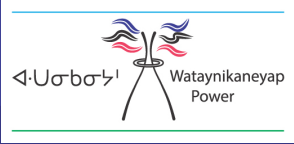




A Project helicopter parked in December.

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

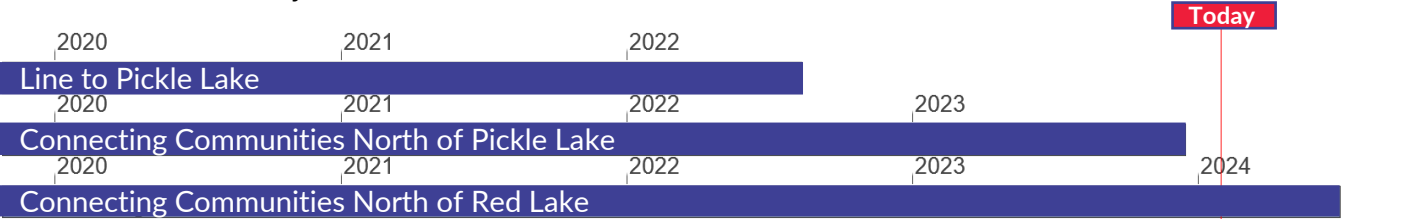


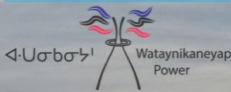
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Training Update – Rural Changemakers	9-10
Business & Communications	11
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Do you have a question or concern about the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Project?



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

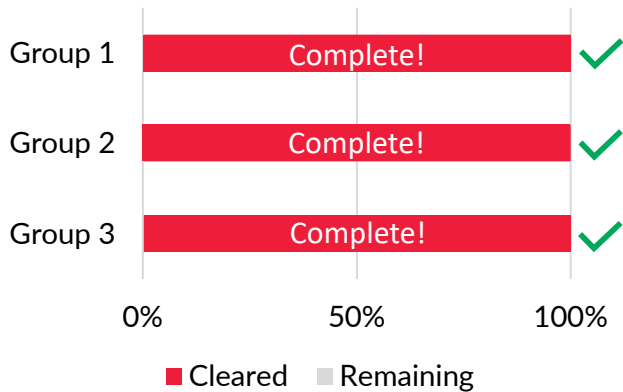
Your question or concern will be sent to the appropriate person or department. We will follow up with an answer or more information as quickly as we can!



