

**Provided by Valard** 



#### December 2021, Issue #21

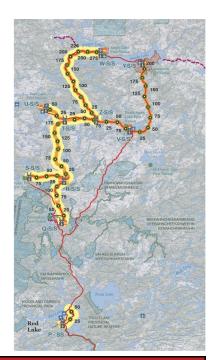
**English Version** 



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 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 December 15, 2021 Period: December 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022 Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.



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Group	Transmi	CCION	Inac
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Group 3 – Transmission Lines						
Activity	Detail					
Knox Camp	Camp Mobilization and/or Installation	<ul> <li>Junction operational as of January 2021</li> <li>Knox Lake camp open January 2021</li> <li>North Spirit Lake Camp &amp; Deer Lake Camp open mid October 2021 to support Substations</li> <li>Poplar Hill camp open January 2022</li> <li>Sandy Lake camp open December 2022</li> </ul>				
Survey worker	Survey	<ul> <li>Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)</li> <li>Measure existing transmission line heights</li> <li>Locate existing underground utilities</li> <li>Work area         <ul> <li>Red Lake, Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North to Sandy Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

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Group 3 - Transmission Lines					
Activity	Detail				
Cleared Right of Way near Knox	Clearing and Access	<ul> <li>Clearing and Access development</li> <li>* Falling, raking, and piling of trees</li> <li>* Burning of brush piles</li> </ul>			
PQ Section Conventional Crane Erection	Construction	<ul> <li>Tower foundation and anchor installation         <ul> <li>Excavating</li> <li>Rock drilling</li> </ul> </li> <li>Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on Right-of-Way (ROW)</li> <li>Work area         <ul> <li>Knox Lake</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
Lake near Knox	Environment	<ul> <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 Incident reporting and associated cleanup (site &amp; camp inspections and spills)</li> <li>Conducting acoustic and visual monitoring at bat hibernation shelters during any construction activities within the area of concern associated with the 3 known hibernation places on the project</li> <li>Work area</li> <li>Red Lake, Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North to Sandy Lake First Nation</li> </ul>			

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Group 3 - Substations					
Activity	Detail				
Construction status of Substation U (Deer Lake First Nation)	Substation Survey/ Clearing	<ul> <li>Setting control points to start surveying</li> <li>Substations Work Area:         <ul> <li>Red Lake (P), Poplar Hill (R), Deer Lake (T), Sandy Lake (Z) and North Spirit Lake (V)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
Construction status of Substation Z (Sandy laske First Nation)	Substation Construction	<ul> <li>Steel erection</li> <li>Substations Work Area:         <ul> <li>Red Lake (P), Pikangikum (Q),</li> <li>Deer Lake (T) and Sandy Lake (Z)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

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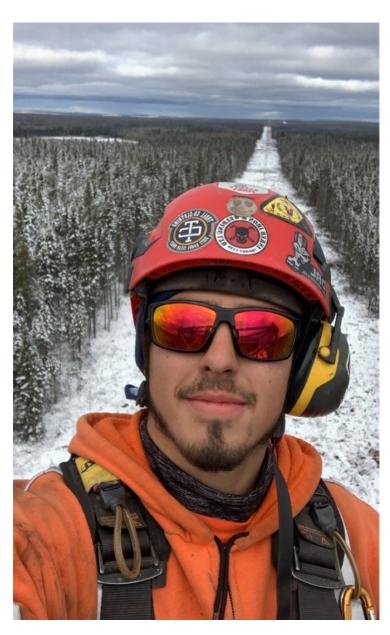
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**BOOTS ON THE GROUND—**Locally hired crew members tell us what working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project means to them!

#### THE WATAY PROJECT HAS BEEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO GET INTO A CAREER.

Camron Caouette, Lac des Milles Lacs First Nation



I started my career with Valard assembling towers in July 2020. In February 2021 I was moved up to an erection crew where we erect and climb self support towers with the assistance of a crane. We also catch and place tangent towers and wings that are flown in by helicopter. Since moving from assembly to erection I have been accepted into an apprenticeship with Valard.

My goals with Valard at this point are to complete Touch and Go Training with the helicopter. This is when you learn to work directly off the side of the helicopter while it is in the air. I want to accumulate enough working hours to pursue the schooling to become a Journeyman Lineman and complete my apprenticeship.

The Watay project has been an opportunity for me to get into a career I wouldn't have considered until I started working for Valard. I like the excitement of working with helicopters and working at heights; It's a rush and it's not something just anyone can do.

The people I work with are awesome. Everyone on the crew helps each other to improve and I have learned a lot from the people I work around. It makes long shifts easy when you work with people you get along with.

I feel good about this project because it opens up job opportunities for so many local people in the surrounding communities. I look forward to working on the Watay project until it is complete.

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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 communities 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 field work associated with monitoring caribou permanent survey plots throughout the project area
- 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

On December 12th, 2021 Valard donated 10 boxes of new pillows to Sandy Lake First Nation. Our construction Liaison delivered 6 boxes to the Ontario Works office and 4 boxes to the community Homecare Program.

On December 22nd, 2021 Valard donated three tow-behind generations (lighting plants) from our Sandy Lake Camp to Sandy Lake First Nation to use at their isolation unit during the community isolation period.



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: <a href="mailto:IndigenousRelations@valard.com">IndigenousRelations@valard.com</a>:

- \* 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

Journeyperson 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:

**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 OSLP's 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.