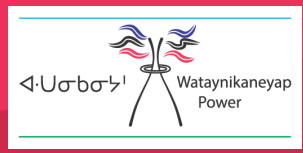


Photo Credit: Valard



## Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Project & Opiikapawiin Services



Wataynikaneyap Power is majority owned at 51% by 24 First Nations in partnership with Fortis and other investors at 49%. Wataynikaneyap, Opiikapawiin, Valard (the Project's Engineering, Procurement and Construction contractor), and Powertel, a subsidiary of Cormorant Services (the Project Inspection, Maintenance, and Emergency Response Contractor) are working together to maximize Indigenous Participation on the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Project.

Opiikapawiin Services LP is 100% owned by 24 First Nations and provides the following services to Wataynikaneyap Power:

- Employment and training
- Community readiness
- Business readiness
- Community engagement
- Communication

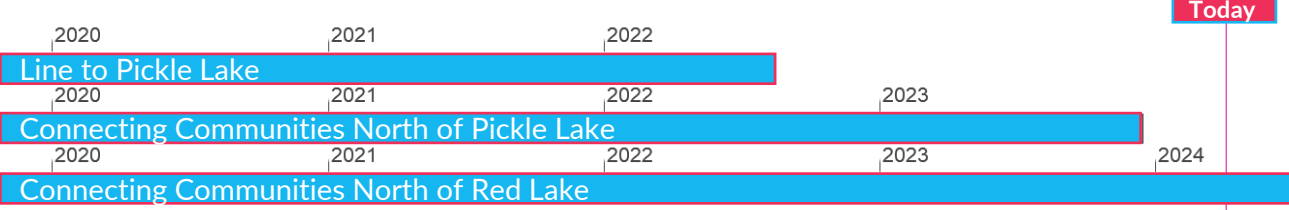


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Employment Update	4-6
Training Update	7-8
Engagement Update	9
Plugged Into A Brighter Future	10
Business & Communications	11
Wataynikaneyap Power Project Map	12

