



ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS  
TECHNICAL SERVICES  
CORPORATION

JANUARY-MARCH 2019

# Newsletter

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- OFNTSC's First Nations Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit and Pilot Project Wins Award
- Naotkamegwaning (Whitefish Bay) Water Treatment Plant Upgrade
- First Nations Water Systems Update
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## OFNTSC's First Nations Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit and Pilot Project Wins Award

Stantec Consulting Ltd., in partnership with OFNTSC has been awarded a 2019 Ontario Consulting Engineering Award for the First Nations Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit and Pilot Projects. The Ontario Consulting Engineering Awards recognize consulting engineering firms and their projects in terms of high quality, innovation and technical excellence.

Extreme weather continues to cause disruptions and damage to the infrastructure that First Nations require to provide essential services to their communities. In consideration of future climate uncertainty, the OFNTSC and Stantec developed a toolkit to help First Nations identify and develop mitigation measures for climate risks to their infrastructure. The toolkit provides guidance on how to incorporate these risks into asset management practices to better plan maintenance, repairs, and replacement of assets.

First Nations Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit  
Supporting Communities Integrate Climate Change Risks in Asset Management Practices



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## Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay) Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay)'s water treatment plant was based around a 1986, outdated Ecodyne treatment process which no longer met regulations. The plant upgrades were designed by JR Cousins in 2011, however the project was shelved due to funding restrictions. The First Nation succeeded in obtaining partial funding through the Ministry of Infrastructure's Small Community Fund in 2016. OFNTSC was part of the project team which succeeded in updating the plant design and securing the remaining funding to support the \$4 million project from Indigenous Services Canada. Penn-Co was retained as the contractor, and the design is based around Suez membranes.

The OFNTSC has been providing operator support through the later stages of construction and will be providing support into commissioning. The plant upgrades are scheduled to be commissioned in May, and the entire project team is excited to have the upgrades completed to have a safe and secure drinking water supply provided to the people of Naotkamegwanning.

## First Nations Water Systems Update

Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay's) water plant's upgrades are under currently under construction and with a target commissioning date of May of this year.

Northwest Angle #33 received an approval letter from Indigenous Services Canada for the Angle Inlet Water System project for the Design and Construction Phases of their water system.

Animakee Wa Zhing #37 Regina Bay and Windigo Island Water Treatment Systems Project ARK48 has been approved by Indigenous Services Canada for the Design and Construction phases of their water systems.

Feasibility Studies are approved for funding and/or underway in Wahta Mohawks, Lac La Croix, Brunswick House, Nipissing, Naotkamegwanning, and Moose Cree.

Design for a new water treatment plant at Kiashe Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay) is underway.



### ROB OLIVIER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The passing of our friend and colleague Rob Olivier was sudden and unexpected. In honour of Rob's memory, the OFNTSC has created a memorial scholarship to support his wish of supporting First Nations students in post-secondary education. It was Rob's wish that in lieu of a public funeral individuals make donations to the OFNTSC to support this worthy cause. All wishing to donate to this scholarship fund can make donations to the OFNTSC via e-transfer at [finance@ofntsc.org](mailto:finance@ofntsc.org) or by cheque at: OFNTSC, 111 Peter St., Suite 606 Toronto, ON M5V 2H1.

## Ontario Government Announces Rural and Northern Communities Funding stream for Infrastructure

The Ontario Government announced at the end of March that it will be investing in Canada Infrastructure Program: Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream. The stream is intended to assist rural and northern communities that improve the quality of life for residents by responding to infrastructure priorities. Approximately \$250 million is available for projects that meet the eligibility criteria. First Nations in the Province of Ontario are eligible to apply to the stream for: road assets, bridge assets, air infrastructure assets, and marine infrastructure assets. For more information on this funding stream, and project eligibility please visit: [grants.gov.on.ca](http://grants.gov.on.ca)



## OFNTSC Annual Conference (Technations 2019)

The planning for our Annual Conference is well underway and we will be releasing information on how to register in the next few weeks. The OFNTSC will be covering these delegates to attend:

- One delegate for each Tribal Council in Ontario
- One delegate for each unaffiliated First Nation in Ontario (18 in total, please see OFNTSC website under nations for listing)
- One delegate for each Large First Nation in Ontario

Sponsored delegates will be covered for transportation, accommodations, and meals during their stay at the Blue Mountains. Please go to [www.ofntsc.org](http://www.ofntsc.org) for more details on this event.

### SAVE THE DATE

**TECHNATIONS 2019**  
**OFNTSC ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
 AUGUST 26 - AUGUST 28



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## OFNTSC Golf Fundraiser

The OFNTSC will be holding its golf fundraising tournament on Aug. 26/2019 at 1:00 pm at the Monterra Golf Course. The course is adjacent to the Blue Mountains resort and is within walking distance of accommodations of the Technations conference. Cost to register for the golf tournaments is \$150 for an individual, or \$600 for a team.

All proceeds raised from the event go directly towards the OFNTSC Student Achievement Awards, Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award and the new Rob Olivier Memorial Scholarship. Join us for an afternoon of golf while supporting this worthy cause!

### TRAINING ACTIVITIES:

#### 2019 FN PIEVC/Asset Management Workshops

- Sudbury, ON: May 28 - 30, 2019
- Ste. Marie, ON: June 17 - 19, 2019
- Kenora, ON: July 9 - 11, 2019

#### Community Energy Development & Implementation Workshops

- Thunder Bay, ON: June 10 - 12, 2019
- Rama, ON: August 12 - 14, 2019 (Dates are in discussion)



### UPCOMING OFNTSC EVENTS:

- TechNations Conference Aug. 26-28, 2019 Blue Mountain Resort, Collingwood, ON
- All Tribal Council Meeting – October 1-3, 2019 Casino Rama (TBC)