

January 2021, Issue #11

English Version





Valard Construction, was selected by Wataynikaneyap Power to provide engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) solutions for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project in Northwestern Ontario, Canada.

The scope of work on the project consists of EPC services for more than 1,600 kilometers of transmission and distribution infrastructure ranging in voltage from 25 kV to 230 kV and 22 substations. Valard created this newsletter to provide regular updates on construction activities for the 24 First Nation communities.



Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of January 15, 2021
Period: January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021

Group 3 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
	<p>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knox and North Spirit Camps construction completed • Deer Lake, Junction and Poplar Hill Camps under construction
	<p>Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations) • Measure existing powerline heights • Locate existing underground utilities • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Red Lake * Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North to Sandy Lake First Nation

Monthly Project Newsletter



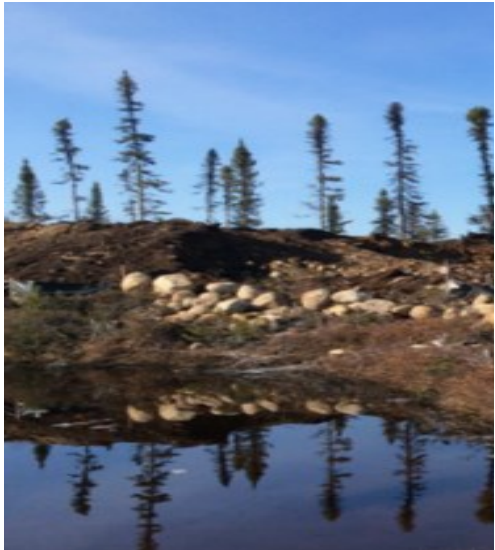
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January 2021, Issue #11

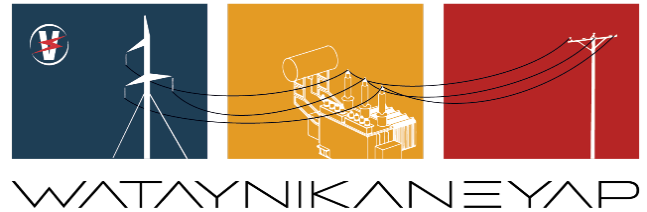
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Group 3 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
	<p>Clearing and Access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing and Access development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Falling, raking, and piling of trees. * Burning of brush piles • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Red Lake, Sandy Lake, North Spirit Lake, Keewaywin, and Deer Lake
	<p>Construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Liasons hired for North Spirit Lake and Pikangikum are now members of the Valard team and an extra link of communication for both parties • Tower foundation and anchor installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Excavating * Rock drilling • Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Red Lake
	<p>Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In advance of and during construction activities watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focusing on erosion, sediment control and spill responses • Migratory bird nest sweeps ahead of clearing and construction activities • Archeological assessments • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Red Lake * Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North to Sandy Lake First Nation

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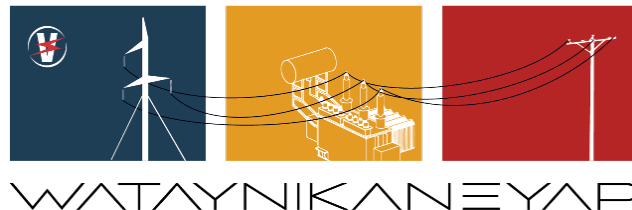
Group 3 – Substations

Activity		Detail
	Substation Survey/ Clearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting control points to start surveying• Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area• Clearing of substation area and access road development• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Poplar Hill, Deer Lake, Sandy Lake, North Spirit, and Keewaywin
	Substation Geotech	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geotechnical test pitting• Drill Boreholes at substation sites to determine soil properties, depth to rock• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Poplar Hill, Deer Lake, Sandy Lake, North Spirit, and Keewaywin
	Substation Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregate sourcing and production• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Poplar Hills* North Spirit Lake* Deer Lake* Sandy Lake* Keewaywin

For more activity details visit the website at www.valard-watay.com, or if you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact Wataynikaneyap Power at WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca.