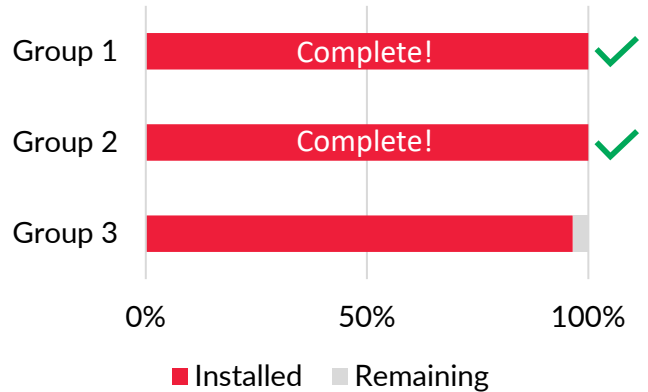
% complete up to January 6, 2024

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

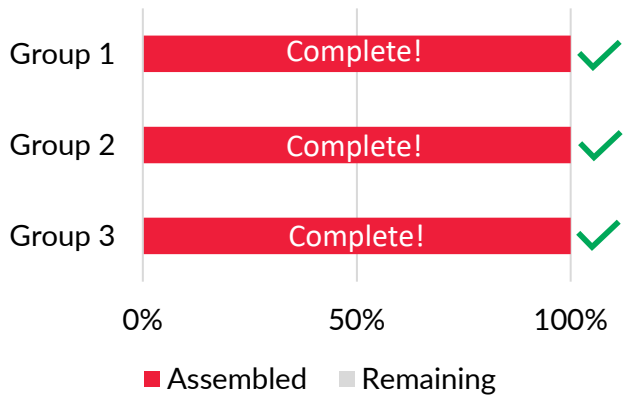
Right of Way Clearing



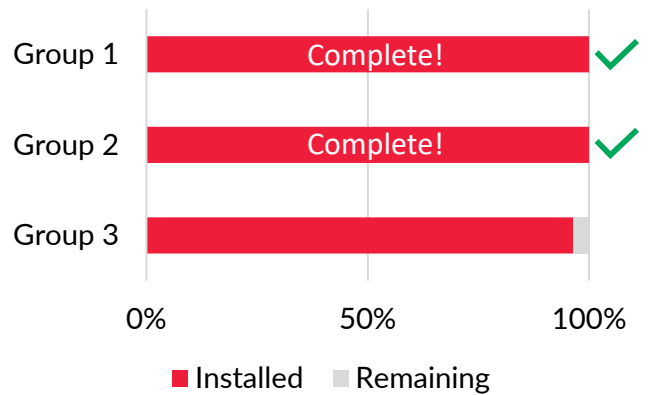
Foundation Installation



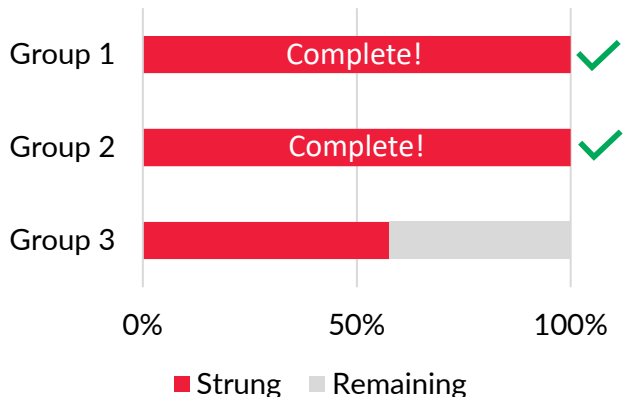
Tower Assembly



Tower Installation



Line Stringing (# of Structures)



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

% complete up to January 6, 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)

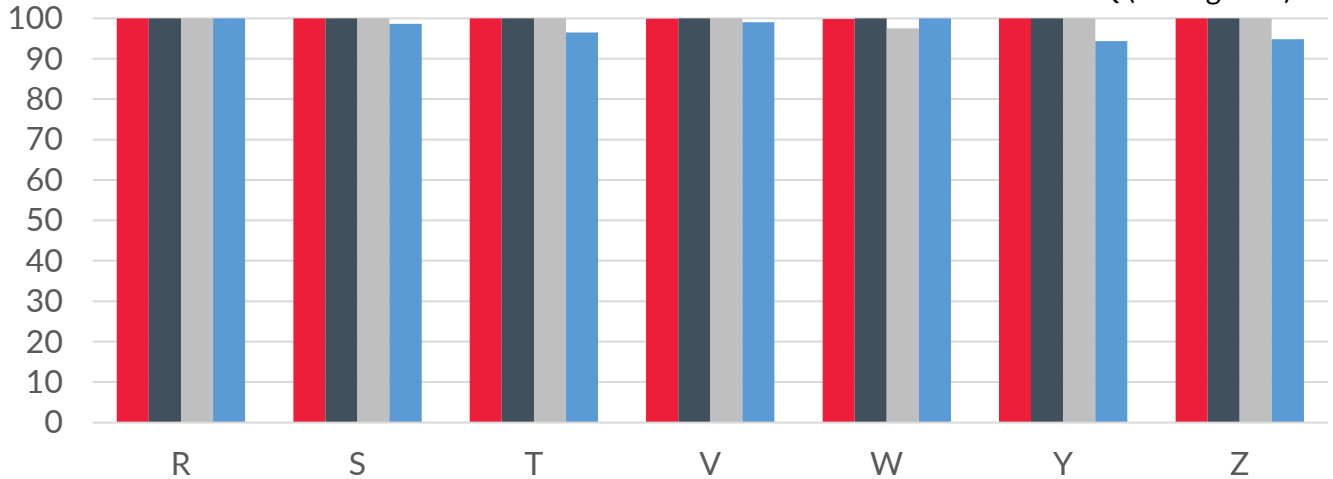
K (Wawakapewin)

M (KI/Wapekeka)

L (Kasabonika Lake)

P (Red Lake)

Q (Pikangikum)



(See Page 12 for substation locations)

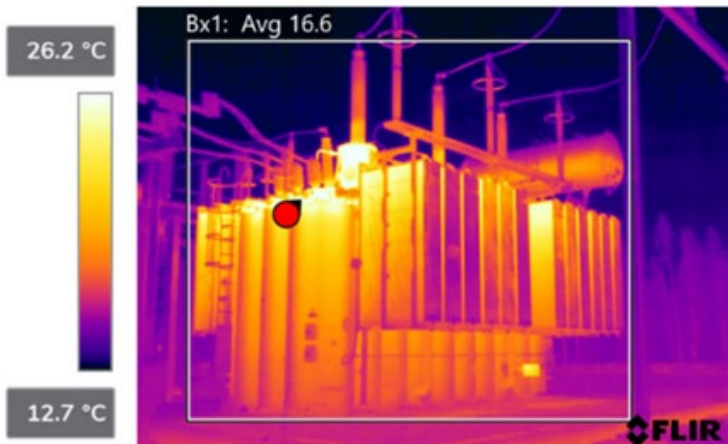
* Substation Q required electrical work only.

Substation Photos

Did you know?

Transformer substations on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission system will be inspected once a year by infrared scanners.

As just one part of a substation inspection, a picture is taken of the transformer equipment by an infrared camera: this shows the relative temperature of the equipment through a scale of colours. Substation technicians are trained to study the variations in temperatures to ensure that equipment and electrical connections are not abnormally hot, which may indicate problems that require further examination.



What to Expect in 2024

➤ **Energizations**

Poplar Hill, Deer Lake, Sandy Lake, North Spirit Lake, and Keewaywin First Nations' assets are scheduled to be energized between March to May this year. The energization activities this spring will represent the completion of the majority of capital construction activity by Valard. However, there will be Right of Way restoration activities and de-mobilization of materials and equipment that will continue throughout the remainder of the year.



Some communities may not be connected at the same time as their energizations, especially those that need to switch to HydroOne Remotes for their power distribution. McDowell Lake is working on their community plan and options are being explored to energize the community in the future.

Wataynikaneyap Power announces the connections when we celebrate with the community. Stay tuned for celebration announcements from Sachigo Lake, KI, Wapekeka, and Muskrat Dam! These First Nations' assets were energized in 2023 and we hope to celebrate with them this year too.

➤ **Routine Inspection and Maintenance**

Wataynikaneyap selected PowerTel, a subsidiary of Cormorant Utility Services, to carry out specialized inspection and maintenance activities on the project until 2026. Wataynikaneyap provides First Nation leadership with a month-out notice and a week-out notice by email, with what work will be done in your area. Details will include how many crew members will be there and if work will be done by ground crew or by helicopter. Wataynikaneyap is working with all First Nations to identify important cultural/traditional activities and dates that should be avoided for inspection and maintenance activities.

➤ **Business Opportunities for Indigenous Participation in Operations with Wataynikaneyap Power**

Wataynikaneyap Power expects to become a fully operational power utility in 2024. Wataynikaneyap Power will reach out to Participating First Nations and First Nation businesses to coordinate ongoing business, employment, and training opportunities in operations:

- Vegetation Management
- Environmental Monitoring
- Maintenance of access trails and landing areas

What to Expect in 2024

➤ Apprenticeship Opportunities

PowerTel will continue to support Participating First Nation members in substation electrician and powerline technician apprenticeships. Contact Wataynikaneyap to find out more: 807-577-5955 ext. 117 or HR@wataypower.ca.



➤ Update on Community Liaison Program

The Community Liaison project through Opiikapawin Services was designed to assist with meaningful engagement with the 24 First Nations during development and construction. Communities input developed strategies on how First Nations can capture benefits in training, education, employment, economic and business opportunities from the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project to create meaningful participation.

Community Liaison workers are trained and set to work within their communities sharing and gathering information through meetings, conferences, interviews, surveys, and workshops. Community members can contact their Community Liaison for training opportunities, project information, conference updates and assistance applying for jobs or training on the project.

➤ Training Programs

The Advanced Vegetation Management Training program will be running from March 4th to April 12th, 2024. This training is designed to elevate the skills and knowledge of former training graduates and provide them with opportunities for further advancement and pathways to apprenticeship or employment.



Moreover, the Rural Changemaker Program, which started in Fall 2023, is set to continue until Fall 2024. Go to pages 8-9 for recent updates!

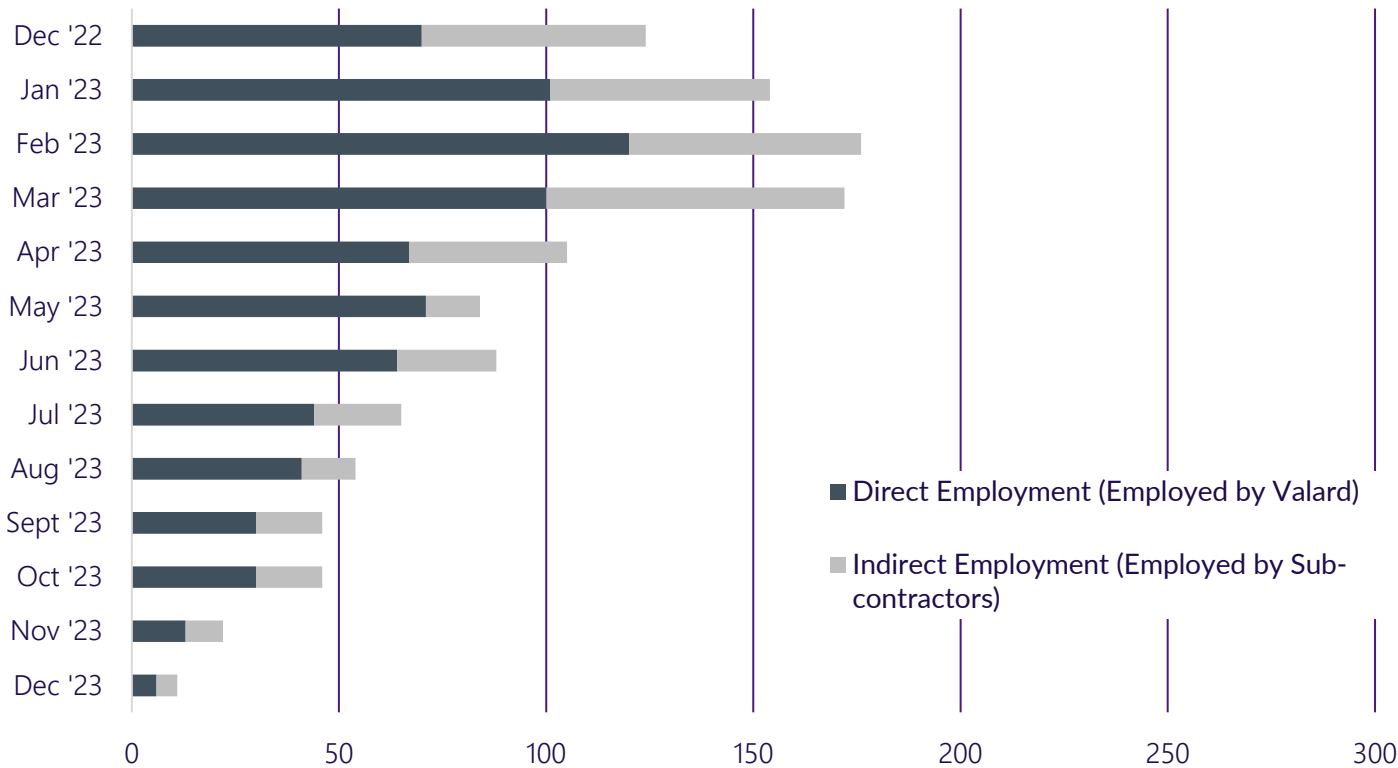
For opportunities to work on the project, have a look at available job postings at:

www.oslp.ca/careers
www.valard-watay.com
www.wataypower.ca

Send your resume to:

watay-resumes@valard.com and projectjobs@oslp.ca

Participating First Nation Employee Information (Up to December 31st, 2023)