### Do you have a question or concern about the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Project?

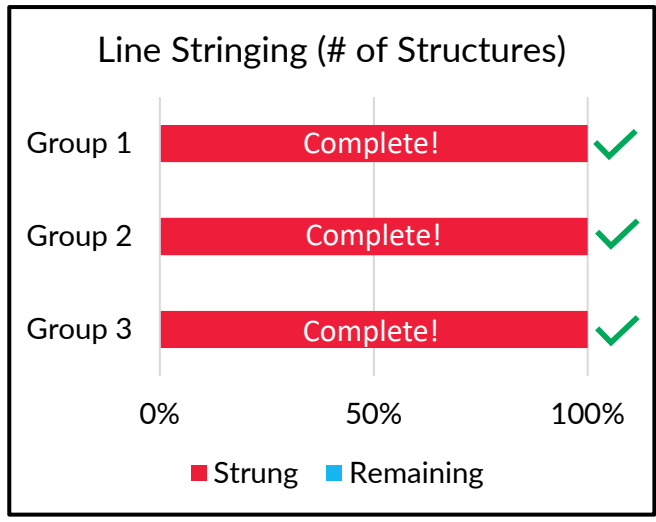
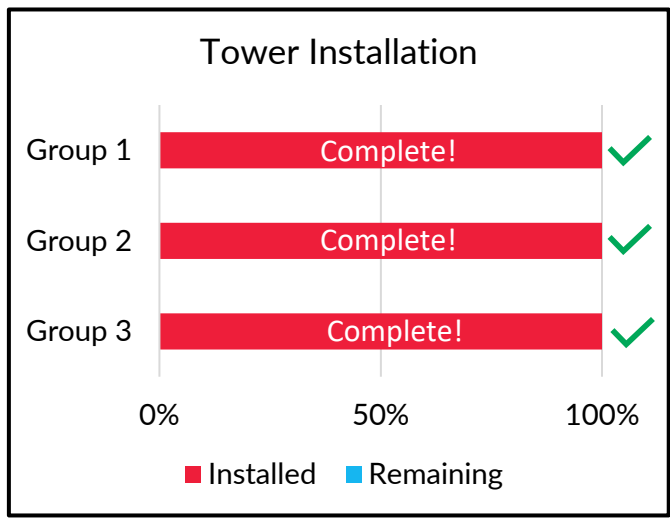
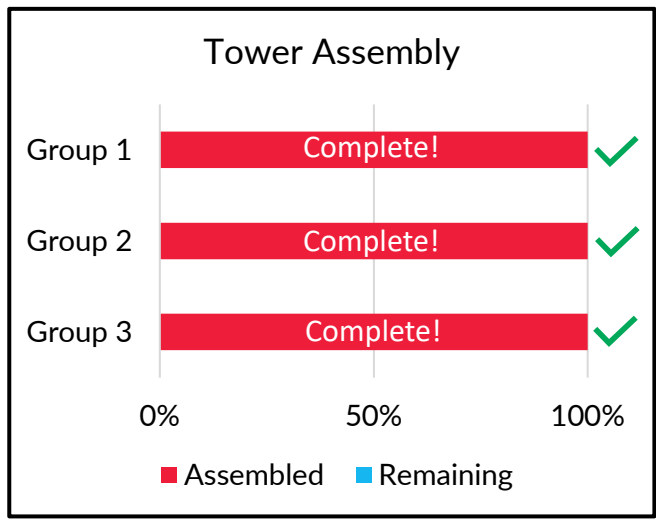
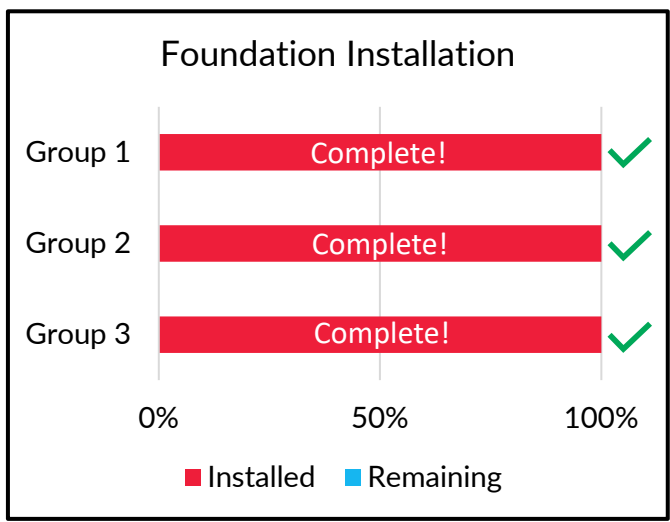
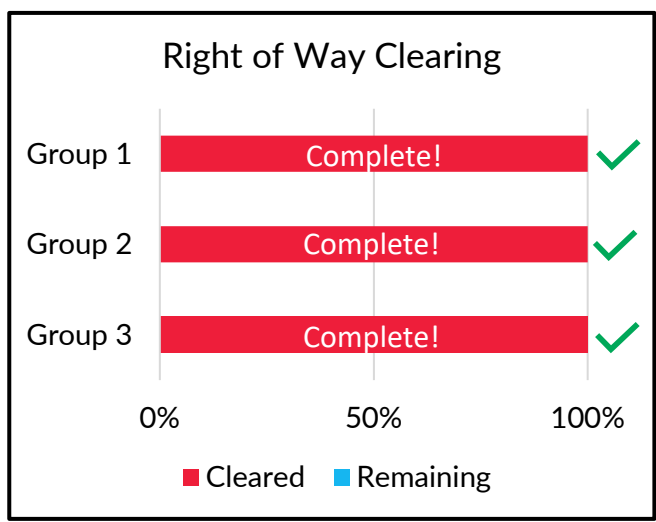
**Phone: 807-577-5955 ext. 117**  
 (don't forget to leave your contact information!)  
**Email: [watayinquiries@wataypower.ca](mailto:watayinquiries@wataypower.ca)**

Your question or concern will be sent to the appropriate person or department. We will follow up with an answer or more information as quickly as we can!

# 2 Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Construction Progress

% complete up to March 10, 2024

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



Valard began work on the Project in October of 2019 and has been making progress in, or completed the following areas:

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

# Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Line Construction Progress 3



★ The very last span of conductor (wire) was installed on the Wataynikaneyap Power Project, on tower RT 1 on Poplar Hill First Nation Homelands on February 28, 2024. Congratulations to the power line crews, all the workers on the ground, staff, and First Nation ownership for safely completing stringing of all towers!

