



Ontario First Nations
Technical Services
Corporation



20th ANNUAL REPORT

1995-2015

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation is the founding organization in Canada whose purpose is to provide technical, and advisory services to all First Nations in Ontario; and to foster self-reliance for our people.

We will strive to achieve our mission through:

- Dedication to our roles and responsibilities as board members and staff
- Professional integrity
- Honest and fair advice in our relationships with each other and our First Nations, and
- Respect for all forms of life, the water and Mother Earth

CORPORATE PROFILE

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) was established in 1995 to provide expert technical advisory services to the First Nations, and tribal councils of Ontario. At that time, it was the first aboriginal organization in Canada mandated to provide professional technical and advisory services to First Nations’ communities and foster their technical self-reliance. The OFNTSC creates future capacity by encouraging youth to pursue careers in science and technology. The OFNTSC attends career fairs and encourages young people to enroll in science and technology related courses offering scholarships, often in partnership with the corporate sector.

SERVICES

Since its founding, the social, political and economic terrain in which OFNTSC operates has shifted dramatically. Changing demographics, competition from the private sector, the creation, replacement and maintenance of infrastructure, an enhanced recognition of unaddressed needs and reconfigured fiscal arrangements have created further challenges for OFNTSC as it endeavours to provide services in response to First Nation community needs.

Thus, while OFNTSC continues to respond to First Nation requests, services vary according to individual community needs, levels of individual capacity, technical proficiency, management expertise and availability of funding. Consequently, the corporation provides services in a wide variety of areas:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Communications | Emergency Planning |
| Engineering | Environment |
| Fire and Safety | Fuel Systems Management |
| Housing | Infrastructure |
| Operations and Maintenance | Water and Wastewater |

SCOPE OF RELATIONSHIPS

The OFNTSC client base consists of all 133 Ontario First Nations. It also includes 16 Tribal Councils, six large First Nations, and 18 unaffiliated First Nations. The OFNTSC maintains a collaborative partnership with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Health Canada, Environment Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada, Human Resources and Social Development Canada, NRCan and Ontario’s Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. Furthermore, the OFNTSC pursues strategic alliances with other First Nation organizations, provincial and municipal governments, professional associations and the private sector.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Fax: N/A

THUNDER BAY SERVICE CENTRE

200 South Syndicate Ave., Suite 206A
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1C9
Toll Free: 1888 892 8281
Tel: 807-623-9595
Fax: 807-623-2566

TORONTO SERVICE CENTRE

111 Peter Street, Suite 606
Toronto, ON M5V 2H1
Toll Free: 1-888-535-3383
Tel: 416-651-1443
Fax: 416-651-1673



The OFNTSC is a technical advisory service for Tribal Councils and Ontario First Nations. The OFNTSC provides a number of services in relation to the needs of communities. The services can be broken down into these service areas:

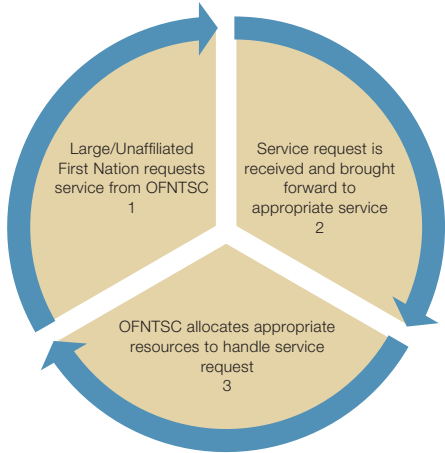
- Communications
- Emergency Planning
- Engineering
- Environment
- Fire and Safety
- Fuel Systems Management
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Operations and Maintenance
- Water and Wastewater

For a complete breakdown of services offered by individual service areas, please turn to the Annual Report page you are interested in learning more about.



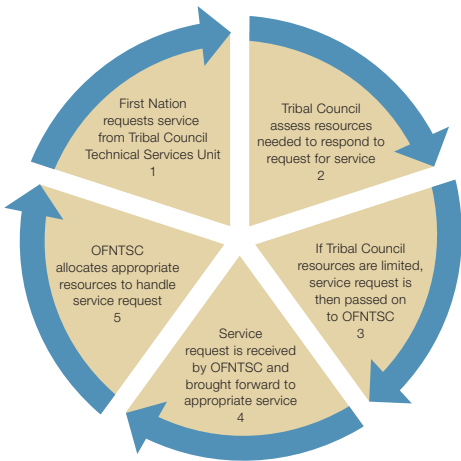
HOW TO REQUEST SERVICE FROM THE OFNTSC

There are two ways to request service from the OFNTSC:



UNAFFILIATED/LARGE FIRST NATION METHOD

You can call the OFNTSC at any time to request service from either service center (Thunder Bay or Toronto). This method is recommended for Unaffiliated and Large First Nations.



TRIBAL COUNCIL METHOD

If a First Nation is associated with a Tribal Council, a First Nation can make a direct request for service to the Tribal Council's technical services unit. The technical services unit will then request service from the OFNTSC.

If you require service from the OFNTSC at any time please call:

TORONTO: 416.651.1443 or 1.888.535.3383

THUNDER BAY: 807.623.9595 or 1.888.892.8281

ANISHINAABEG OF KABAPIKOTAWANGAG RESOURCE COUNCIL

Anishinaabeg of Naongashing
Wauzhushk Onigum
Big Grassy River
Northwest Angle #33
Northwest Angle #37
Ojibways of Onigaming

BIMOSE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Eagle Lake
Asubpeescheewagong Netum Anishinabek
Iskatewizaagegan # 39
Lac Des Mille Lacs
Shoal Lake # 40
Wabauskang
Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation
Obashkaandagaang
Ochiichagwe/Babigo'Ining
Wabaseemoong

MATAWA FIRST NATIONS MANAGEMENT INC.

Aroland
Constance Lake
Eabametoong
Ginoogaming
Long Lake#58
Marten Falls
Neskantaga
Nibinamik
Webequie
Home Payne

PWI-DI-GOO-ZING NE YAA-ZHING TRIBAL COUNCIL

Couchiching
Lac La Croix
Naicatchewenin
Niccikousemenecaning
Rainy River
Seine River
Mitaanjigamiing

NOKIIWIN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (Lake Nipigon Ojibway)
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (Sand Point)
Biinkitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay)
Kiashe Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay)
Pic Mobert
Fort William

UNAFFILIATED NORTHERN FIRST NATIONS

Michipicoten
Mishkeegogamang
Ojibways of Pic River
Pawgwasheeng (Pays Plat)
Red Rock
Ojibway Nation of Saugeen
Naotkamewanning
Weenusk

KEEWAYTINOOK OKIMAKANAK TRIBAL COUNCIL

Deer Lake
Fort Severn
Keewaywin
McDowell Lake
North Spirit Lake
Poplar Hill

SHIBOGAMA FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL

Kasabonika
Wapekeka
Wawakapewin
Wunnumin Lake
Kingfisher Lake

WINDIGO FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL

Bearskin Lake
Cat Lake
Koocheching
North Caribou Lake
Sachigo Lake
Slate Falls Nation
Whitewater Lake

INDEPENDENT FIRST NATIONS ALLIANCE

Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug
Muskrat Dam
Pikangikum
Whitesand
Lac Seul