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
OR email projectjobs@oslp.ca OR ask your Community Liaison for information!

Company	Positions
OUTLAND CAMPS AND CATERING (Active JV Partner to 14 communities)	Camp Manager, Camp Administrator, Head Chef, Cooks, Bakers, Kitchen Support, Housekeeper, Janitor, Driver
WINDIGO CATERING LP	Currently accepting applications for open positions. Please send resumés to esitch@windigo.ca or projectjobs@oslp.ca



As part of Cormorant's commitment to Reconciliation, general employment opportunities within Cormorant are regularly communicated to several Indigenous organizations, including Opiikapawin 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

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
Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 210
Cell: (807) 633-7446



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

Labour Pool Database

Add yourself to the Labour Pool Database!

- Head to the labour pool site at: www.oslp.ca/labour-pool
- Click the "Sign Up" button
- Once your profile has been approved, you will receive an email to reset your password (check your spam or junk folder)
- If your profile is not approved in a couple of days, please contact Elaine Keesick.

Already in the Labour Pool Database?

Don't forget to update your profile if your information changes, (address, email, phone, and resumé). It is important that all members in the database have an updated resumé uploaded to their profile.

Forgot your Password?

If you forget your password, you can reset it at any time at www.oslp.ca/labour-pool. Click the "forgot password" link, and the system will send you an email with a link to change your password.



Wishing you and your family a Happy Family Day
(Monday February 19th)!

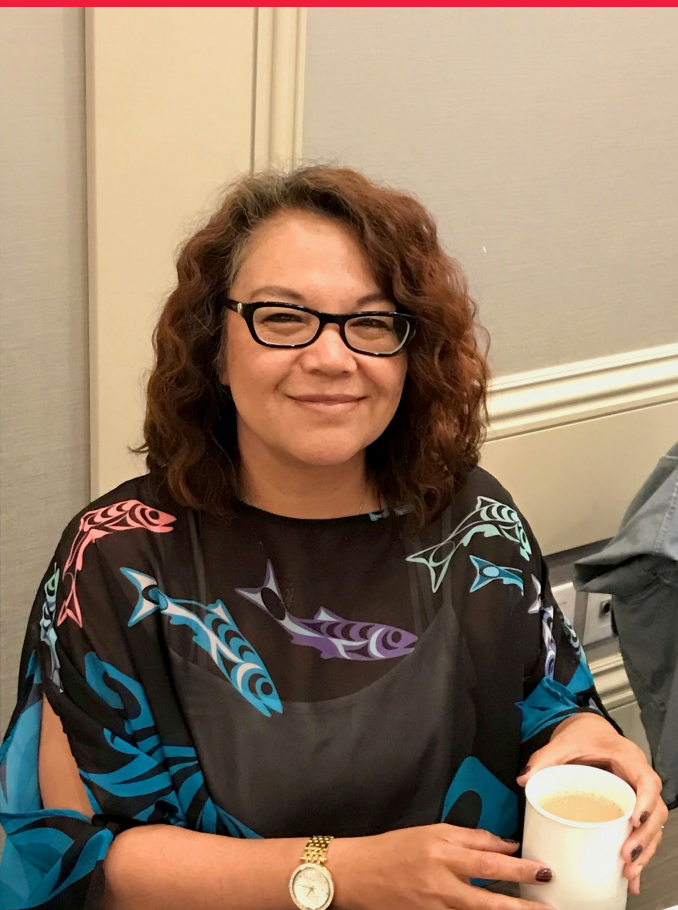
Upcoming Career Fairs

Wataynikaneyap Power and OSLP reps will be presenting to Dennis Franklin Cromarty classes on Monday, February 26th, and will also be participating in the school's career fair on Tuesday, March 5!