## % complete up to March 10, 2024

### These substations are 100% complete!

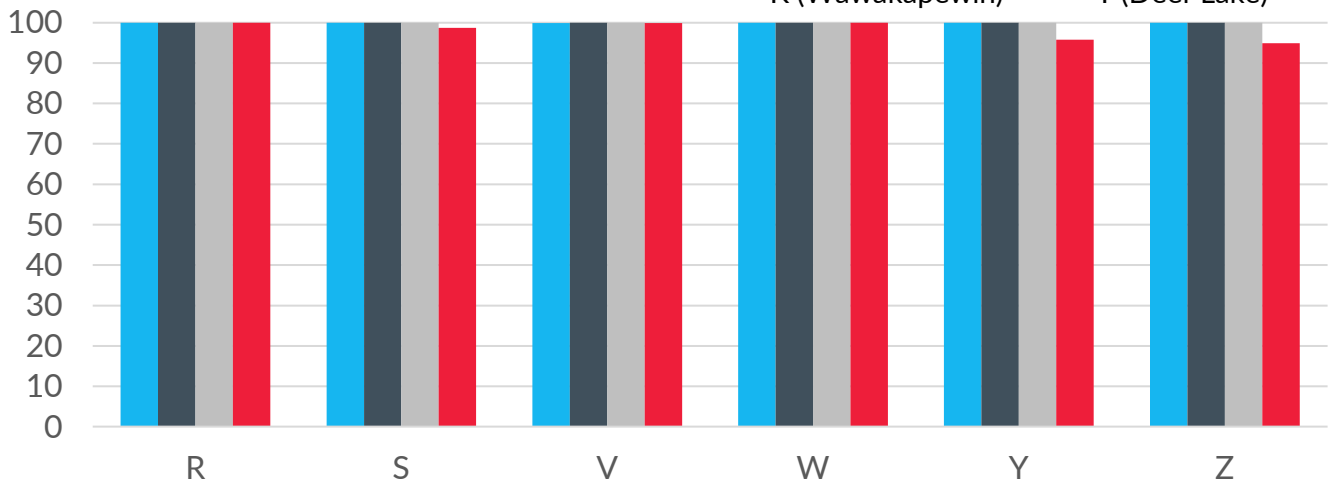
- Civil
- Foundations
- Structural Steel
- Electrical



- A (Dinorwic)
- B (Pickle Lake)
- C (Pipestone)
- D (North Caribou)

- E (Muskrat Dam)
- F (Bearskin Lake)
- I (Wunnumin)
- J (Kingfisher)
- K (Wawakapewin)

- M (KI/Wapekeka)
- L (Kasabonika Lake)
- P (Red Lake)
- Q (Pikangikum)
- T (Deer Lake)



(See Page 12 for substation locations)

\* Substation Q required electrical work only.



# Socially Responsible Project

GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION AWARDS 2024

**FINALIST**



TECHNOLOGIES | PEOPLE | **PROJECTS** | COMPANIES

## The Wataynikaneyap Power Project has been shortlisted for a Global Energy Transition Award in 2024!

The Project is shortlisted for the Socially Responsible Project Award in the Projects of Impact category. This award will ultimately be given to a project that places social responsibility at its core and drives positive change within the local community and wider society in which it operates. The winner will advocate for improved education on energy and climate change, offer green job creation, improve energy affordability, and compensate loss to improve local resilience.

All nine finalists have been released publicly:

<https://events.reutersevents.com/energy-transition/global-energy-transition-awards/finalists/>

The winner will be announced in-person during Global Energy Transition 2024's reception in New York on June 25, 2024!

## Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Employment

**Wataynikaneyap Power is seeking members of the Projects' 24 First Nation owner communities for summer employment in the following areas:**

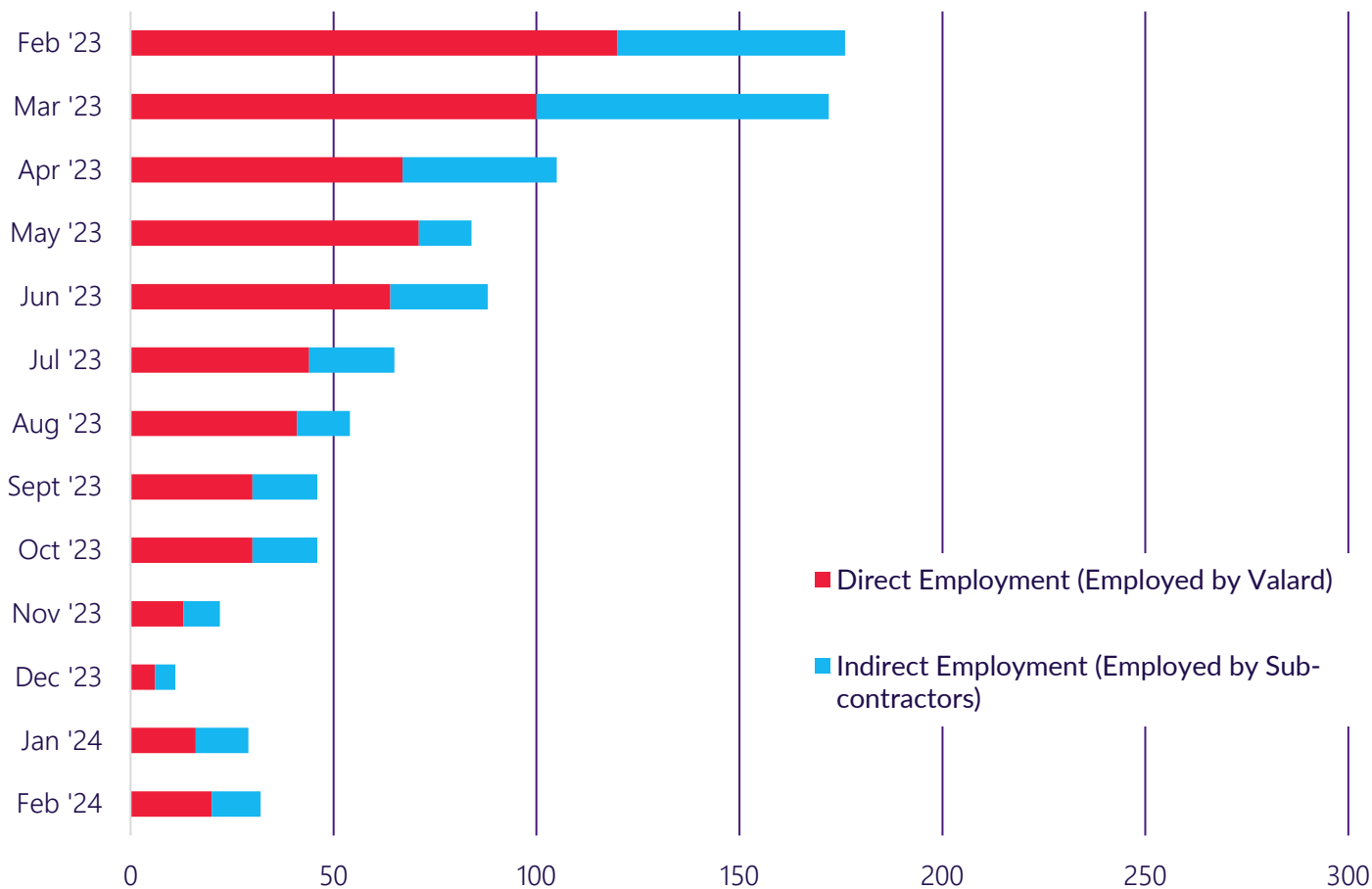
*Engineering, Environment, Operations, Finance, Health & Safety, Business/ Administration, Project Management, and Human Resources.*

If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please email a Cover Letter and Resume to [HR@wataypower.ca](mailto:HR@wataypower.ca); Indicate WTY-SS as the subject line and identify your area of interest/study.

Applicants must be a Participating First Nation member of the Wataynikaneyap Power Projects' First Nation owner communities and enrolled in full-time post-secondary studies for the 2024/2025 school year.