MUSHKEGOWUK TRIBAL COUNCIL

Attawapiskat
Chapleau Cree
Fort Albany
Kashechewan
Missanabie Cree
Moose Cree
Taykwa Tagamou

WABUN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Beaverhouse
Brunswick House
Chapleau Ojibwe
Matachewan
Mattagami
Flying Post

NORTH SHORE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Garden River
Mississagua #8
Batchewana
Sagamok Anishinawbek
Serpent River
Thessalon
Whitefish Lake

UNITED CHIEFS AND COUNCILS OF MNIDOO MNISING

M'Chigeeng(West Bay)
Aundeck Omni Kaning
Sheguiandah
Sheshegwaning
Whitefish River
Zhiibaahaasing

WAABNOONG BEMJIWANG ASSOCIATION OF FIRST NATIONS

Dokis
Henvey Inlet
Magnetawan
Nipissing
Wahnapiatae
Wasauksing(Parry Island)

UNAFFILIATED SOUTHERN FIRST NATIONS

Temagami (Bear Island)
Wahta Mohawks
Mississaugas of New Credit
Hiawatha
Curve Lake
Chippewas of Saugeen
Chippewas of Nawash
Algonquins of Pikwakanagan
Wahgoshig
Shawanaga

SOUTHERN FIRST NATIONS SECRETARIAT

Caldwell
Chippewas of Aamjiwnaang (Sarnia)
Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point
Chippewas of the Thames
Delaware Nation (Moravian)
Munsee-Delaware Nation
Oneida Nation of the Thames

OGEMAWAHJ TRIBAL COUNCIL

Chippewas of Beausoleil
Chippewas of Georgina Island
Rama
Mississaugas of Alderville
Mississaugas of Scugog Island
Pottawatomi of Moose Deer Point

LARGE FIRST NATIONS

Bkwejwanong Territory (Walpole Island)
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
Sandy Lake
Six Nations of the Grand River Territory
Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve



20 YEARS OF HISTORY

20 YEARS OF BOARD MEMBERS

The OFNTSC is governed by a Board of Directors that gives the Corporation its strategic direction. The OFNTSC Board of Directors is made up of the 16 tribal councils in Ontario, six large First Nations in Ontario, and 19 unaffiliated First Nations (First Nations with no tribal council affiliation). Initially the Board of Directors only had 22 directors. As time has passed and the political landscape has shifted, today the Corporation has 24 Board of Directors. While its impossible to list every single Board Member since the Corporation was created, the list below we hope provides some insight to those who have taken on the responsibility of ensuring Ontario First Nations receive technical advisory services that will benefit future generations.



INAUGURAL BOARD

Alfred Day, David Gordon, Chief Earl Commanda, Chief Albert Cada, Larry Karaim, Chief Edmund Metatawabin

1995 - 1996 BOARD: 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Terry General, Lorne Abotosaway, Jay Benedict, Angus Mclellan, David Gordon, Dean Bethune, Alan Curle, Harry Goulais, Raymond Tabobondung, Dwain Blackbird, Colin Kelly, Jason Batise, Ed Chilton, Keith Maracle, Chief Earl Commanda, Larry Karaim, Randy Hermann, Bruce Piercy, Jerry Slavish, Garland Moses

1999 - 2000 BOARD: 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Chief Earl Commanda, Jason Batise, Larry Karaim, Terry General, Frank Fisher, Keith Maracle, Peter Campbell, Harvey Sainnawap, Colin Kelly, Garland Moses, Jay Benedict, Lorne Abotosway, Dean Bethune, David Gordon, Kelvin Jamieson, Scott Maracle, Ray Tabobodung, Richard Habinski, Norm Hardisty

2004 - 2005 BOARD: 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Jason Batise, Jay Benedict, Richard Habinski, Shawn Williams, Garland Moses, Larry Karaim, Keith Maracle, Joe C. Meekis, Mathew Hoppe, Robert Tabobodung, Frank Fisher, Peter Campbell, David Hill, James Owl, Dean Bethune, Derek Etherington, Kevin Debassige, Wes Bova, Scott Maracle, Randy Roy, Mel Barber, Eugene McPherson, Keith L. Maracle., Patrick Isaac

2009 - 2010 BOARD: 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Wes Bova, Kevin Debassige, Jason Batise, Scott Maracle, Jay Benedict, Jerry Lavalley, David Gordon, Tim Bannon, Brad Dokuchie, Jackie Hall, Peter Campbell, David Hill, Bill Assinewai, Joe C. Meekis, Dean Bethune, Ryan Small, Randy Roy, Eugene McPherson, Roger Williams, Chief Lyle Sayers, Roger Rozon, Keith Mason, Richard Habinski



20 YEARS OF HISTORY

20 YEARS OF THE OFNTSC

It has been 20 years since the inception of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation. The Corporation itself has changed dramatically since it was first conceived in the thoughts, and minds of its creators. Our first Annual Report was dedicated to “Ontario First Nation Chiefs, for their courage and support during our founding years and to our predecessor, The Indian Inspection Unit, for its trail blazing approach”. Those words are just as true today, as they were 20 years ago. At the very creation of the Corporation, was the opportunity for First Nations to provide technical services to First Nations by First Nations. It started with just 6 people and four services. Today it has grown to 10 services, and 30 employees.



1995 - 2000

In the beginning the Corporation was a small team of an engineer and building inspectors, and safety specialists. The idea was to provide advisory technical services to Tribal Councils and Unaffiliated First Nations. Those services firstly only related to housing inspections, operations and maintenance, fire/safety, quality assurance, project planning/development, and architectural support. But as the Corporation began to grow so did the services offered.

2000 - 2005

The dawn of new millennium proposed a new set of challenges, funding. As the Corporation saw its demand for services grow the funding did not. And with that challenge in mind a re-organization of the corporate structure of the OFNTSC took place. Branch managers were put in place to help the OFNTSC manage its human and financial resources while increasing reporting. It was also during this time the OFNTSC added services such as Fuel Systems Management, And the Earth Keepers service.

2005 - 2010

As the Corporation entered its 10th anniversary a re-organization of the OFNTSC's Circuit Rider Training Program (CRTP) took place to ensure that all First Nation water and wastewater operators were receiving the skills and knowledge to run their respective water plants properly. A greater emphasis was placed on the water/wastewater plants by AANDC during this period. As the risk faced by communities was amplified by the Walkerton Crisis. Assessments of facilities and assets became a staple of the OFNTSC services.

2010 - 2015

This time in the Corporation's history relates to reduced capital budgets from AANDC and a struggling Canadian economy, governments across Canada reduced their spending to meet the changing economy. For the OFNTSC and its stakeholders changes were taking place at the First Nation and Tribal Council level. Funding was being reduced for tribal councils and communities alike. And the need for OFNTSC services grew. Human Resources Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)

ended its fire inspections of First Nation owned assets and the CRTP was transferred to a for-profit Corporation.

2015 - AND BEYOND

What does the future hold for the OFNTSC? The OFNTSC is well positioned to meet its challenges of the future. Aside from having access to exceptional human resources, the Corporation will continue to assist First Nations with self-determination, and technological self-reliance. Our hope is that in another 20 years from now First Nations will have engineers, building inspectors, operations and maintenance specialists, and the resources to support their community development. As the First Nation population grows in Ontario access to clean water will be the highest priority as it is the lifeblood of all communities. It is our hope that technology, and clean sources of energy will allow First Nations to experience a quality of life on par with all Canadians.



20 YEARS OF HISTORY

20 YEARS OF MILESTONES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



1989 - 1995

Chiefs of Ontario negotiates with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada in response to plans for devolution. Work begins to transfer responsibilities from the Indian Inspection Unit to Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC).

1995

In February of 95, Chiefs of Ontario passes a resolution to cease operations of the Indian Inspector Unit and OFNTSC is officially incorporated as a non-profit corporation, thereby becoming the first organization of its kind serving First Nations in Canada.

1995 - 1996

Architectural Support Services commences to provide assistance to First Nations on a project-by-project basis.

Training needs and certification programs for Ontario First Nations Housing inspectors is established.

Housing policy and programs are developed to provide advisory services on up to date First Nations housing development.

Updates and Advice for First Nations on Capital Asset Management System (CAMS) Capital Asset Inventory System (CAIS) and Asset Condition Report System (ACRS) is introduced.

The Circuit Rider Training Program for Operators of First Nation water and wastewater sewage plants in Ontario is co-announced with Assembly of First Nations to improve capacities within First Nations.

1996

1st Annual OFNTSC Conference and Tradeshow are established, setting an example to be followed every year thereafter.

1997

OFNTSC establishes a Scholarship Fund for post- secondary students in science and technology. The OFNTSC Student Classic, to raise funds for student bursaries has operated continuously since.

1997 - 1998

OFNTSC manages the development of the Illustrated Housing Code, which is eventually introduced to First Nation technical service providers.

1998 - 1999

The Environment Services Program is introduced.

OFNTSC recommends a reformatted Capital Asset Management System (CAMS) and receives national recognition.

1999 - 2000

Water and Wastewater Treatment Process Guidelines handbook is created by OFNTSC.

Solid Waste Management and Awareness Training Program initiated.

OFNTSC provides technical support to COO during the Walkerton tainted water investigation and the creation of the Walkerton Report.

OFNTSC, in partnership with INAC, introduces a Risk Assessment

Study for First Nations water and wastewater systems.

2001 - 2002

OFNTSC convinces INAC to fund 15 Engineering Reports to determine the conditions of high-risk water and wastewater systems on First Nations in Ontario.

OFNTSC introduces the concept of a Multiple Barrier Approach to INAC for the prevention of pathogens reaching the consumer.

OFNTSC successfully gains recognition as a member of the Advisory Committee on Watershed Based Source Protection Planning with the Provincial Ministry of the Environment.

OFNTSC gains a seat as part of the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee on Water to implement the First Nations Water Management Strategy (FNWMS) and wastewater initiatives.

2002

In cooperation with the Northern Tribal Councils, OFNTSC coordinated the 1st Annual First Nations Northern Housing Conference.

2002 - 2003

OFNTSC signs an agreement with NRCAN to become first R-2000 delivery agent in Canada specific to First Nations.

Under an agreement with Municipal Affairs and Housing, OFNTSC becomes an Authorized Delivery Agent for the coordination and

delivery of Building Code Courses.

2003

OFNTSC develops an Operator-in-Training manual to help First Nation Plant Operators meet licensing goals with "Director Approved" Continuing Education Units (CEU'S).

2003 - 2004

OFNTSC introduces R-2000 Initiative to all First Nations in Ontario while NRCAN adds the EnerGuide for New Houses Initiative to the Contribution Agreement.

2004

With funding from INAC, OFNTSC coordinates a project to have 12 First Nations commence Community Energy Baseline Studies to determine annual energy consumption and associated costs.

2005

OFNTSC celebrates its 10th Anniversary of providing its service to First Nations and Tribal Councils.

The Circuit Rider Bulk Fuel Training Program redesigns, upgrades, develops and implements a new training program for CRTP Operators.

2006

OFNTSC negotiates funding and conducts Engineering Assessment II on 26 community water and wastewater plants.

OFNTSC successfully convinces INAC to review Operations and Maintenance (O & M) funding levels for water and wastewater faculties, this results in new costing models which in turn resulted in additional funds to First Nation communities.

OFNTSC is successful in securing

funds for upgrading of existing CRTP manuals, which commences in partnership with the University of Guelph through funding from the HRSDC.

OFNTSC and Hydro One Networks develop joint energy conservation program to distribute free Power Cost Monitors to on-reserve account holders in northern Ontario.

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2007

OFNTSC takes part in an expert panel on proposed regulatory framework to ensure safe drinking water in First Nations.

OFNTSC works with INAC to develop new Integrated Capital Management System (ICMS) to support efficient asset management and reduce the required reporting elements placed on First Nations.

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2008

Senior OFNTSC Engineer Derek Kamanga becomes member of the Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards set up by the Ontario Government in the aftermath of the Walkerton Crisis. Circuit Rider Training Program (CRTP) expands and delivers hands on training to 68 First Nations across Ontario in relation to water and wastewater treatment plant operators.

OFNTSC with INAC, Health Canada and AWWAO hold First Nations Water Symposium. The Symposium addresses issues directly affecting First Nation water plant operators. AFN Grand Chief Phil Fontaine delivers keynote.

Operations and Maintenance program develops forecasting model for Water and Wastewater Treatment plants. The improved model provides improved funding on water collection data, distribution, labour and energy costs.

OFNTSC re-launches www.ofntsc.org, the new website incorporates digital technology that allows users to interact directly with OFNTSC staff and utilize web 2.0 technologies.

2009

25 Training manuals updated for CRTP, to ensure First Nation water and wastewater plant operators are receiving quality training that meets or exceeds provincial standards.

CRTP Fuel Systems Management and Environment Program work with First Nations to meet regulatory changes to home heating tanks and bulk fuel storage.

OFNTSC Environment Program delivers solid waste management training with the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) to ensure First Nations are informed of options available to them for solid waste management.

OFNTSC assists INAC with technical specifications on the purchase of six new fire trucks for First Nations in Ontario.

2010

OFNTSC celebrates 15th Anniversary of creation.



Housing Program of OFNTSC delivers Heat Recovery Ventilation (HRV) Training to First Nations across Ontario while providing economic opportunities to First Nations people in the maintenance of the HRV systems.

CRTP expands to include over 80 First Nations currently utilizing training of First Nation water and wastewater treatment plant operators.

OFNTSC assists INAC with technical specifications on purchase of 14 new fire trucks for Ontario First Nations.

All new homes being built in First Nations across Ontario required to meet, or exceed R-2000 standards; and have EnerGuide rating of 80+.

2011

Petroleum Handler workshops delivered to 24 communities.

CRTP issues 567 Continuing Education Units (CEU's) Certificates to First Nation water plant operators.

Environment Services develop First Nations Natural Attenuation Landfill Course and Landfill Operations and Maintenance Manual.

Fire Safety Services along with First Nation Fire Prevention Officers from Ontario, coordinate the two million dollar bulk fire equipment purchase.

Operations and Maintenance Service delivers seven training workshops for Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) 3150 - Tangible Capital Assets.