Both teams will also be at the Lakehead University Career Fair on March 7th.

 Come say hi to our company reps! 

OSLP Employee Spotlight



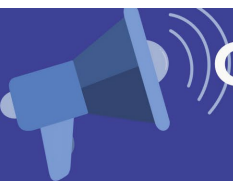
Toinette Kakepetum-Thompson
Keewaywin First Nation
Training Coordinator,
Opiikapawiin Services LP
t.Kakepetum@oslp.ca

My name is Toinette Kakepetum-Thompson, I have worked as the Training Coordinator with Opiikapawiin Services LP for two (2) years and am from Keewaywin First Nation. I am trained as a social worker and have my Honours Bachelor of Social Work degree, which I find helps me in this line of work with planning, case management, goal setting, and working with individuals from various backgrounds.

I love my job! As training coordinator, I organize training programs that incorporate Indigenous knowledge. We often have meetings to update on our past trainings, as well as to plan more trainings.

Some of the best moments I've had on the Project are when we have Indigenous Knowledge days – it's good to see our people doing land-based activities with pride! I also love working with the trainees. It's exciting when they see the possibilities of what they can do and what they can achieve; it's why I keep doing this and encouraging the people we work with.

In my free time, I like to write a lot, including books and affirmation cards. My hobbies also include restoring old furniture and painting my designs on them. I like working with my hands! Sanding, painting, and restoring helps me relax.



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 / (807) 630 - 2196

Rural Change Makers – Ignite Action Weekend

The Rural Change Makers (RCM) program is to shape 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.

Rural Change Makers gathered together for an “Ignite Action Weekend” from January 19th – 21st, 2024, on the shores of Lake Huron, to build their confidence and capacity in community leadership/development!



Rural Change Makers making Bannock on an outdoor fire.

Starting at back (left to right):

Melanie Bidiuk, Program lead and Rural Change Makers Mahbuba, Daisy McKay (Sachigo Lake), Gill, Rainelle Keeper (Pikangikum), Helen (ROI staff) and Hardik.

Front (left to right):

Change Makers Tyron Moose (Poplar Hill), Taku, Kayla, Amanda, Krystal and Josie. Change Makers travelled from all across Ontario to gather for the Ignite Action Weekend.



Rural Change Makers enjoyed the outdoors on the Shores of Lake Huron at Camp Kintail, in Ontario’s West Coast. They appreciated the uniqueness of the landscape with many wooded paths between accommodations. Interesting fact: Kintail uses innovative geothermal heating systems to provide heat and hot water to their various accommodations and buildings, allowing structures to retain their heat for at least 4 days in a power outage.