Read more at [www.oslp.ca/careers](http://www.oslp.ca/careers)

## Participating First Nation Employee Information (Up to February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024)



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

### Active/Recent Job Postings

Interested in any of the below job postings? Visit [www.oslp.ca/careers](http://www.oslp.ca/careers)  
OR email [projectjobs@oslp.ca](mailto:projectjobs@oslp.ca) OR ask your Community Liaison for information!



As part of Cormorant's commitment to Reconciliation, general employment opportunities within Cormorant are regularly communicated to several Indigenous organizations, including Opiikapawiin Services and Wataynikaneyap Power. These positions are generally based in either Cambridge, ON or Whitefish, ON, with various travel requirements depending on the position. Members of the 24 Partner First Nations are encouraged to apply for the following positions:

Company	Positions
CORMORANT UTILITY SERVICES	Heavy Duty Equipment Technician

## Career Fairs Update

Wataynikaneyap Power and OSLP reps have been busy sharing Project information at schools and career fairs over the last couple months! Thank you to everyone who attended and had questions for the team.



Wataynikaneyap Power at the Lakehead University Career Fair on March 7, 2024.



Wataynikaneyap Power and OSLP at the Sachigo Lake Career Fair on March 21, 2024!



### Other upcoming career fairs include:

- April 9th, 2024: Tournament of Hope Career Fair, @ the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay
- April 18th, 2024: Pikangikum Career Fair
- April 30th, 2024: Lac Seul Career Fair

Come say hi to our company reps and learn about upcoming training programs and employment opportunities!

## Opiikapawiin Recruitment & Retention Team

If you need assistance with creating or updating your resume, navigating the Wataynikaneyap Labour Pool Database, applying for a job, or if you have any questions regarding employment or apprenticeships, please contact:



**Elaine Keesick**  
OSLP's Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Advisor  
Email: [e.keesick@oslp.ca](mailto:e.keesick@oslp.ca)  
Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 210  
Cell: (807) 633-7446



**Mann Koner**  
OSLP's Employment Supports Coordinator  
Email: [m.koner@oslp.ca](mailto:m.koner@oslp.ca)  
Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 222  
Cell: (807) 620-5219

## Participating First Nations Young Change Makers 2023/2024

### Where Are They Now?

In 2023, OSLP established a partnership with the Rural Change Makers (RCM) program, with the goal of shaping emerging leaders in rural/remote Ontario to lead community development solutions with their communities.

The goals of the Rural Changemaker program is to provide professional development for young adults, build rural youth leadership capacity; catalyze impactful rural development outcomes for communities and regions; and broaden public engagement in rural development initiatives.

**Here are some updates on where they are now!**



**Tyron Moose**

*Poplar Hill First Nation*

Tyron is currently a university student planning to study Computer Science.

At this time, Tyron is exploring engagement ideas, including a “photo-voice” activity with local youth to capture stories of community that are important to them and to share their stories and vision in the final documentary.



**Moriano Owen**

*Poplar Hill First Nation*

Moriano is currently in his first year of college in the General Arts and Science Program at Sault College. Moriano plans to develop an Elder program in his community to share the knowledge, skills, teachings, stories and language with youth in the community.



**Carrie Lyon**

*Bearskin Lake First Nation*

Carrie is currently in school working towards her OSSD while working two jobs. Carrie stated that she is excited to participate in this program to the best of her ability and to start something new!



**Rainelle Keeper**

*Pikangikum First Nation*

Rainelle is currently working on her Prior Learning Assessment Recognition to get their OSSD in Eenchokay Birchstick School and is interested in using her passion of financial/business skills to develop a financial self-care project with local community members.



**Daisy McKay**

*Sachigo Lake First Nation*

Daisy is currently working as a Teacher's Escort at the elementary school in Sachigo. After the Rural Change Makers program, Daisy is hoping to move and go back to school to get her Aboriginal Community Advocacy diploma.



**Kisha Kakegamic**

*Keewaywin First Nation*

Kisha hopes to make more progress on her Leadership skills in the near future and plans to begin development of a succession plan for Wataynikaneyap Transmission by engaging with Leadership, membership and owners.



