

March 2021, Issue #13

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 March 15, 2021

Period: March 1, 2021 to May 31, 2021

Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 3 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
	<p>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junction Camp (near Berens River) camp completed • Sandy Lake and Poplar Hills camps mobilized
	<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

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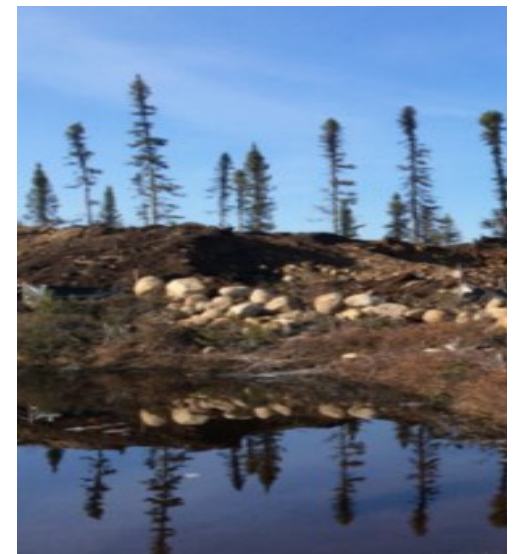
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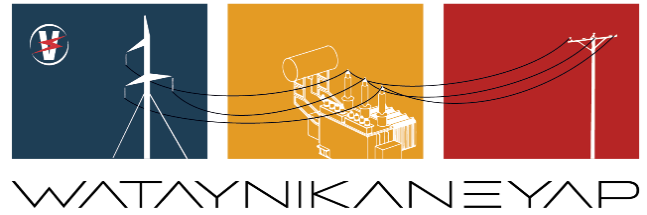
English Version

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 Liaisons hired for Keewaywin and Sandy Lake 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 • Development of spring 2021 Archaeology scope of work • Environmental Incident reporting and associated cleanup • 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">• Materials management in northern community laydowns• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Poplar Hill, Deer Lake, Sandy Lake, North Spirit Lake, and Keewaywin
	Substation Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregate production• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Poplar Hill* 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:

- * Learn more about community expectations and interests; as well as identify training, employment, procurement and business opportunities.
- * Engage with Indigenous Relations and Group Project Management to work with Community and Working groups to identify camp locations and services available to support work camps.
- * Facilitate and coordinate Indigenous participations in community businesses, equipment, services, work force, and existing or potential joint ventures.
- * Providing notification of restart of engagement activities, which had been on hold due to limitations with COVID-19 safety measures.
- * Participate in the review community-specific protocols such as COVID-19 and Travel protocols with Participating First Nations and sign off on alignment between Valard and the Community.
- * Work with the Communities for open lines of communication for COVID-19 updates with regards to travel and quarantine directives.
- * Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as Caribou sightings to communities near the encounter.
- * Provide the Chief and Council of any additional temporary work packages with Territorial area maps included: Permit to Take Water, Helicopter Pads and any additional camp locations if required.
- * Hire Indigenous Relations Advisors (Hired 1 in the month of March for Group 3)
 - ◇ Sandy Lake First Nation—Bart Meekis
- * Utilizing the Construction Liaisons to help coordinate ongoing communication between Project Management and Community Leadership and other duties such as: setting up job fairs, social media upkeep, coordinating employment and business opportunities and acting as a direct link to the Chief and/or Council of various communities.

Valard Group 3 Construction Liaisons:

- ◇ Pikangikum First Nation—Tracy Black
- ◇ North Spirit Lake First Nation—Donald Campbell
- ◇ McDowell Lake First Nation—Charles Lawson
- ◇ Sandy Lake First Nation—Robert Keith Linklater
- ◇ Keewaywin First Nation—Applicant in interview process
- ◇ Communities in Group 3 with vacation Construction Liaison positions—Deer Lake First Nation and Poplar Hill First Nation.

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 Assistant

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 OSLPs 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.