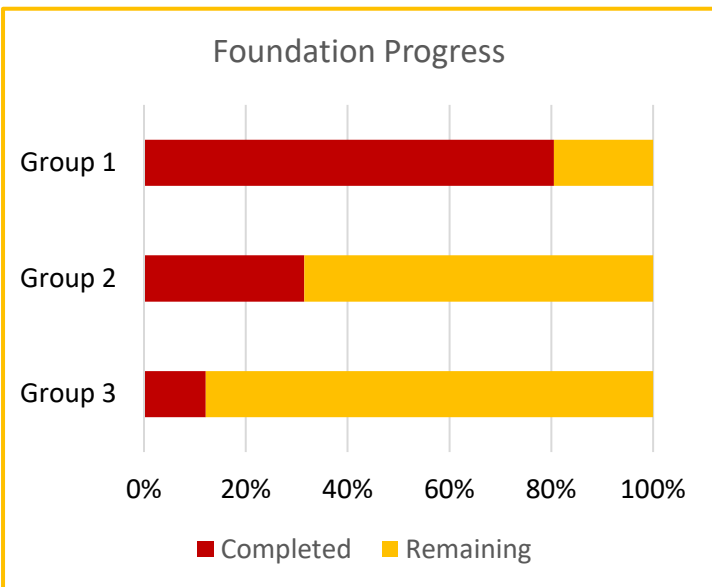
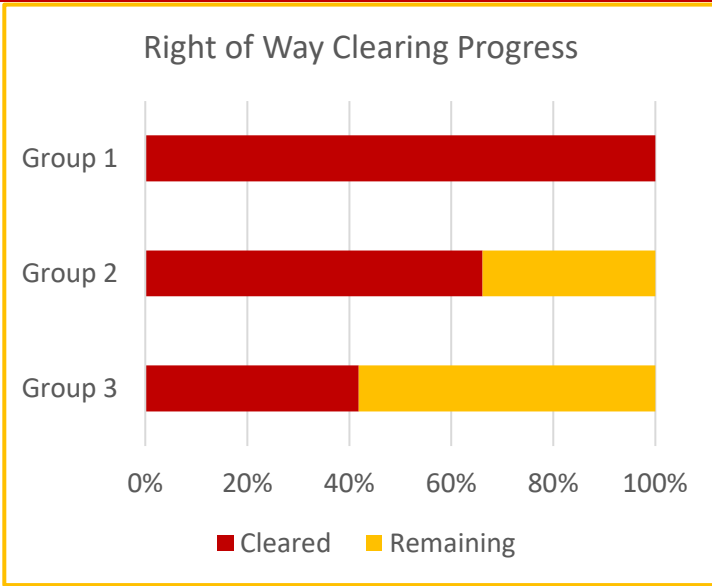
- During these unprecedented times, Wataynikaneyap Power LP ("Wataynikaneyap Power") is in the construction phase of building critical infrastructure to connect remote First Nation communities to the electricity grid (the "Project").
- The objective of Wataynikaneyap Power is to continue with aspects 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 Update – up to May 1, 2021