**Dakota Derosier**

*Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation*

Dakota plans to develop a food security project/entrepreneurial pursuit employing innovative vertical gardening practices to produce local, healthy and nutrient dense food for their community. Dakota's goal is to help improve the health and wellbeing of community members by providing affordable access to local, healthy food that is produced year-round.

Recruitment for the next cohort of Rural Change Makers is happening May 1<sup>st</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024!

Apply at: [www.ruralontarioinsitute.ca/changemakers](http://www.ruralontarioinsitute.ca/changemakers)

## Advanced Vegetation Management Training

The second round of Advanced Vegetation Management training started on March 4, 2024. Trainees will complete the Utility Tree Worker Comprehensive Program with Arboriculture Canada, in addition to certification in: Electrical Safety Awareness, Electrical Utility Safety Training, Brush Cutting, Chainsaw, Advanced Wilderness First Aid, and Working at Heights!

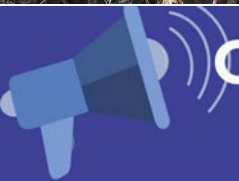
Stay tuned for an update on the graduation for the Advanced Vegetation Management trainees in our next May newsletter update!



Dorwin Strang  
(left) and Alyssa  
Kakegamic (right)  
participating in the  
Utility Tree Worker  
Comprehensive  
Program  
with Arboriculture  
Canada!

#### Questions on Training?

Please Contact:  
Laura Calmwind,  
Training Program  
Manager -  
[l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto:l.calmwind@oslp.ca)  
(807) 630-2196



## CALLING ALL OSLP TRAINEES!

Do you want the chance to win a prize -  
including a tablet (Lenovo Tab M10)?

Please fill out the Employment Status  
Questionnaire (ESQ) at this link to enter the draw:

<https://www.oslp.ca/training-participants>



For any questions, contact: Laura Calmwind, Training Program Manager  
[l.calmwind@oslp.ca](mailto:l.calmwind@oslp.ca) / (807) 630 - 2196



## McDowell Lake First Nation – March 13, 2024

The Wataynikaneyap and Opiikapawiin Services team presented a Project Status update to the McDowell Lake membership on March 13, 2024 in Thunder Bay! Wataynikaneyap Power will pursue options to connect McDowell Lake First Nation, the 17th community, at a future date.



## Ojibway Nation of Saugeen – March 15, 2024

The Project team travelled to Ojibway Nation of Saugeen on Friday, March 15, 2024 to provide a Chief's Orientation to Chief John Machimity & Council Members, as well as to provide a Project Status Update. Wataynikaneyap and OSLP offer a Chief's Orientation and Project overview to all newly appointed Chiefs to ensure they are up to date and informed on important Project matters.



Margaret Kenequanash (Wataynikaneyap CEO) and Chief John Machimity.



## Plugged Into a Brighter Future

Opiikapawiin, in partnership with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), and Relay Education have developed Plugged In to a Brighter Future workshops to bring education about the energy sector and renewable energy to youth ages 9-14. Youth will be better prepared for careers in the energy sector as their communities connect to the provincial grid, and also ensures future generations understand the significance of First Nations Ownership in Wataynikaneyap Power.

The team lit up the minds of 35 students in Wunnumin Lake on March 19<sup>th</sup>, and 40 students in Poplar Hill on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024!

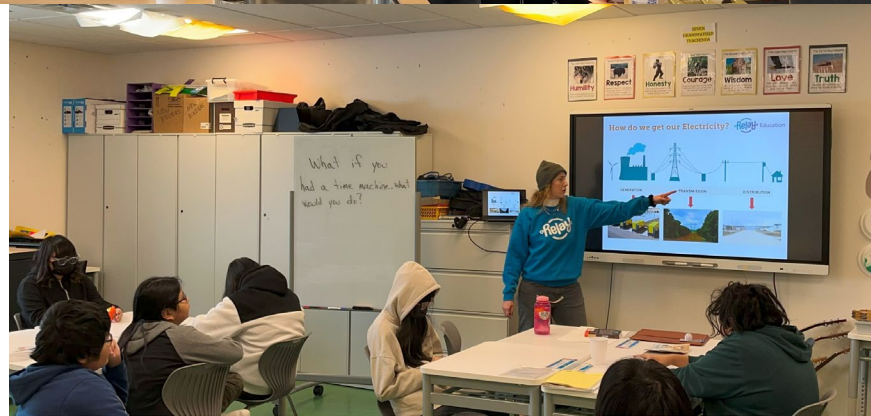
## Wunnumin Lake First Nation - March 19, 2024



The students always have excellent and thoughtful questions for the team!