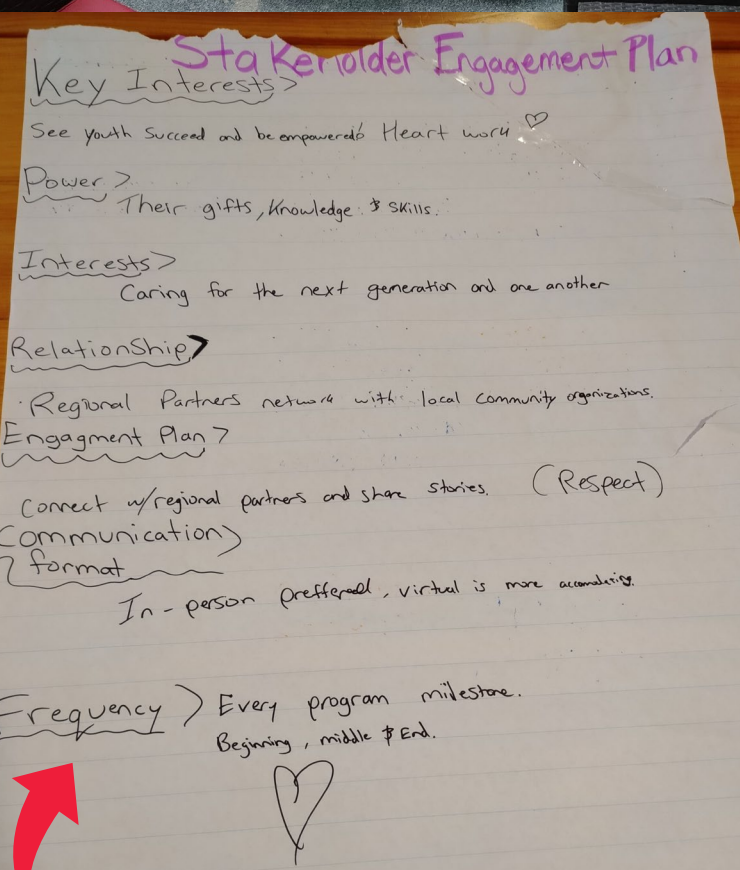


Kisha Kakegamic from Keewaywin First Nation enjoys some fun and relaxation at the Rural Change Maker Program Ignite Action Weekend, with indoor roller skating at the Camp Kintail lodge. Kisha was a natural on wheels!



Rural Change Makers celebrating the contributions of fellow Change Maker Hardik Patel, founder of Belleville International located by Ontario's Bay of Quinte.

Change Makers starting at back (left to right): Moriano, Mahbuba, Hardik, Josie, Shayne founder of And Then I Was Free, Tyron Moose and Jillian. **From front (left to right):** Taku, Krystal, Kayla and Rainelle



Tyron Moose (Poplar Hill) participates in a peer-led Impact Gap Analysis session. Impact Gap Analysis is a tool to help change makers take a systems-led leadership approach to community solution building. Change Makers each facilitated tools for creating SMART Action Plans during an Ignite Retreat Jan 19-21, 2024.

Rural Change Makers learn community leadership and rural development skills as part of their training for creating SMART Action Plans to engage rural communities. Each change maker took on leadership roles at the Ignite Action Weekend Jan. 19-21st facilitating the use of these tools for their peers. Change Makers Jillian from Huron County, Shayne from Tyendinaga First Nation and Daisy McKay from Sachigo Lake First Nation hosted a Stakeholder Analysis Session, a tool that maps key community stakeholders for a project and helps community members transform this into a community plan. In this session change makers identified the strengths of their community of youth mapping the importance of respective partners like Opiikapawin Services.

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
Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 211
Cell: (807) 633-4856

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

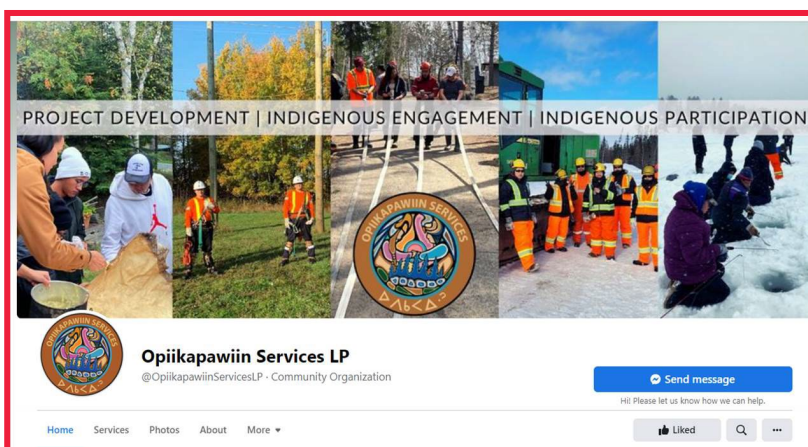
Marlon Gasparotto,
Indigenous Business and Economic Development Advisor
E-mail: m.gasparotto@oslp.ca
Office: (807) 474-3300 ext. 224
Cell: (807) 633-9373

Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Communications



Wataynikaneyap Power Facebook Page
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/OpiikapawinServicesLP

- 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

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