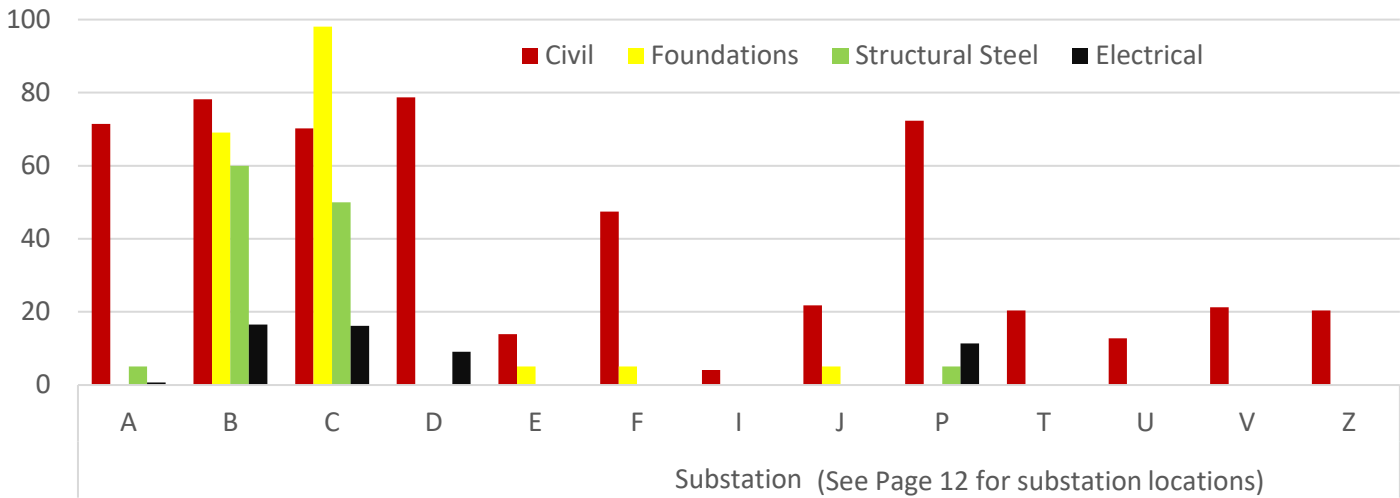
Valard began work on the Project in October of 2019. Some of the areas that have been progressing include:

- Design and Procurement of Materials
- Surveying and Clearing of the Right of Way
- Camp Setup and Services
- Foundation and Anchor Construction
- Tower Assembly of Towers
- 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 May 1, 2021)



## Employment

### Active/Recent Job Postings

View at [www.oslp.ca/careers](http://www.oslp.ca/careers) – where there are over 20+ positions posted!

Positions	Deadline	Details
<b>VALARD</b>		
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 ( <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> ), the Opiikapawiin website ( <a href="https://www.oslp.ca/careers">https://www.oslp.ca/careers</a> ) or the Opiikapawiin Facebook page ( <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP">www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP</a> ).
Indigenous Construction Liaison/Knowledge Holder, Community Support Partner, Community Indigenous Relations Advisor	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 Valard at 780-986-6180
<b>YATAW CAMPS AND CATERING (JV Partner to 4 communities)</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 to 3 communities)</b>		
Licensed Security Guard, Yard Attendant	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resumes to: <a href="mailto:ann@synterra.ca">ann@synterra.ca</a>
<b>SIGFUSSON GROUP LP (JV Partner to 2 communities)</b>		
Skilled Labourer, Dozer and Excavator Operators	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resume and two references to: <a href="mailto:HR@sigfusson.ca">HR@sigfusson.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:gpower@sigfusson.ca">gpower@sigfusson.ca</a>
<b>NORTHERN MAT &amp; BRIDGE (JV Partner to 4 communities)</b>		
Shuttle Operator	Ongoing	Ask your Community Liaison for job details. Send resumes and questions to <a href="mailto:Speterson@northernmat.ca">Speterson@northernmat.ca</a>

## Opiikapawiin's Earth Day Photo Contest WINNERS!

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd, Opiikapawiin Services held a photo contest for its Participating First Nation members! Those who entered a photo were asked to provide a sentence or two of how the submitted photo connected to Earth Day, and as well as what their photo means to them.

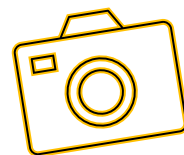
Each winner received a paint kit about the seven teachings, a print of an original piece of artwork by Jordan Quequish, a fillet knife, and a Rapala lure!



### Congratulations to all the winners!

**Jemima Cutfeet**, *Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig*

I love this photo very much as it displays so much of what our land and home has to offer. It has so much beauty. I had taken this photo at sunset during an evening of fishing at our causeway. I love how I captured the evening colours and the eagle in flight. For me, every day should be Earth Day. I believe that we are all responsible in looking after our Earth and that no one is too young to do their part and appreciate what Mother Nature and our Earth has to offer. I love my home (despite all the mosquitoes 😊). I truly love my home and gain so much strength from it.



**Emily Kamenawatamin**, *Bearskin Lake First Nation*

I like to go especially in the spring. Here we go fishing and have our cookouts. A very nice place to be.

## Opiikapawiin's Earth Day Photo Contest WINNERS!



**Charilyn McKay, Deer Lake First Nation** ↑

Living off the land and passing down the knowledge that was passed down to us and being able to do so for our future generations! I absolutely love it out on the land! Especially with my big sister Marilyn Koostachin ♡

**Darlene Beardy, Bearskin Lake First Nation** →

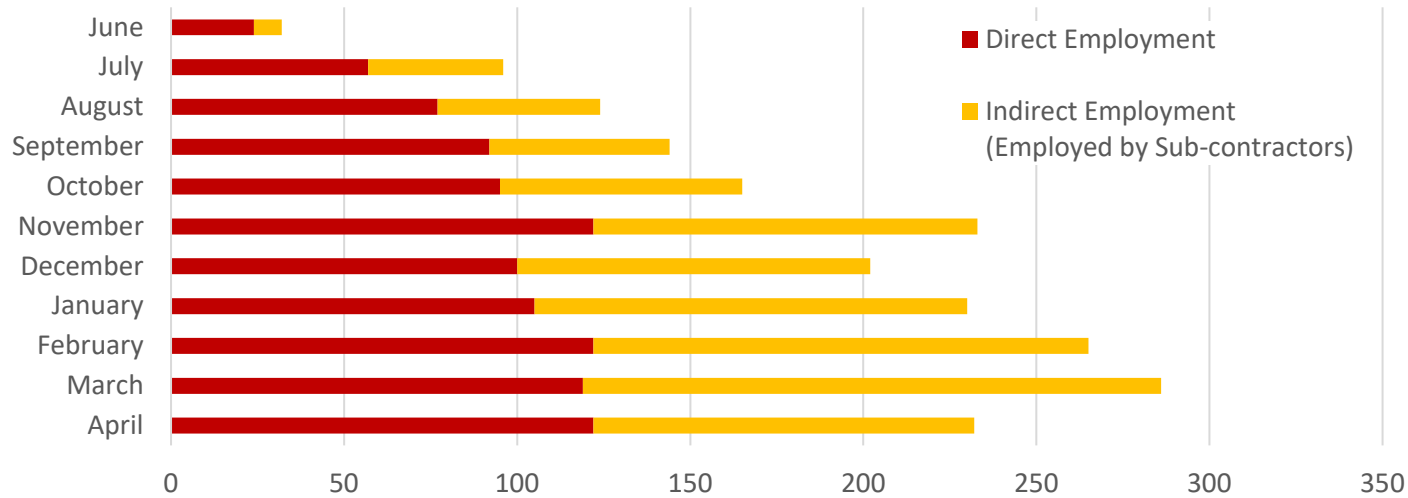
This picture connects to earth day because it shows an image of clean water with a beautiful nature view as a backdrop. Nature's beauty. This picture I took shows how much our water means to me, and that we are lucky to still be able to drink our lake waters here in Northern Ontario. The river always runs and this is connected to our Severn River. Earth day reminds me of the importance of clean air, water and land.



**Denzel Quill, Pikangikum First Nation**

This photo connects to earth day through the ozone layer. Do not pollute the layer because the Aurora gives us a nice scenery at night. It can be beautiful and we shouldn't pollute the air. This photo to me means that nature can absolutely be stunning no matter the weather. It can be cloudy, rainy, snowing etc. Earth day to me means that we have to take care of our earth for future generations to come, using limited resources, no littering and by recycling.

### Monthly Participating First Nation Employee Information – June 2020 through April 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	Apr
Assembly	44	40	45	39	40	35	41	42
Environment	Not reported.					31	25	26
Foundations and Anchors (Valard Crews only)	10	12	15	20	17	15	16	17
Survey (Geomatics)	7	8	8	10	8	15	12	11
Guy Wire	37	31	27	25	27	27	34	22
Material Handling	18	17	26	29	28	23	24	21
Grounding	Not reported.					12	21	21
Hauling	Not reported.					4	5	6

## 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](mailto:e.keesick@oslp.ca) or (807) 633-7446.

## Employee Spotlight



## Hosea Bighead, Assembler Kingfisher Lake First Nation



I'm a member of Kingfisher Lake First Nation. I returned to work in February 2021. I was first introduced to this trade by a good friend of mine who graduated from the Line Crew Ground Support Training. I was highly interested, so I put in my resume. Initially, I applied for the training, but I was put to work as an assembler.