One student in Wunnumin Lake asked where the source of energy that will be coming up to their community through the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line comes from.

<https://www.ieso.ca/power-data>



## Poplar Hill First Nation - March 20, 2024



Topics included Safety Spark, Plug in the Sun, and youth participated in a Solar Car Design Challenge.



## Business Readiness and Procurement of Goods and Services

## Business Directory

Opiikapawiin Services LP maintains a business registry that contains Participating First Nation Business Profiles and is referred to as the **Wataynikaneyap Business Directory**. This Directory can be shared with potential contractors and/or subcontractors to help facilitate First Nation business opportunities.

**For information on how to register your Participating First Nation business or joint venture, please contact:**

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

**If you have questions about business and economic development opportunities, please contact:**

Marlon Gasparotto,  
*Indigenous Business and Economic Development Advisor*  
 E-mail: [m.gasparotto@oslp.ca](mailto:m.gasparotto@oslp.ca)  
 Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 224  
 Cell: (807) 633-9373

## Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Communications

**Wataynikaneyap Power X (Twitter) Page:**

[www.twitter.com/wataynikaneyap](http://www.twitter.com/wataynikaneyap)

**Wataynikaneyap LinkedIn Page:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/wataynikaneyap/>

**Wataynikaneyap Power Facebook Page**

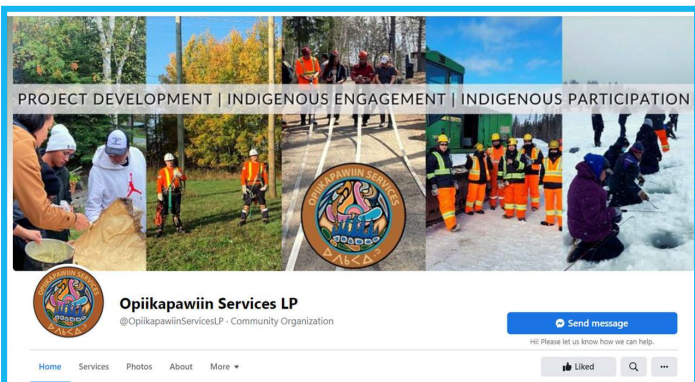
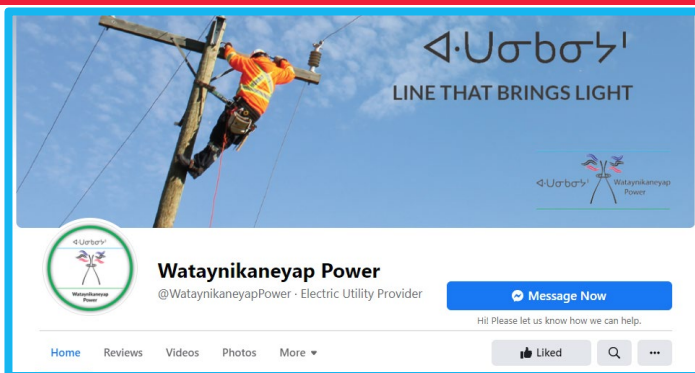
[www.facebook.com/WataynikaneyapPower](http://www.facebook.com/WataynikaneyapPower)

- Photos of project construction
- Project announcements and company updates
- Employment opportunities with Wataynikaneyap
- Fact sheets, Videos

**Opiikapawiin Services Facebook Page**

[www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP](http://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP)

- Training opportunities with Opiikapawiin and Valard
- Job opportunities with Opiikapawiin, Valard, Wataynikaneyap, and subcontractors (when provided)
- Project announcements and company updates
- Information Flyers

