



WATAYNIKANEPAP

# Monthly Project Newsletter

Provided by Valard



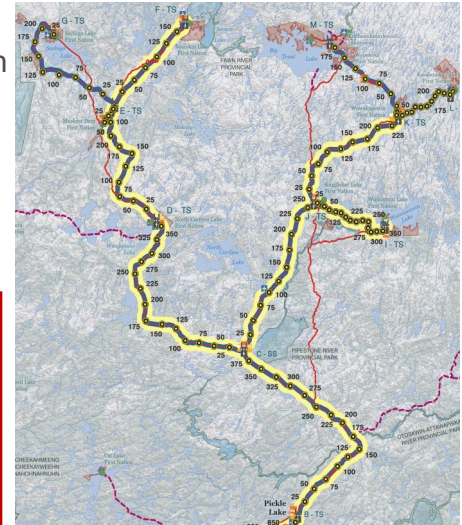
June 2021, Issue #15

English Version



Valard Construction, was selected by Wataynikanepap Power to provide engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) solutions for the Wataynikanepap 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 June 15, 2021

Period: June 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021

Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

### Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Worker camp site material.</p>	<p><b>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pickle Lake operational as of February 18, 2020</li> <li>North Caribou Lake Camp operational</li> <li>King Fisher Camp operational</li> <li>Muskrat Dam complete</li> <li>Bearskin Lake under construction</li> </ul>
 <p>Work site.</p>	<p><b>Survey</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)</li> <li>Flagging Right-of-Way (ROW) clearing limits</li> <li>Measure existing powerline heights</li> <li>Locate existing underground utilities</li> <li>Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone</li> <li>* Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation</li> <li>* Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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## Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Trees from clearing process</p>	<p><b>Clearing and Access</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing and Access development                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Falling, raking and piling of trees</li> <li>* Installing/removing watercourse crossings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Work area                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation, and Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>Helicopter during tower erection.</p>	<p><b>Construction</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes</li> <li>• Tower foundation installation                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Excavating, Rock drilling</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW</li> <li>• Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter</li> <li>• Installing grounding rods and wires that equipment will connect to</li> <li>• Stringing activities have commenced in Pickle Lake</li> <li>• Work area                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation, &amp; Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>Watercourse.</p>	<p><b>Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In advance of and during construction activities, watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focusing on erosion, sediment control and spill responses</li> <li>• Environmental monitoring of foundation, assembly, erection and stringing crews</li> <li>• Development of summer 2021 Archaeology scope of work</li> <li>• Conducting bird nest sweeps ahead of clearing activities (The area is checked for bird nests. If found, area will be flagged and monitored until the nest is no longer in use)</li> <li>• Completion of Caribou Survey Plots by Giiwedini Environmental Services</li> <li>• Completion of Archaeology Stage 2 Assessments for new access plan</li> <li>• Environmental incident reporting and associated cleanup</li> <li>• Work area                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation &amp; Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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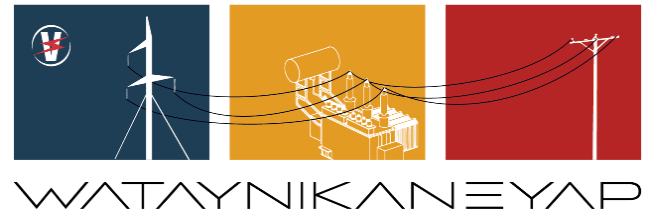
## Group 2 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Cleared work area.</p>	<b>Substation Survey/Clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area</li><li>• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* D (North Caribou Lake First Nation)</li><li>* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</li><li>* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Construction status of a substation.</p>	<b>Substation Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Civil and foundation construction</li><li>• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* D (North Caribou Lake First Nation)</li><li>* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</li><li>* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>A substation.</p>	<b>Substation Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural and Electrical Construction</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* C (Ebane/Pipestone)</li><li>* D (North Caribou Lake First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>

**For more activity details visit the website at [www.valard-watay.com](http://www.valard-watay.com), or if you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact Wataynikaneyap Power at [WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca).**

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**BOOTS ON THE GROUND**—Locally hired crew members tell us what working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project means to them!

*MY WORK WILL AFFECT GENERATIONS TO COME, LONG AFTER I'M GONE*

**Adam Peters**, Pikangikum First Nation



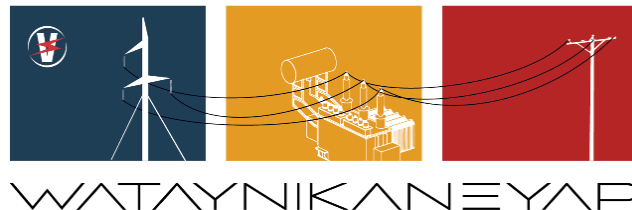
My father always used to tell me 'Go to school my son, get an education, so you can make a difference for your people.' His words still resonate with me as strongly in my adulthood, as they did in my adolescence. I have now been employed with Valard for 10 months, and my father's words have never had more significance than they have in the last ten months.

**Working for Valard has been a remarkable experience as it has taught me many things about my character – perseverance, endurance, resilience,** just to name a few. It has also brought me much reward and satisfaction. I know that, by tapping into my full potential, I will not only contribute to the growth and prosperity of First Nations people, but to society as a whole.

Connecting our neighbouring communities to the grid not only brings me satisfaction, as I see each tower I helped assemble erected, but it brings me purpose. My work will affect generations to come, long after I'm gone. Valard has brought such a wonderful opportunity and I am grateful to be a part of this project.

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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
- \* 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 Homeland area maps included: Permit to Take Water, Helicopter Pads and any additional camp locations if required
- \* 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

## Indigenous Relations Advisor for Group 2:

- ◇ Wapekeka First Nation—Zac Tait

## Valard Group 2 Construction Liaisons:

- ◇ North Caribou Lake First Nation—Harry Kenequanash
- ◇ Sachigo Lake First Nation—Richard Mekanak
- ◇ Bearskin Lake First Nation—Natalie Kamenawatamin
- ◇ Kasabonika Lake First Nation—Christopher Anderson
- ◇ Valard is currently recruiting for the Construction Liaison position in: Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Wawakapewin First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Wapekeka First Nation and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug

## Valard Indigenous Relations Team:

The Valard Indigenous Relations Team consists of the following members for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project and can be contacted at: [IndigenousRelations@valard.com](mailto:IndigenousRelations@valard.com):

- \* **Blaine Collett**—Sr. Director Indigenous Relations
- \* **Terrance Bob**—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- \* **Randal Courchene**—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- \* **Sherice Paizen**—Indigenous Relations Project Assistant

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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
- \* Valard COVID-19 Vaccination program for eligible employees



## 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](mailto:watay-resumes@valard.com) and [projectjobs@oslp.ca](mailto:projectjobs@oslp.ca)**

**For more updates please visit the Valard project website ([www.valard-watay.com](http://www.valard-watay.com)) or:**

**Call: 807-345-2395**

<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

**If you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact  
Wataynikaneyap Power at [WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca).**