2012

OFNTSC along with First Nations and Tribal Councils speak to Senate Committee on Aboriginal People on Bill S-8 (Safe Drinking Water for First

Nations Act).

CRTP introduces First Nation Operator Assessment Testing

OFNTSC successfully delivers 12 training workshops across Ontario for Emergency Response and Preparedness. Prepares four-phase strategy to address First Nation emergency response. OFNTSC Housing Service is asked to join AFN Chiefs Committee on Housing Technical Working Group.

OFNTSC with Health Canada, and AANDC deliver First Nations Water Symposium for 3rd time.

OFNTSC coordinates annual inspections of water and wastewater systems for all First Nations in Ontario.

OFNTSC delivers CRTP to 85 communities across Ontario.

Well Aware workshops delivered to 12 First Nations.

2013

Under direction from the Board of Directors, OFNTSC creates an Infrastructure Gap Analysis, which takes a snapshot of current infrastructure needs for Ontario First Nations. Ontario First Nations need \$9.1 billion in infrastructure to "catch up" to equal Canadian counter-parts.

CRTP delivers over 733 CEU's to Ontario First Nation Water and Wastewater plant operators. Phase two of the Emergency Management strategy reaches 193 participants and 71 First Nations in total.

OFNTSC Infrastructure service works with Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, AFN and Mike Holmes Group to

assist in First Nation Sustainable Development Standard.

2014

CRTP services over 100 First Nations in Ontario. 542 CEU's delivered to First Nation water and wastewater plant operators. 4152 hours of on-the-job training delivered. CRTP contract ceases to be provided by OFNTSC.

OFNTSC joins digital age. Creates social media accounts for Twitter, Facebook, YouTube. Website is redesigned for easier access to information, and the OFNTSC updates its image.

Phase three of Emergency Management Service reaches 259 participants. 74 First Nations participate in workshops.

OFNTSC Environment Service creates Ontario First Nation illustrated guide to small fuel tank systems in collaboration with other OFNTSC services and partners.

OFNTSC led pilot project for Source Water Protection begins with M'Chigeeng First Nation.

HRSDC ceases to provide fire inspection services to Ontario First Nations.

OFNTSC Infrastructure Services assist Mishkeegogamang First Nation with 60 inspections of wood burning stoves, after fire burns home down in community.

OFNTSC delivers 4th First Nation Water Symposium.

2015

20th Anniversary of OFNTSC.



20 YEARS OF HISTORY



20 YEARS OF PRESIDENTS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS & MANAGERS

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFNTSC



FOUNDING PRESIDENT:
CHIEF EARL COMMANDA,
North Shore Tribal Council
1995 - 2000



JASON BATISE,
Wabun Tribal Council
2000 - 2006



JAMES OWL,
North Shore Tribal Council
2006 - 2008



WES BOVA,
Matawa First Nations Management
2008 - Current

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE OFNTSC



IRVIN GEORGE
1995 - 1997 &
1998 - 2003



IRVING LEBLANC
1997 - 1998



MICHAEL NEPINAK
2003 - 2006



JAMES OWL,
Acting Executive Director
2006 - 2007



ROBERT HOWSAM
2007 - Current

MANAGERS OF THE OFNTSC



DAN PRELEY, P.ENG.
1995 - 1997



RENO RESTOULE,
1997 - 1998



FRANK MICHON SR.,
1998 - 1999



PAUL SEGUIN,
2000 - 2006



IRVING LEBLANC, P.ENG.
2000 - 2007



JIM TAYLOR, P.ENG.
2006 - 2009



BRIAN STAATS,
2007 - Current



MAT HOPPE,
2009 - Current

ORIGINAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DEVOLUTION MEMBERS



DAVID GORDON



CHIEF AL DAY



CHIEF EARL COMMANDA



IRVIN GEORGE



CHIEF ROBERT
CORBIERE



STEVE WHITE



20 YEARS OF HISTORY

20 YEARS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

The OFNTSC's Annual Conference is one of the OFNTSC's longest standing traditions. The conference is meant to be a training opportunity for First Nations and tribal councils to build capacity. Over the years the annual conference has moved throughout the province to ensure all First Nations and tribal councils have the opportunity to attend. Its roots stretch back all the way to 1995 when our very first conference was held in Akwesasne, with help from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. 20 years later the conference has grown to be Canada's largest First Nation technical conference and tradeshow. And we thank you our delegates for making this event a huge success. Below is a list of our past annual conferences with theme's and locations.



1995

Host - Mohawk Council of Akwesasne - No theme

1996

Annual Conference and Tradeshow
Fern Resort, Orillia

1997

Fostering Technical Self-Reliance
Fern Resort, Orillia

1998

New and Innovative Technology
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

1999

Sustainable Community Development
Holiday Inn, Sault Ste. Marie

2000

Fostering Technical Self-Reliance in
the New Millennium
Sheraton Four Points, London

2001

Clean Water - Healthy Communities
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

2002

Technology and Tradition for a Better
Tomorrow
Sheraton Fallsview, Niagara Falls

2003

Learn Share Build
Holiday Inn, Sault Ste. Marie

2004

Honouring Our Traditions, Building
Our Future
Hilton Niagara, Niagara Falls

2005

Much To Be Proud Of/Much to Be
Done Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

2006

Building Excellence for Future
Generations
Sheraton Fallsview, Niagara Falls

2007

No Conference

2008

New Directions: Fostering Ideas,
Partnerships, And Opportunities
Sheraton Fallsview, Niagara Falls

2009

Sustainability in a Changing Economy
Delta Hotel and Conference Centre,
Sault Ste. Marie

2010

Building Foundations for Community
Growth
Sheraton Fallsview, Niagara Falls

2011

Working Together to Close the
Infrastructure Gap
Valhalla In, Thunder Bay

2012

No Conference

2013

Building Foundations for Technical
Services and Careers
Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls

2014

No Conference

AUGUST 25 -27, 2015

We'll see you at our 20th Annual
Conference in August at the Toronto
Airport Hilton.



20 YEARS OF HISTORY

FIRST NATIONS WATER SYMPOSIUM

The First Nations Water Symposium (FNWS) has been one of the premier events that the OFNTSC has offered over the past 20 years. The symposium began with the partners of Health Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), and the Aboriginal Water and Wastewater Association. The FNWS was created to provide a venue for First Nations to come together to have access to information in drinking water services, and public health in the face of new challenges. The symposium is held bi-annually. Below is a recap of the first four water symposiums held by the OFNTSC.



strategy, contribution agreement changes, wastewater regulations, and infrastructure asset management. The Children's Water Festival also returned for the 2014 symposium. 40 students from Lloyd S. King elementary school from Mississaugas of the New Credit participated in the festival. The symposium closed with a speech from Maude Barlow, National Chairperson, Council of Canadians, who expressed that clean water is a human right.



2008

The very first FNWS took place in March of 2008 at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls. 101 First Nations from across the province participated in the Symposium. From water plant operators to band administrators, the symposium addressed the challenges of eliminating boil water advisories, emergency planning, monitoring and reporting. Host Community Six Nations opened the symposium with a welcome address followed by keynote presentations by Bob McDonald, of CBC's quirk and quarks. Dr. Kristy Duncan, of the University of Toronto on the pandemic influenza, delivered the second keynote presentation. The former National Assembly of First Nations Grand Chief Phil Fontaine closed the Symposium.

2010

The second FNWS was held at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in Niagara Falls in March of 2010. The second symposium shifted focus to discuss water quality and the optimization of water and wastewater plants across Ontario in First Nations. Presentations were made on resource and capacity development, water quality, boil water advisories, the First Nations Safe Drinking Water Act (Bill S-8) and techniques for delivering safe drinking water. A banquet was held the first night to honour First Nations people who have strived for superior water quality for their respective communities. The night also saw Josephine Mandamin speak about her journey walking around the great lakes. The banquet concluded with a presentation by Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council and Canadians. To close the Symposium, the OFNTSC and its partners honoured First Nation plant operators who had attained their Class Three operator licenses.


2012


The third FNWS came together at the Sheraton on the Falls in March of 2012. Presentations during the Symposium focused on water treatment system selection, source water protection, capital funding processes, a legal and technical analysis of Bill S-8, and community based water-monitoring programs. For the 2012 FNWS operators and administrators were separated into two separate streams. Operators had the chance to attend training while earning Continuing Education Units (CEU's) while administrators had the chance to attend policy and legislative presentations. The symposium also saw a special announcement from the OFNTSC in regards to the creation of an engineering student award honouring a former engineer's contributions to Ontario First Nations. Finally the 2012 closed off with a Children's Water Festival. Children from Oliver M. Smith Public School from Six Nations took part in learning about water and its importance. The children also participated in a poster contest that asked "What does water conservation mean to you?" The symposium closed with a presentation from Josh Fox producer of the academy award nominated documentary Gaslands.


2014


The fourth FNWS took place at the Marriott Gateway at the Falls in Niagara Falls in March of 2014. Infrastructure was the main topic of importance for the 2014 FNWS. Reductions in capital budgets, and investments in First Nation water and wastewater plants meant that First Nation would have to do more with less, and effectively extend the life of their infrastructure. Topics discussed at the symposium covered Bill S-8 water regulations, Ontario's water





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WESLEY BOVA
President
Matawa First Nations Management
- 


KEVIN DEBASSIGE
Vice-President
United Chiefs & Councils of Mnidoo Mnisig
- 


TERRY GENERAL
Secretary
Six Nations of the Grand River Territory
- 


ROGER ROZON
Treasurer
Nokiiwin Tribal Council Inc.
- 


JAY BENEDICT
Executive Committee Member
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- 


CHRIS BUCKELL
Executive Committee Member
Michipicoten First Nation
- 

RICHARD HABINSKI
Executive Committee Member
Windigo First Nations Council
- 


AARON GENEREUX
Executive Committee Member
Ogemawahj Tribal Council
- 


TED COPPAWAY
Executive Committee Member
Curve Lake First Nation
- 


SCOTT SCHELSKE
Bimose Tribal Council
- 


MARGARET KENEQUANASH
Shibogama First Nations Council
- 


BARRY STRACHAN
Keewaytinook Okimakanak Tribal Council


- 


PAUL SCHISLER
Southern First Nations Secretariat
- 


WILLIAM ASSINEWAI
Wikwemikong Unceded First Nation
- 


JOE C. MEEKIS
Sandy Lake First Nation
- 


GLEN GOODMAN
Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing-Ne-Yaa-Zhing
- 


RYAN SMALL
Mushkegowuk Tribal Council
- 


IRVING GEORGE
Waabnoong Bemjiwang Association of First Nations
- 

CULLEN ROBB
Anishinaabeg of Kabapikotawangag Resource Council
- 

CHIEF REGINALD NIGANOBE
Mississauga First Nation
North Shore Tribal Council
- 

JASON BATISE
Wabun Tribal Council
- 

TODD KRING
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
- 

DAVID GORDON
Independent First Nations Alliance
- 

ROGER WILLIAMS
Executive Committee Member
Bkwejiwang Territory (Walpole Island)



On behalf of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and its staff I am pleased to present you with the 20th Annual Report.

Twenty (20) years ago Indian and Northern Affairs Canada took an extraordinary step of creating a technical organization with Ontario First Nations and tribal councils as its stakeholders. The result was a First Nation owned and operated corporation, whose goal was to provide technical advisory services.

For 20 years the OFNTSC has been instrumental in providing engineering services, housing inspections, fire and safety prevention, environmental health, and operations and maintenance services to Ontario First Nations. These core services have provided the backbone for which we provide all services. We as First Nations, and tribal councils are proud of the accomplishments we have achieved together in the past 20 years. Our vision amongst our united First Nations and tribal councils, has remained the same from day one: to foster self-reliance for First Nations people.

The continued success of the corporation will depend upon providing the core services in addition to new technical services in First Nation communities. The demand for service has never been greater; and with reduced resources available we must find ways to strengthen our communities while being fiscally responsible. Our endeavor is to increase technical capacity while maintaining and improving infrastructure for our future generations.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the individuals responsible for creating this Corporation – Earl Commanda, Al Day, Robert Corbiere, Steve White, Irv George and David Gordon. Ontario First Nations and Tribal Councils will forever be indebted to you for your vision of technologically self-reliant First Nation communities.

Wes Bova, P. Eng, Technical Manager, Matawa First Nations Management President, OFNTSC Board of Directors



Wes Bova
P.Eng.





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bob Howsam



This is the 20th year of operation for the OFNTSC. The Corporation's goals of supporting First Nations, and tribal councils have never been as important as they are, in these times of austerity.

The challenges faced by First Nations, and tribal councils continue to be exasperated by reduced capital budgets at the federal, and regional levels. Thus First Nations, and tribal councils are faced with decisions that will, and continue to negatively impact community growth.

The Corporation's mission of increasing capacity while assisting First Nations with technological self-reliance has never been so important as it is today. In the past 20 years the Corporation has grown in size, and stature under the direction of the Board of Directors. The Corporation has succeeded due to its ability to alter its services to the needs of First Nations. It has been this approach that has allowed the OFNTSC to flourish.

In addition to dealing with new needs our ongoing focus has

been to concentrate on our core services. Those core services provide technical oversight to ensure First Nations receive infrastructure equivalent to that of Canadian municipalities. Our contingent of engineers, infrastructure specialists, environmental scientists, fire, emergency, and operations and maintenance personnel are dedicated to enhance the lives of on-reserve families and communities.

Finally I would like to add that this will be my last year leading the Corporation. As I have had many years dealing with the OFNTSC, I can say that working with First Nations to improve the lives of residents has been one of the most rewarding positions I have had. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Political Confederacy of the Chiefs of Ontario for their support, and the staff of the OFNTSC for a job well done. The future is full of challenges, some ongoing, some brand new. The full potential of the organization has to be met to support communities and individual families.



TECHNICAL MANAGER'S REPORT



Matthew Hoppe



This past year was a learning experience that renewed our focus to assist First Nations in sustaining their community infrastructure. Engineering services along with the Fuel System Management service, are working to streamline the service we deliver for all First Nations to benefit from.

As federal regulations shift responsibility for water, wastewater, and fuel tank operations to Ontario First Nations; capacity development on First Nation lands will be our focus.

In partnership with the Keewatinook Okimakanak Tribal Council, we will be updating the public works management course that will be offered throughout Ontario. This

training initiative will focus on assisting First Nation leadership and senior management prioritizing their community initiatives. Regional fuel spill response training sessions are confirmed for this summer, which will focus on the application of the Fuel tank regulations. Water and wastewater support will be enhanced by the newly created Water and Wastewater Specialist position.

Together with your community's support and guidance along with the other OFNTSC services, we will ensure that our programs support your community infrastructure needs. We look forward to serving you in the New Year.

Mat Hoppe, Technical Manager





Brian Staats

OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT



On the eve of the 20th year of the OFNTSC's creation, the fiscal year 2014/2015 once again proved to be an accomplished year for all operations staff.

First Nation activities have not slowed, and our workloads have increased for our clients. The operations services have effectively managed to meet our client needs even with the turn within our First Nations moving into a maintenance management area for their own individual needs for most programs offered in Operations by the OFNTSC. Our services and special projects for First Nations have keyed on the environment, fire and safety, emergency planning, housing, and operations and maintenance services proved once again successful.

The environment service has continued to provide enhanced services in landfill and waste diversion training. The operations and maintenance service has continued to support "AssetNAV" for First Nation maintenance

management, and the housing/ infrastructure services has never been busier in day to day activities. Emergency Planning has now moved into Phase Four – "pre-planning for an integrated practical operations based exercise" for all First Nations in Ontario.

The Operation services are built on teamwork, and we have proven this again in our 20th year. Our service centre staff members are committed to our clients. I hope this is visible as all our employees carry this into our client workplaces as well. We will always remain committed to the highest quality services to our clients.

In closing I would like to thank the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee for their support and allowing me, as Operational Manager, to bring ideas to the Board of Directors. I would also like to recognize the entire OFNTSC staff for their support and continued dedication to their jobs over the past 20 years.

Toronto Service Centre: Colin French, Corrie Hill



SERVICES

The OFNTSC Communications Department is responsible for all external and internal communications of the OFNTSC. This includes liaising with PTO's, Tribal Councils, Large First Nations and Unaffiliated First Nations. As well Communications also liaises with Federal and Provincial ministries, other Aboriginal groups and professional associations as necessary. Communications produces all print material, maintains the OFNTSC Website, produces all OFNTSC events, public relations, and communicates all training and certification opportunities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Derrick Kamanga Memorial Scholarship Award
- All Tribal Council Meeting
- Annual Student Achievement Awards
- 19th Annual Report
- Assist development of "Safety at the Pumps" video
- Derrick Kamanga Memorial Golf Tournament
- Community Outreach – 9 events in total (Little NHL, Kenjgewin Teg Ed Fall Fair, etc.)
- 18 Tweets, 6 posts to Facebook
- 4 career fairs attended for Technical Youth Career Outreach Project



FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

Over the upcoming year Communications will be placing an enhanced focus on community engagement amongst our stakeholders. Outreach is a valuable tool to engage communities on a variety of issues that affect communities that the OFNTSC serves. In addition to the outreach the OFNTSC will also be updating our tradeshow units to reflect the Corporation's new branding. Communications will also be assisting in the planning of major events for conferences and large meetings. We look forward to working with you, and serving you better. Let us know how we can serve you better or keep you updated on our activities on Twitter @OFNTSC or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ofntsc

BACKGROUND

The OFNTSC Communications unit serves as the link between the Corporation and the First Nations and Tribal Councils that the OFNTSC serves. Started in 1997, communications outreach started with just an annual report and a newsletter to disseminate information. Over the years Communications has evolved to take on multiple websites for corporate communications and program/event specific websites in addition to producing brochures, calendars, promotional materials, reports and much more.





Toronto Service Centre: Rob Olivier, Derek Hill
Thunder Bay Service Centre: Jim Taylor, Meiru Zheng



STRATEGY

- Phase I: Risk Assessment - 2010/2011 & 2011/2012
- Phase II: Framework - 2012/2013
- Phase III & Review: Tabletop Exercise, Phase 1/2 and Phase 1/2/3 - 2012/2013
- Phase IV & Review: Planning for a Full Scale Exercise (2014-2015)
- Live Exercise & Review - Live Operations - Based Exercise, Phase 1-4 Review Sessions – 2015/2016

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

PHASE 4 & REVIEW

In total there were a combined total 188 participants in all training sessions for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

- Delivered one Phase 1/2 Review Session: Nine First Nations and one tribal council participated
- Delivered four Phase 1/2/3 Review Session: 23 First Nations and three tribal councils participated
- Delivered six Phase 4 Review Session: 44 First Nations and eight Tribal Councils participated



FUTURE DIRECTION

The main goal will remain consistent: To assist First Nations to develop/update and exercise community master emergency response plans through training sessions.



BACKGROUND

The Emergency Management Planning Training exists to help prepare First Nations to meet the challenges of an emergency situation. A focus is placed on training community members and emergency services to develop community emergency plans. The Public information Officer's primary responsibility is to coordinate the training sessions. The Maintenance Manager's primary responsibility is to work with First Nations to collect, review and assist with developing/updating First Nations master emergency response plans.



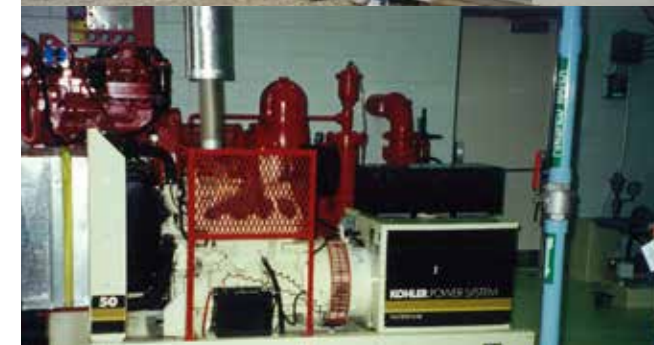
SERVICES

- Project Planning and Development
- Project Management
- Capital Planning
- Engineering services for large or small projects (planning, design, construction, commissioning)
- Terms of Reference Development
- Quality Assurance
- Training
- Technical Advisory

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

While it is not possible to list all of the current projects underway, the Engineering Service hopes that this will highlight some of the work carried out over the past year. Listed below are some of the projects that the OFNTSC Engineering Service has participated in.

- Attawapiskat First Nation School Construction
- Mississaugas of the New Credit School Expansion Study
- Ojibways of the Pic River School Study
- Attawapiskat First Nation Capital Planning Study
- 4 Communities Fuel Tank Storage Upgrade Project
- Mississaugas of the New Credit Bridge Condition Surveys and Road Repairs
- Training – Project Management, Public Works Management



FUTURE DIRECTION 2015-16

The Engineering Services Group will continue to provide support on a number initiatives such as Bill S-8 technical review, Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations, water operating authorities, infrastructure gap analysis updates, maintenance management systems, project planning, engineering studies and designs, project tendering and construction, for all areas of First Nation infrastructure including roads and buildings. In addition, OFNTSC will continue with providing training in Contract Administration, Project Management and Public Works Management.

BACKGROUND

The Engineering service has been a part of the OFNTSC since 1995. Assessing there was a demand for qualified First Nations engineers to work with First Nations in Ontario on capital projects, the OFNTSC created the Quality Assurance initiative. The Quality Assurance initiative quickly grew to include other engineering functions such as tendering, and contract administration to terms of reference development for large and small engineering projects.

SERVICES

- Environmental Assessment
- Solid Waste Management & Diversion
- Contaminated site assessment (ESA process) and remediation
- Water quality and source water protection
- Community and land use planning
- Minor capital submissions for environmental projects
- Environmental issues, emergencies and spill response
- Environment acts and regulations; best management and codes of practice, policies, guidelines
- Environmental funding opportunities



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Source Water protection plan developed and currently being piloted by M'Chigeeng First Nation
- Professional four season waste audit completed in two First Nations, for general use by Ontario First Nations during the solid waste planning process
- Landfill Operations and Maintenance course delivered along with the new Transforming Your Community's Solid Waste Management Program workshop which focuses on waste diversion
- Worked alongside ten Northern tribal councils to coordinate the Northern Ontario First Nation Environment Conference (NOFNEC) including facilitating the workshop "Developing First Nations Solid Waste Diversion Programs"

FUTURE DIRECTION 2015-16

The Environment Service will continue to focus on source water protection planning for the coming year. An emphasis will be placed on completing M'Chigeeng's source plan, while creating a tool kit for all First Nations to use in protecting their water. Additional training will be carried out for landfill operation and maintenance and waste diversion. The Environment Service will also be working with the Fuel Systems Management Service to deliver Petroleum Mechanic Helper (PMH) and/or Petroleum Mechanic 4 (PM4) Certification. And lastly the Environment service is going to update the "Ontario First Nations Illustrated Guide to Small Fuel Tank Systems".

BACKGROUND

The OFNTSC works closely with First Nations and tribal councils to provide a wide variety of environmental advisory services. Started in 1996 as an environmental health study, the Environment Service has grown over the past 15 years to meet the evolving needs of First Nations in Ontario. From past initiatives such as Earth Keepers training and Energy Pathfinder services, our current training and project specific technical advisory services has expanded to include a wide range of areas.

SERVICES

- Public fire protection, prevention awareness and training in accordance with the National Building Code
- Advisory services provided to Fire Prevention Officers of tribal councils and large First Nations for fire prevention, code interpretation and compliance, emergency vehicle specification review, community fire prevention issues, fire department administration, fire equipment purchase review



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Summarize fire loss statistics for Calendar Year 2014
- "Be Fire Safe Campaign" Purchase of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Combination Detectors. The purpose of the project is to increase fire safety and awareness by installing a combined smoke and carbon monoxide alarm and provide training to the home occupants on the use and maintenance of the alarms in First Nation homes. The project will be completed in a two-phase approach. OFNTSC completed Phase One, and Phase Two will commence in the fiscal year 2015-2016.
- Provided First Nation communities with fire hall design and fire apparatus specifications.



FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

A renewed funding submission for bulk fire equipment purchases will be one of the many important priorities for the Fire and Safety Service in the next year. A bulk fire purchase has not occurred since 2012 in the Ontario region. Fire and Safety will also be requesting funds for fire prevention awareness and training manuals. Fire and safety will also be focusing on securing funding for fire fighter training. As well Fire and Safety will be coordinating a regional fire and safety poster contest for children in elementary schools.



BACKGROUND

The Fire and Safety Program was one of the original services offered by the OFNTSC in 1995. Originally, fire and safety only provided inspection services for fire deficiencies. Today, we provide advice on fire protection, needs assessments, policy analysis, and fire prevention reporting and assist First Nation volunteer fire departments in the dissemination of fire prevention and training materials.



Thunder Bay Service Centre: Doug Stuart



SERVICES

- Fuel tank inspections: home and commercial
- Liaison with private and government Sector
- Compliance with Federal legislation in regards to fuel tank storage
- Emergency fuel spill response: training and plan development
- Equipment support
- Proper fuel management and fuel handling techniques

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Regional Fuel Systems Management Awareness Training: Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Timmins, London and Hiawatha First Nation
- Safety at the Pumps video
- Assisted various First Nations with code compliance



FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

In the coming year the Fuel Systems Management service will be delivering six regional training sessions. Three sessions will occur in northwestern Ontario and three in southern Ontario. An additional session will also be delivered at the OFNTSC Annual Conference. The Fuel Systems Management service will also be reviewing First Nations existing emergency spill response plans.

BACKGROUND

The Fuel Systems Management Service started in 1998 to address the growing need of trained fuel handlers in First Nations across Ontario. Initially the Fuel Systems Management focused on training of fuel handlers in remote First Nations, but has since expanded into fuel tank site visits for homes and commercial uses, emergency fuel spill response training and development, code compliance assessment and fuel transfer equipment support and safe fuel handling practices at the gas pumps for all First Nations in Ontario. Fuel Systems Management Service also provides technical advice to tribal councils along with Unaffiliated First Nations. Providing information along with advice in regards to fuel systems, legislative commitments and private sector contact information.



Thunder Bay Service Centre: Grace Martineau, Housing Advisor

SERVICES

- Training and Capacity Development: building code, better building practices, energy efficiency including R2000, EnerGuide, Energy Star, and Energy Advisor;
- Provides housing policy review, analysis and development as well as advice on housing management and administration;
- Building code advice and interpretation;
- Assistance to First Nations in the research and development of business plans, funding proposals and various policies;
- Participates on and provides technical advice to the AFN Chief's Technical Committee on Housing and the Ontario First Nations Steering Committee on Housing.
- Liaise with government agencies regarding housing programs, funding and special initiatives; and
- Under an agreement with Natural Resources Canada, administers the R2000, EnerGuide Rating System and Energy Star for New Homes programs.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- With CMHC support, coordinated and delivered OBOA building code courses
- Provided technical and advisory support to AFN Chief's Technical Committee on housing issues
- Provided technical and advisory support to Ontario First Nations Steering Committee on housing issues
- Connected with various organizations in the development of tools and resources that may help FNs to better manage housing
- Training with CMHC for housing quality initiative and the OFNTSC's Contract Administration

FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

The Housing Service of the OFNTSC will be providing support and training for First Nations individuals to obtain building inspector certification and qualification in the coming year. Housing will also be working with the Engineering Service to update and expand the data contained in the Infrastructure Gap Analysis. By expanding the data contained in the Infrastructure Gap Analysis the Housing service will be looking to create a better understanding of the existing housing stock in Ontario First Nations. Research and development of tools in the area of design, building, and code compliance will also be a priority for Housing. This will allow First Nations build better, manage, and sustain their housing portfolios.

BACKGROUND

The Housing Program is an original initiative established at inception of OFNTSC. The Housing Program began by providing housing inspections in First Nations until demand outpaced resources available. It was then that the Housing Program split from housing inspections and took on an expanded role in providing technical advisory services in all areas of housing to all First Nations and tribal Councils.