One of the things that is challenging at first is being away from home and away from your family, but as time goes on, you will get use to it. Anyone who is interested, I encourage you to put in your resume, even if you have no experience. Valard has experienced employees who will show you the ropes of the job. You can have no experience, and by the end of your first shift, you will have learned many things.

The communities will be able to build more homes with this power line, and not only that, it is also environmentally friendly. We won't have to rely on diesel powered generators for our electricity. I feel fortunate to be a part of the Wataynikaneyap Project.

# Did you know?



## Project construction activity slows down to minimize impacts to the land and communities during the spring.

- Overall project activity is reduced, which limits disturbance during the annual First Nation spring harvest.
- Tree clearing is largely halted. If a tree does need to be taken down during this time, a biologist will first do an inspection for bird nests.
- Work sites are assessed for potential erosion or muddy run-off. Filters or barriers are set up before work starts to keep shorelines intact and waterbodies clean.
- Installation of culverts or any in-water work is avoided to prevent potential impacts to fish movement and spawning.
- Wet areas of the project are avoided until frozen conditions return, to avoid impact to the land and water.
- Wooden matting, as well as equipment with large tires or tracks, are used to avoid rutting up the land where the ground is soft.

## 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 Program Manager: [l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto: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+

Join the rest of our upcoming sessions!

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021:** Pre-Training Readiness and Training Program Requirements

**June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021:** Pre-Employment Readiness and Employment and Apprenticeship Opportunities



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 June, contact your Community Liaison,

or **Laura Calmwind**, Training Program Manager

C: (807) 620-2196 F: (807) 474-3213 E: [l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto: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	<b>**All-women**</b> 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.



## Community Liaison Profile



### **Cassie Capay**

*Lac Seul Community Liaison*

*w: 807-582-0386/c: 807-738-1080*

[cassiecapay@lacseulfn.org](mailto:cassiecapay@lacseulfn.org)

Lac Seul's Community Liaison Cassie Capay has taken on her role within her community head on, and eagerly takes on every task given to her with energy and enthusiasm. Cassie recently completed a one-year Certificate of Achievement in Virology and Epidemiology online with Tel Aviv University. She spends as much of her time as she can engaging with the members of Lac Seul while patiently waiting for the covid pandemic to ease up before spending time engaging with the youth.

Cassie believes it is important to include the youth in her work as many show interest and they will be the ones to take on the roles that will guide the transmission line project in the future. The work involved with helping her community take advantage of the training and employment opportunities brings her much joy and pride, and keeps her on her toes. Always learning from the fast pace of the Project, Cassie looks forward to seeing the positive impacts the Wataynikaneyap project will have on the 24 Participating First Nations. When it's time to wind down Cassie enjoys reconnecting with nature, camping, hunting and just taking time for herself.

## 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](mailto:k.saunders@oslp.ca) or (807) 620-1902.

## 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
- **Spills Awareness Initiative** – Aims to highlight the project's spill response program

# Wataynikaneyap Power ...is on the air!

Interested in hearing about the project? Let your community liaison know!



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT | INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT | INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION

## Outline

- ❑ Introduction – 5-10 minutes - Margaret
  - ❑ Purpose of Engagement
  - ❑ History of Project
  - ❑ Ownership/Pride
- ❑ Project Update – 20 minutes – Juan Anderson
  - ❑ Progress - Where we're at
  - ❑ Schedule – What's coming up next
- ❑ Land Protocols Update – 10 minutes – Adam Fiddler
- ❑ COVID Summary/Update – 10 minutes –
  - ❑ Project protocols
  - ❑ Protection of employees
  - ❑ Protection of Communities
- ❑ Indigenous Participation – 10 – 15 minutes – Elaine Keesick
  - ❑ Jobs
  - ❑ Business Opportunities
  - ❑ Training Opportunities

Tune in on your radio!