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Valard is engaging with Participating First Nations to:

- * To learn more about community expectations and interests; as well as identify training, employment, and procurement and business opportunities.
- * Identify camp locations and services available to support work camps.
- * Continuing to provide notification of the restart of engagement activities, which had been on hold due to limitations with COVID-19 safety measures, to understand each community's position regarding employment opportunities and associated travel.
- * Review Valard community-specific protocols such as Covid-19 protocols with Participating First Nations and sign off after alignment with community.
- * Continue to keep open lines of communication with Participating First Nations for community COVID-19 updates with regards to travel and quarantine directives.
- * Participate in face to face meetings with communities while ensuring that all attendees are following Valard, Community, and Ontario Health Service guidelines/protocols.
- * Continue to meet with Participating First Nation communities to advance engagement, contract, and employment discussions.
- * Facilitate and coordinate Indigenous participations in community businesses, equipment, services, work force, existing or potential joint ventures.
- * Provide notification of upcoming work activities near each community.
- * Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife, such as Caribou sightings, to communities near the encounter.
- * Provide notification of required permits such as: a Permit to Take Water, which is required for 2020/2021 winter road construction, to communities near the planned activities.
- * Shared additional temporary work space packages for review and sign off.
- * Request teleconference meetings to pick up the engagement and contract discussions with each of the communities, to share the return to the "bubble" testing program with each community directly.
- * Actively looking to fill, hire and onboard Indigenous Relations Advisors to aid in Participating First Nations engagement and communications.
- * Facilitate communication with communities regarding timber offerings and requirements.
- * Utilize Construction Liaisons to coordinate ongoing communication between Project Management Team and Community Leadership and other duties such as: setting up job fairs, creating social media page, helping to identify camp and laydown lands and acting as a communication link between Valard, Chief and Council.

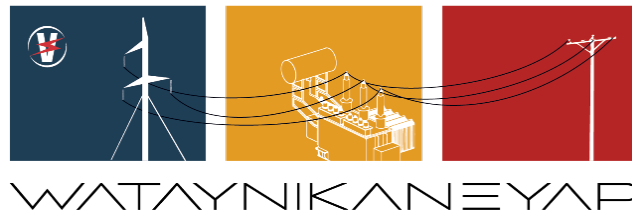
Valard Indigenous Relations Team Introduction:

The Valard Indigenous Relations Team consists of the following members for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project and can be contacted at Watay-IndigenousRelations@valard.com:

- * **Marc Ouimet** - Director Indigenous Relations
- * **Darrell Wawia** - Indigenous Relations Manager
- * **Terrance Bob** - Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * **Maureen Budzinski** - Manager Indigenous Training & Apprenticeship
- * **Randal Courchene** - Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison

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Health and Safety

- * **Valard is following the most up to date medical advice provided by federal and provincial government in its own measures to help limit the spread of Covid-19.**
- * Ongoing Covid-19 screening program, camp inspections, program audits and response drills
- * Hazard analysis and control planning every day
- * Development, implementation and monitoring of safe work procedures including preparation for upcoming helicopter work activities
- * Project onboarding, orientation and training/development of workers
- * Emergency preparedness and planning, mock emergency drills completed
- * Joint Health and Safety Committee Involvement
- * Promotion of project's Alcohol & Drug policy, Maintenance Support Security Program and Employee Assistance Program
- * Security Protocols implementation and monitoring
- * Fall Protection and Rescue Planning for tower climbing Best Practices
- * Subcontractor safety support, onboarding, compliance observations, and audits



Employment Opportunities

- * Valard Construction invites members of the Participating First Nations to apply for the following positions:

Administrative Assistant

Assemblers

Class A Driver

Community Support Partner

Drafting Technician

Emergency Medical Responder

Environmental Monitor

Excavator Operator

Foundations Labourer

Fuel Truck Driver

General Foreperson/Construction Supervisor

Heavy Duty Technician

Journeyman Automotive Service Technician

Prep/Ground Work Subforeperson

Primary Care Paramedic

Project Field QC

Project Safety Admin

Please forward resumes to: watay-resumes@valard.com and projectjobs@oslp.ca

For more updates please visit the Valard project website (www.valard-watay.com) or:

<https://www.facebook.com/watayproject>

<https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP>

<https://www.facebook.com/Wataynikaneyap-Power>

<https://www.oslp.ca>—Please visit OSLP's site for a full list of available positions

Or call: 807-345-2395

If you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact Wataynikaneyap Power at WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca.