



WATAYNIKANNEYAP

# Monthly Project Newsletter

Provided by Valard



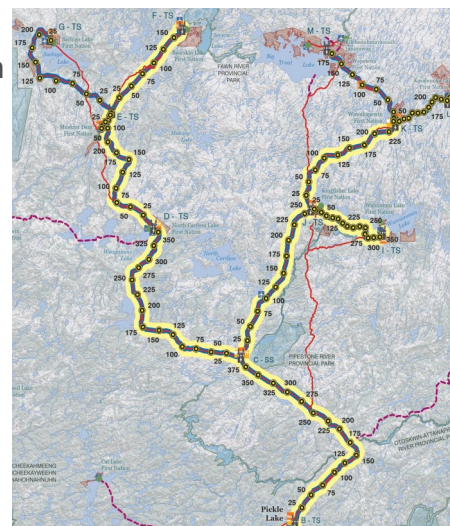
February 2022, Issue #23

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 February 15, 2022**  
**Period: February 1, 2022 to April 30, 2022**  
**Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.**

## Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 Materials to construct camps being moved by heavy machinery	<b>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pickle Lake, North Caribou Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Muskrat Dam, Kasabonika, Wunnumin Lake, Bearskin Lake and Wawakapewin/Long Dog camps all operational</li> </ul>
 Heavy machinery for geotechnical investigations	<b>Survey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 Survey crews working in Winter 2022</li> <li>1600 Structures staked</li> <li>6000+ Foundations and Anchors as-built</li> <li>7000+ guy wire (tower wires anchored to the ground to provide stability) calculations</li> <li>Work area               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pipestone, Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Wawakapewin Lake First Nation, Kasabonika Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Bearskin Dam First Nation &amp; Sachigo Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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## Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Pipestone</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</li> <li>• Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW (Right-of-Way)</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 of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire</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, Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation &amp; Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>Pipestone River</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>• Environmental incident reporting and associated cleanup</li> <li>• Caribou Plot Surveys conducted with Giiwedini Environmental</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

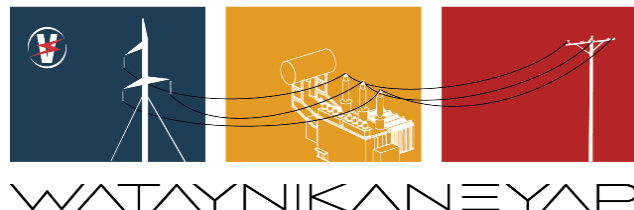
Activity		Detail
 <p>Cleared work area</p>	<b>Substation Survey/Clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area</li><li>• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* K (Wawakapewin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* L (Kasabonika First Nation)</li><li>* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Construction status of substation J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</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>* K (Wawakapewin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* L (Kasabonika First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Substation E Transformer Delivery (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</p>	<b>Substation Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transformer, Variable Reactor and Control Building Delivery</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</li><li>* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* J (Kingfisher 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!

## *SAFETY IS A TOP PRIORITY*

**Desmond Munn**, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation



What does the power line mean to me?

Helping to get the Northern Community on a reliable power grid and update the internet. Working for Valard has been a wonderful experience, right from head office to field staff.

Everyone will answer any questions you have and explain the different procedures.

I have worked in the oil field for 17 years and the safety here is above and beyond.

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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

Valard lent the community of North Caribou Lake First Nation a light-tower for their security checkpoint and are repairing a second to be delivered.



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 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](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca).**