

June 2023, Issue #39

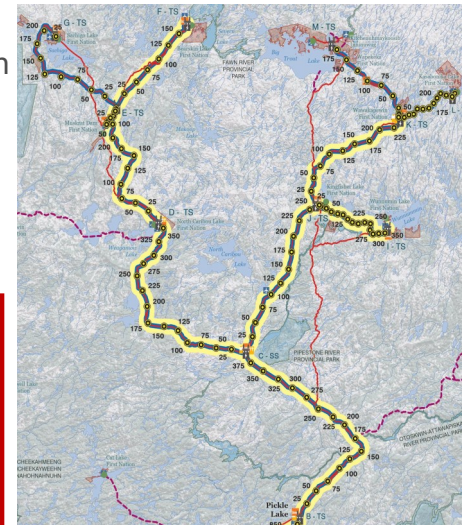
English Version



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 June 15, 2023
Period: June 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 Materials to construct camps being moved by heavy machinery	Camp Mobilization and/or Installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Lake, Pipestone, North Caribou Lake, Muskrat Dam, Sachigo Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Wunnumin Lake, Wapekeka and Wawakapewin camps all operational.
 Survey equipment along the KM line	Survey	<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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English Version

Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Sachigo Lake First Nation.</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 pulling rope near North Caribou Lake on the CD line</p>	<p>Construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes. • 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 be connected 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 access, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure Project and Regulatory commitments are being followed. • Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup as needed. • Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot Program with Giiwedini Environmental was conducted between May 31st and June 1st for the ground program and June 19th to June 22nd for the Heli program. • 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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Group 2 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Transformer Station G (Sachigo 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).* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation).* K (Wawakapewin First Nation).* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation).
 <p>Transformer Station G (Sachigo Lake 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).* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation).* K (Wawakapewin First Nation).* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation).* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation).* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation).
 <p>Substation K (Wawakapewin 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 First Nation).* K (Wawakapewin First Nation).* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation).

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.

BOOTS ON THE GROUND - PROJECT ONBOARDING



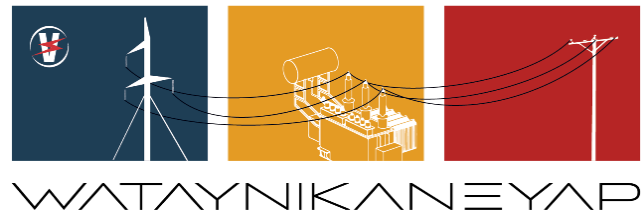
Left to right: Nikita Suggashie, Lovina Quill, Calum Suggashie, Nathaniel Quill, Brentyn Moose, Reno Turtle and Ian Quill

On June 10, 2023, members of Valard's Indigenous Relations and Human Resources team assisted with the onboarding of seven new assemblers from Pikangikum First Nation (Whitefeather Forest initiative).

The Valard team met with the chief and a council member, attended a community tour and answered questions and inquiries regarding the onboarding process. The new assemblers went through the onboarding process, filled out paperwork and were seen off by parents, grandparents and other family members as they travelled from their community to begin work on the Wataynikanneyap Power Transmission Project.

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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
- * Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as caribou sightings to communities near the encounter



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
- * **Amber McGrandle**—Indigenous Relations Coordinator

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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.**
- * Continuing to monitor and comply with individual Community Covid-19 protocols, as applicable.
- * 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

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.**