



OFNTSC Monthly Newsletter

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**On Friday, November 15, OFNTSC staff Rocked their Mocs
in solidarity with First Nations around the world!**





Upcoming Training Opportunities:

Managing Drinking Water Systems in First Nations Communities

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Orillia, ON - Days Inn

[Learn more/Register](#)

FN PIEVC Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit Training - Timmins!

December 10 - 12, 2019

Timmins, ON

[Register Here!](#)

FN PIEVC Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit Training - Thunder Bay!

January 21 - 23, 2020

Thunder Bay, ON

[Register Here!](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

GREEN STREAM FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) - Green Stream

This intake will provide up to \$200 million in combined federal and provincial funding and will focus on projects that rehabilitate or replace water, wastewater or stormwater infrastructure assets to improve critical health and safety issues in small communities.

To target funding where it is needed the most, Municipalities and First Nations communities with populations under 100,000 along with Local Services Boards, Conservation Authorities and other not-for-profit entities who own eligible infrastructure assets are eligible to apply for project funding up to a maximum of \$3 million in total eligible costs.

For more information contact ICIPGreen@ontario.ca.

Field Groundwater Training Update

On November 5-7, 2019, OFNTSC's Environmental Team organized a training on Field Groundwater Purging, Monitoring and Sampling, in Kenora. The 20 participants were Tribal Council solid waste coordinators and staff members from Indigenous Services Canada and OFNTSC.

In-class sessions taught participants about techniques, tools, and methods to collect samples of groundwater. Participants also learned about data collection for a cost-effective project using QA/QC and regulations and requirements recommended by Environmental international organizations in Canada.

The overall objective of the training was to train First Nations solid waste coordinators and field staff to design and successfully implement groundwater monitoring programs at landfills. This would result in detecting unacceptable groundwater contamination resulting from landfill operations.





OFNTSC Presentation at IESO First Nations Energy Symposium

OFNTSC's Sr. Operation & Maintenance Advisor, Elmer Lickers and Environmental Scientist, Roopa Rakshit led sessions on asset management for existing energy-related infrastructure and community energy project management, respectively at the 3rd IESO First Nations Energy Symposium, 4 & 5 November 2019, Toronto.

The session on asset management discussed First Nations energy infrastructure and the importance of a multidisciplinary and holistic approach to improving energy efficiency by properly maintaining energy asset infrastructure. The session discussed the FN (PIEVC) Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit, developed by OFNTSC in partnership with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources, Stantec, RSI & Engineers Canada.



OFNTSC November 2019 Activities

November has been a busy month for OFNTSC. Our staff, directors and board members have been travelling to various events, conferences and meetings updating key stakeholders on our ongoing initiatives.

On November 6, Melanie Debassige and Tricia Hamilton gave a presentation on "First Nations and Small System Challenges" at the National Water and Waste Water Association Conference in Banff. (pictured bottom left)

Also on November 6, Board Vice-President Aaron Genereux updated the Anishinabek Nation on OFNTSC programs at their Fall Assembly (pictured top right).

Multiple OFNTSC staff, directors and board members also attended the Assembly of First Nations Water Symposium in Toronto from November 20-22. OFNTSC's CRTP Trainers facilitated three training sessions for water operators who participated at this event (pictured bottom right).



Congratulations to our Executive Director!



OFNTSC is excited to announce that our Executive Director, Melanie Debassige has been named one of Women's Executive Network 2019 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award Winner!

Congratulations Melanie and all of the strong and powerful women who are inspiring others and leading the way for this world!



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