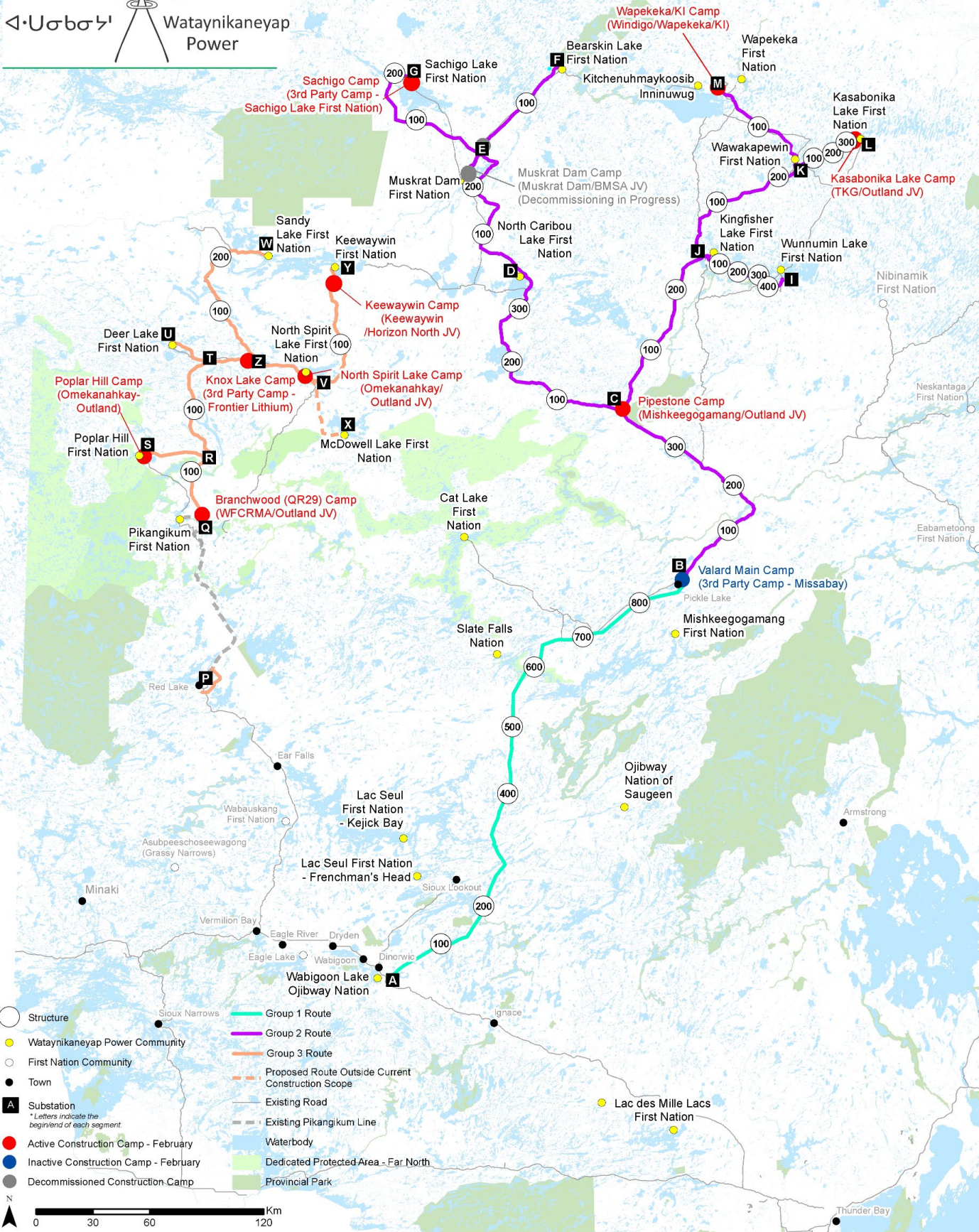




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Wataynikaneyap Power

# WATAYNIKANEYAP POWER



- Structure
- Wataynikaneyap Power Community
- First Nation Community
- Town
- ⓐ Substation  
*\* Letters indicate the beginning of each segment.*
- Active Construction Camp - February
- Inactive Construction Camp - February
- Decommissioned Construction Camp

- Group 1 Route
- Group 2 Route
- Group 3 Route
- - - Proposed Route Outside Current Construction Scope
- Existing Road
- - - Existing Pikangikum Line
- Waterbody
- Dedicated Protected Area - Far North
- Provincial Park

