



Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation



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Fire, Safety & Firefighting



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CRTP: Water



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CRTP: Water



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Ontario First Nations
Technical Services
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WATER TASK FORCE UPDATE

2018 FIRST NATIONS WATER SYMPOSIUM

*May 15, 2018
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO*

Glen Goodman, A/Engineering Manager, OFNTSC

Water Task Force

timeline of events

- 2002 Walkerton water crisis occurred.
- 2006 Action Plan for Drinking Water was implemented by INAC.
- 2008 First Nation Water & Wastewater Action Plan committed to by Canada.
- 2011 National Assessment of First Nation Water & Wastewater Systems Report completed by Neegan-Burnside.
- 2013 Bill S-8 proclaimed into force by the Government of Canada as the Safe Drinking Water Act for First Nations.

Technical Task Force

accountabilities

- In 2014 the Chiefs of Ontario strike a Technical Task Force who are tasked with developing ‘draft instructions for federal regulators’.
- Examine the various elements of water regulations under the Province of Ontario’s legislative and regulatory regime.
- Recommend where & how Ontario’s regulations might be adopted, modified or adapted by First Nations for their own use.
- Identify where Ontario’s approach would not be suitable for First Nations & a different approach will be needed.

Technical Task Force

9 elemental regulatory components

- Protecting Source Drinking Water
- Drinking Water Systems (location, construction, O&M, decommissioning)
- Distribution of Drinking Water & Collection of Wastewater by Truck
- Operator Training & Certification
- Treatment Standards
- Monitoring, Sampling & Testing
- Collecting, Recording & Reporting of Information
- Handling, Use & Disposal of Wastewater Treatment Products
- Emergency Measures in Response to the Contamination of Drinking Water

Summary of TTF Recommendations

adaptable (to existing legislation)

- Develop First Nation capacity to complete inspections & enforce compliance.
- Develop a process for monitoring & enforcement of the standards.
- Form a body to review W/WW infrastructure development standards & manage enforcement provisions.
- Develop a First Nation approved permit process for expansion to sewage works.
- Identify a First Nation training entity, transition the Grade 12 requirement & translate training materials & exams into indigenous languages.
- SDWFNA standards as a best practice.
- Investigate alternatives to laboratory testing in remote communities.
- Continuous monitoring equipment.
- Communication protocols & procedures and transition planning.
- Enhanced education/training per requirements.

Technical Task Force

conclusions

- Does not make any recommendation as to how the recommended components of a sound regulatory regime should be implemented by legislation.
- Does not endorse the implementation of drinking water regulations under the existing SDWFNA.
- Implementing & enforcing regulations cannot be the first step in building safe and sustainable drinking water infrastructure.

Water Task Force

