

October 2021, Issue #19

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 kilometres 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 owner communities.



**Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities**  
**Proposed schedule as of October 15, 2021**  
**Period: October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021**  
**Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.**

## Group 1 – Transmission Lines

### Activity

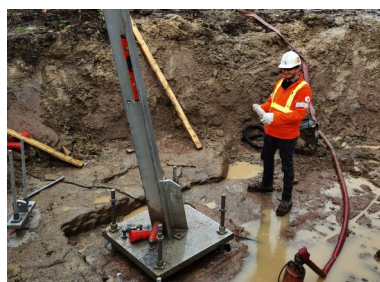
### Detail



Randal Courchene (Valard) and Fran Machimity (Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Tournament Director)

### Camp Operation

- Sioux Lookout operational as of June 1, 2020. Set to close Dec. 2021.
- Slate Falls Nation Camp Closing Ceremony on November 22nd, 2021.
- Pickle Lake operational as of February 18, 2020
- Cat Lake Camp to be open January 2022



Surveyor checking Foundation

### Survey

- Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)
- Flagging Right-of-Way (ROW) clearing limits
- Measure existing powerline heights
- Staking, as-building and support of construction activities
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

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## Group 1 – Transmission Lines

### Activity

### Detail



Cleared Right of Way

### Clearing and Access

- Clearing and Access development
  - \* Access matting and trail building
  - \* Installing/removing watercourse crossings
  - \* Restoration of lands after completed construction activities
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake



Foundation Preparation North G1

### Construction

- Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes
- Tower foundation/anchor installation
  - \* Excavating, rock drilling
  - \* Micropile, drilled pipe, pile, helical pile
- Assembly of steel towers, assembly yards and ROW (Right-of-Way)
- Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter
- Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire
- Installing grounding rods and wires
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake



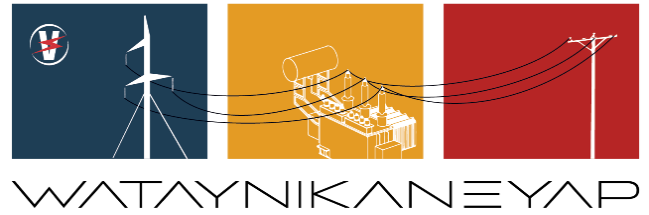
Lake view North G1

### Environment

- Watercourses and environmental sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focused on erosion, sediment control and spill responses
- Environmental monitoring of foundation, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure commitments in environmental assessments are being followed
- First Nations Environmental Monitors have worked with the Project Manager and conducted several site visits
- Spill response and cleanup as needed
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

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## Group 1 – Substations

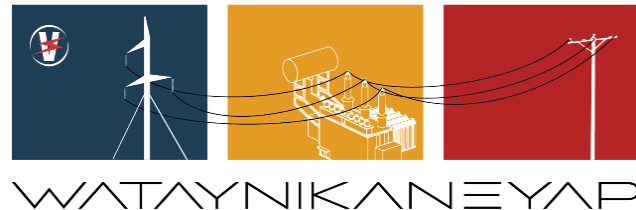
Activity		Detail
 <p>Construction status of Substation A</p>	<b>Substation Survey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* A (Dinorwic)</li><li>* B (Pickle Lake)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Construction status of Substation B</p>	<b>Substation Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Civil and foundation construction</li><li>• Ground Grid</li><li>• Steel erection</li><li>• Electrical Equipment Install</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* A (Dinorwic)</li><li>* B (Pickle Lake)</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!

*IT'S FUN, LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE*

**Marissa Moose**, Poplar Hill



I'm Marissa Moose, my reserve is Poplar Hill.

My most memorable moment working with the Watay Project is that I get to work and experience new things. I hope one day I'll make my way to my reserve, Poplar Hill, to work. Also, meeting people from different reserves. It's fun, laughter is the best medicine.

I would encourage all women to apply and it's nice to be out in the field learning new things and that we are capable of doing things too.

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## Valard is engaging with Participating First Nations to:

- \* Work with community and working groups for open lines of communication for COVID-19 updates with regards to travel and Community access directives
- \* Work with community and working groups to identify camp locations and services available to support work camps
- \* Facilitate and coordinate opportunities for employment and procurement of goods and services with communities and working groups
- \* Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as caribou sightings to communities near the encounter
- \* Provide notification of Caribou Permanent Survey Plots within the Communities
- \* Provide the Chief and Council with any additional work packages and maps in their Homeland area, includes: Permit to Take Water, Helicopter Pads and any additional camp locations if required
- \* Provided Power Mobile Equipment (PME) training for employees



Project employees during a work presentation



A piece of heavy machinery used on the project

## 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
- \* **Blaine Paul**—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- \* **Amber McGrandle**—Indigenous Relations

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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, response drills and Valard Covid-19 Vaccination program for eligible employees
- \* Hazard analysis and control planning every day
- \* Development, implementation and monitoring of safe work procedures
- \* Project onboarding, orientation and training/development of workers and subcontractors
- \* 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



## Employment Opportunities

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

### Administrative Assistant

Assemblers

Burn Crews

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/careers>—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).**