OR join from your computer or smart phone!



## JOIN THE MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCE

Once we have scheduled a radio presentation in your community, here's how you can listen in: We will provide your Community Liaison with a link and web address that can be used to log on to the videoconference. This will allow you to see the presentation and presenters.

The web address will be specific to your community and in the following format:

<http://bit.ly/YourCommunityEngagement>

You will need to ensure it is entered accurately for it to work.



## JOIN THROUGH THE COMPUTER OR YOUR SMART PHONE!

★★★★ Downloading the Teams app is recommended.★★★★

### Download the Microsoft Teams App on your Computer

Click the option below to download the app. Once complete, click "Open" and follow the prompts.



Download the Windows app  
Use the desktop app for the best experience.

If you want to do a test run, give us a call or email and we can walk you through!  
Contact Opiikapawiin's Indigenous Engagement Coordinator, Josie Zussino  
e-mail: [j.zussino@oslp.ca](mailto:j.zussino@oslp.ca)  
ph: 807.620.9148

### Download the Microsoft Teams App on your phone



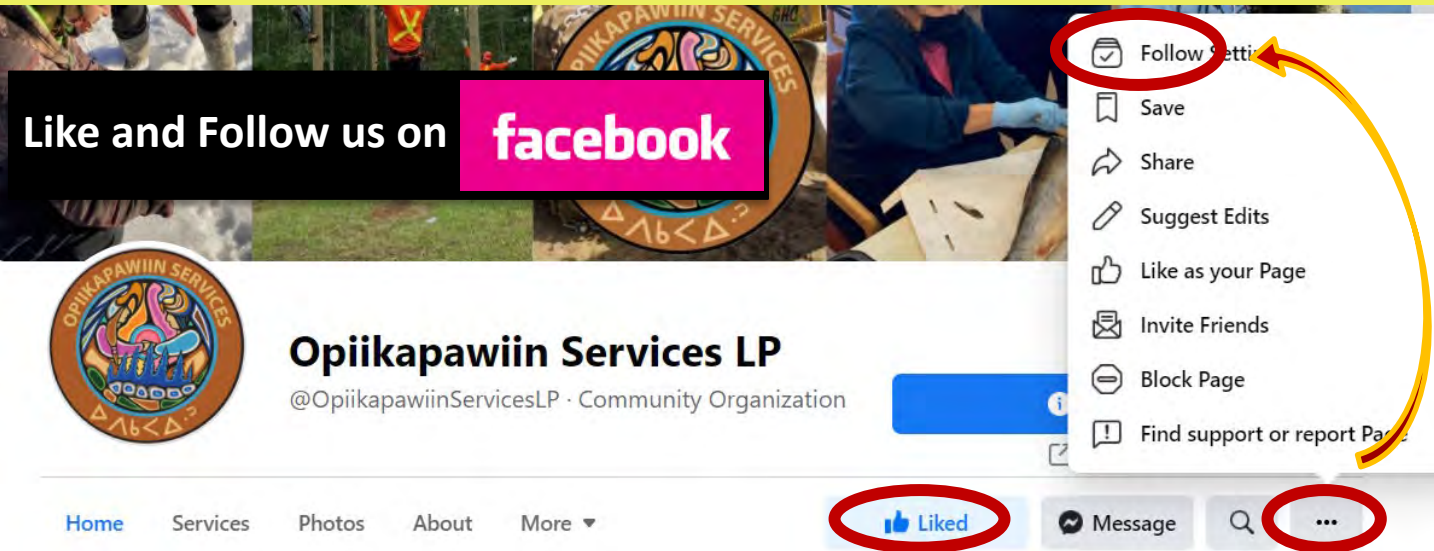
After you select "Join as a guest", type in your name and select "Join Meeting".

