

January 2023, Issue #34

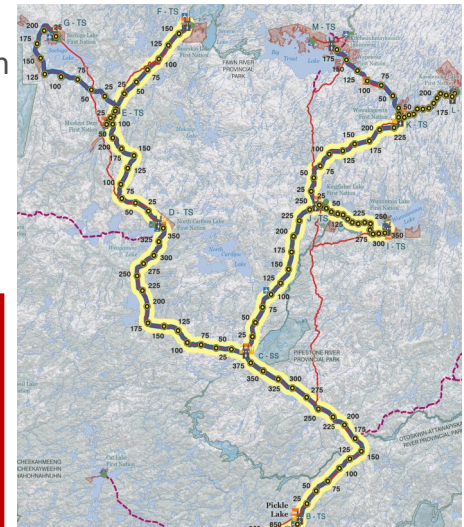
English Version



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.

* Yellow outline indicates work areas.



Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of January 15, 2023
Period: January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Materials to construct camps being moved by heavy machinery</p>	<p>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Lake, Pipestone, North Caribou Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Muskrat Dam, Kasabonika Lake, Wunnumin Lake camps all operational
 <p>Heavy machinery for geotechnical investigations</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure existing transmission line heights Locate existing underground utilities Set survey control points (starting activity of all survey operations) Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Pipestone, Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Wawakapewin First Nation, Kasabonika Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Bearskin Lake First Nation & Sachigo Lake First Nation

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Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Pipestone</p>	<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 * Installing/removing watercourse crossings • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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
 <p>Helicopter during tower erection</p>	<p>Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes • Tower foundation installation ongoing in unenergized segments • Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW (Right-of-Way) • Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter • Installing grounding rods and wires that equipment will connect to • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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 & Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation • Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire between towers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Work Area: North Caribou First Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation & Kingfisher First Lake Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation
 <p>Pipestone River</p>	<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 • Environmental monitoring of foundation, access, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure Project and Regulatory commitments are being followed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Two Participating First Nation Environmental hires, and two subcontractors completed the Environmental Monitoring Training • Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup as needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * EIN 444 was a spill of approximately 150L of Jet A Fuel at North Caribou Yard. Additional excavation and sampling were completed in January 2023. Stockpile of material was hauled to an approved facility in Thunder Bay. Further excavation and sampling will be completed in February 2023. Ontario Spill Action Center Reference #1-2AR91Z • Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program with Giiwedini Environmental was conducted between January 11th and January 19th and will be conducted monthly through March 2023 • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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 & Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation

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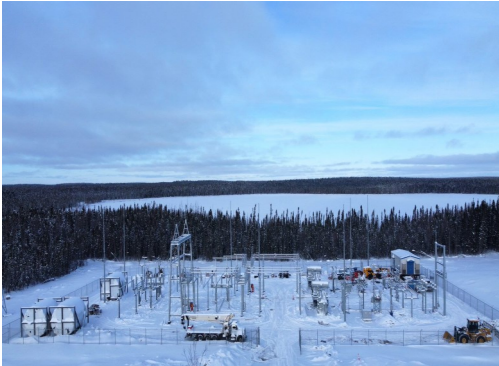


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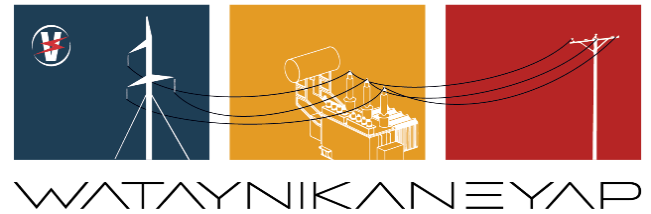
Group 2 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Substation F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</p>	Substation Civil Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civil and foundation construction• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation)* K (Wawakapewin First Nation)* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation)
 <p>Substation E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</p>	Substation Structural and Electrical Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structural and Electrical construction• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)* K (Wawakapewin First Nation)* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)
 <p>Commissioning of Substation E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</p>	Substation Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioning• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)* F (Bearskin Lake)

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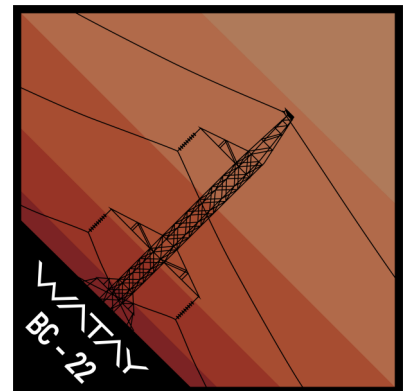
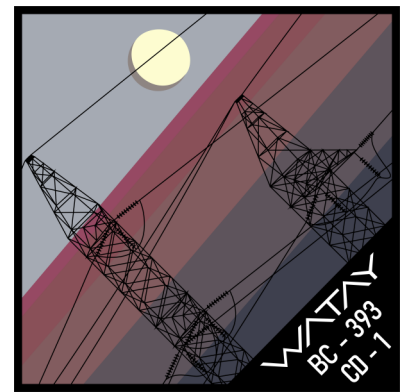
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BOOTS ON THE GROUND—Locally hired crew members tell us what working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project means to them!

I USE MY CAMERA TO SHARE OUR PROJECT WE WORK ON

Sage Mamakeesick, Lac Seul First Nation



Sage in front of a piece of machinery on the Wataynikaneyap Project along with two stickers he designed for the project.

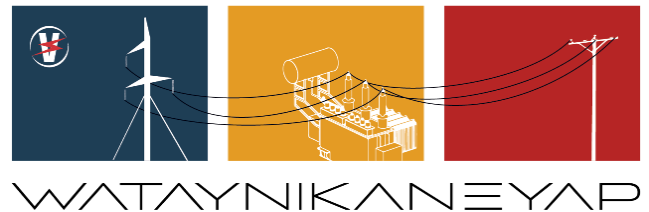
My name is Sage Mamakeesick. I am from Lac Seul First Nation. I have been on the Watay project for two years now, currently on my third winter.

More recently I have been taking up photography and sharing what I see on a daily basis and sharing what others outside see within. High school exposed me to photography, videography and media. Finding ways to convey information through these methods, I use my camera to share our project we work on.

Photos are usually taken when it presents itself, a sunset, tower angles, helicopters lifting material. I rarely have to go out and get a specific photo. More recently I've started to create designs for stickers, printed and sharing them with coworkers and friends.

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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, Including: 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:

- * **Blaine Collett**—Sr. Director Indigenous Relations
- * **Terrance Bob**—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * **Randal Courchene**—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.

Construction Liaison—Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig

Construction Liaison—Kingfisher Lake

Construction Liaison—Muskrat Dam

Labourers

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.**