## 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](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca)**



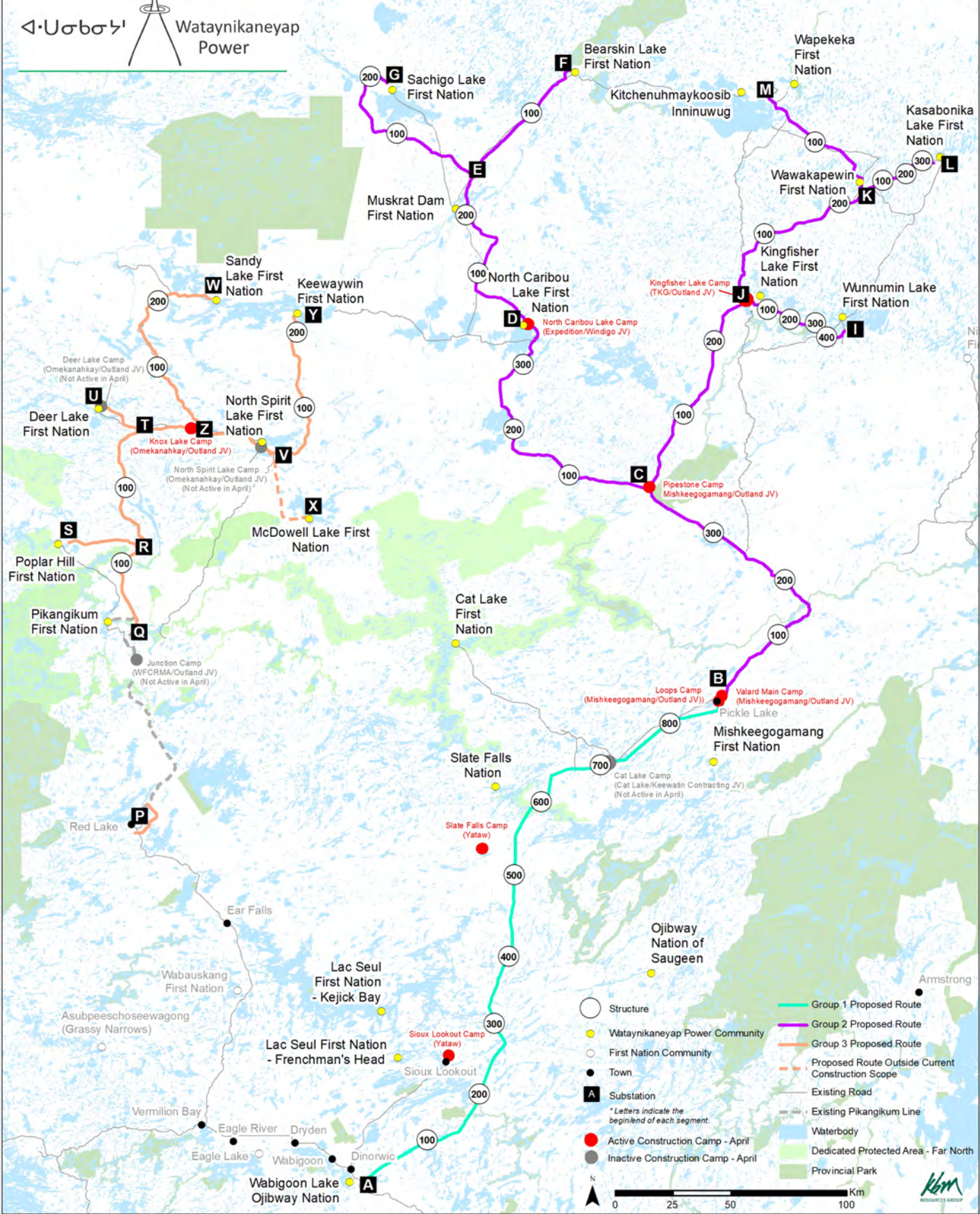
## Other Sources of Information

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> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px;">f</div>
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> <li>Indigenous Participation Monthly Updates</li> </ul>
Wataynikaneyap Facebook Page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WataynikaneyapPower">https://www.facebook.com/WataynikaneyapPower</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> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px;">f</div>
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> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 5px;">f</div>



Wataynikaneyap Power

# 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>