Toronto Service Centre: Tom Northardt
Thunder Bay Service Centre: Clarence Meekis, Michael McKay



SERVICES

- Housing Inspections: Code compliance on residential homes, inspection of existing housing stock, CMHC RRAP inspections, CMHC RRAP for disabled persons, inspection for home adaptations for seniors independence, CMHC section 95, physical condition reviews (PCRs), CMHC Section 10, indoor air quality assessments, mold assessments in dwellings on a case-by-case basis.
- Operations and Maintenance: AANDC ICMS/FNIIP/ACRS support, asset operation and maintenance support
- AANDC reporting: five year capital plan, support for AANDC major capital projects in cooperation with OFNTSC engineers
- Training

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Completed the Wahgoshig & Noatkamegwaning First Nations ACRS Updates for AANDC.
- OFNTSC assembled a team to complete full woodstove compliance inspections for Mishkeegogamang First Nation, at the Chiefs' request, due to a number of structure fires in their community.
- Major renovation to nurses' station in Wahta Mohawks.
- Completion of NAPS detachment station in Weenusk.
- Attended career fair(s) in Thunder Bay at the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Student Career Fair & at Pelican Falls High School, which is an all First Nation school outside of Sioux Lookout



FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

The Infrastructure Service will be focusing on creating a generic Radon abatement guide for First Nations in the coming year. Infrastructure will also be assisting Wahta Mohawks with an addition to their community centre, Curve Lake's subdivision/housing project, and planning/design assistance for an independent living seniors complex. Infrastructure will be continuing development on housing plans for First Nation homes, and lifestyles. Design plans will include a required materials list and specifications.

BACKGROUND

The Infrastructure Specialist Service was one of the inaugural services offered to unaffiliated First Nations, specifically in August 1999. The Infrastructure Program originally began as "one window approach" for those First Nations not affiliated with a Tribal Council organization. Infrastructure has evolved over the years to offer training for building inspectors, introduction of new building techniques and construction and full support for AANDC reporting systems.

Toronto Service Centre: Elmer Lickers

SERVICES

- Support for Integrated Capital Management System (ICMS), Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS), ACRS Terms of Reference, Capital Asset Inventory System (CAIS), Capital Management Database (CMDB), Maintenance Management Systems (MMS), Asset Management Systems (AMS), Conditional Assessment & Housing Database (CAHD), O&M Forecasting Model for Water & Wastewater, Tangible Capital Assets (TCA), Updates on Government O&M Policies & Reporting Requirements, Public Sector Accounting Board 3150 (PSAB3150) and Asset Management Strategies & Plans
- Support First Nations in recording, tracking, assessments, maintaining, evaluation and long term planning of current capital assets
- Support First Nations asset assessments and methods for improving asset O&M funding levels

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

- Completed the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation Asset Management Pilot Project
-The pilot study was used to introduce effective asset management processes and the community's data was used as the basis for developing simplified First Nations Asset Management software. Community participation was critical to ensure the project was tailored to reflect current policies; processes and that supported the community's asset management decision making and reporting.
- Completed Asset Management Awareness & Training Workshop for Waabnoong Bemjiwang Association of First Nations
- Completed a Thunder Bay Asset Management Awareness & Training Workshop targeted for Northern First Nations
- Completed a Niagara Fall Asset Management Awareness & Training Workshop targeted for Southern First Nations
- Asset Management Awareness Workshops provided First Nations with overview of Asset Management best practices, processes, data management, reporting, life cycle costing, and tools to create a roadmap designed to improve the planning of community infrastructure assets.



FUTURE DIRECTION 2014-15

In the coming year the Operations and Maintenance Service will be focusing on delivering asset management awareness and training workshops to various tribal councils in Ontario. Those tribal councils are United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM), Mamaweswen -The North Shore Tribal Council, and Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. Operations and Maintenance will also be assisting First Nations with developing asset management plans for the long-term longevity of First Nation infrastructure and assets.

BACKGROUND

The Operations and Maintenance program was one of the first services to be offered by the OFNTSC during its creation in 1995. Operations and Maintenance originally assisted First Nations with reporting requirements to INAC. Today O&M provides support on the various databases and asset management systems that AANDC maintains. In addition to reporting, O&M also reviews community infrastructure models to ensure assets maintain peak efficiency.



Toronto Service Centre: Derek Hill, Rob Olivier
Thunder Bay Service Centre: Jim Taylor, Meiru Zheng



SERVICES

- Project Planning and Development
- Quality Assurance
- Capital Planning
- Engineering services for large or small projects
- Terms of Reference Development
- Technical Advisory
- Training

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015

While it is not possible to list all of the current projects underway, the Water and Wastewater program hope that this will highlight some of the work carried out over the past year. Listed below are projects that the OFNTSC Water and Wastewater program has participated in.

- Bill S-8 Technical Review
- Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER) implementation
- Serpent River Water Treatment Plant
- Water Pilot Projects -Zhiibaahaasing First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Munsee Delaware Nation, Alderville First Nation
- Weenusk FN Water Treatment Plant Upgrades
- Algonquins of Pikwakanagan - Ground Water Feasibility Study
- Shawawanga First Nation – Water Supply
- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte - Water Treatment Plant
- Ojibways of Saugeen – RO Package Plant



FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS 2015-16

The Water and Wastewater will be continuing its efforts around monitoring and implementation of Bill S-8 (Safe Drinking Water Act for First Nations). In addition to Bill S-8 First Nations are also now subject to the new Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER). The Water and Wastewater Service will assist communities in the implementation of the regulations. As capital budgets continue to shrink, Water and Wastewater will be working with the Operations and Maintenance Service to find additional cost savings in water plants. And lastly efforts will be made to assist First Nations with upgrading\ repairing and designing and constructing new water and wastewater treatment systems.

BACKGROUND

The Water and Wastewater program originally began in 1996 as a quality assurance initiative to ensure Ontario First Nations were all receiving the same level of service from the OFNTSC, and site visits of First Nation and Tribal Council technical services. These guiding principles helped shape the future of the Water and Wastewater program. Today Water and Wastewater has incorporated engineering services as well as serving as a step by step project planning program from inception to completion.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Kevin (Chris)
MacDonald

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) recently announced their Student Achievement Award winners and the Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award winner. Honouring First Nation, and Metis students for their commitment to post-secondary education has become a signature event of the OFNTSC, and it has done so for over 20 years.

This years winners come from across the province of Ontario, in a variety of disciplines. A winner of a Student Achievement Award, Kevin (Chris) MacDonald comes from Webequie First Nation in northern Ontario. He is currently studying computer sciences at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. Macdonald wishes to contribute to his community in the future by “Applying what he has learned to help communities in their technical and computer needs”.



Larissa
Roque

Larissa Roque a Student Achievement Award Winner, from Wahnapiatae First Nation is currently studying Architecture at Dalhousie University. Currently on a co-op in the Yukon, Roque is helping northern communities address housing design and needs issues. She said “returning home to work, or start a business, in my field of study” is how she hopes to contribute to her community in the future. Roque also stated, “Given the current state of my community I am hoping to address the issues of affordable housing and sustainability”.



Deneen M.
Cole

Deneen M. Cole is a member of the Mohawks of Akwesasne, and a Student Achievement Award Winner. She recently just completed her undergraduate studies at SUNY Potsdam in Biochemistry. Cole is now furthering her education by pursuing biomedical graduate studies at George Washington University in Washington D.C. The path to a great education was not easy one however for Cole. She said, “Through the years of struggling to find my path, I’ve come to realize the massive amount of support I’ve gained in the community.” She continued, “I’m humbled by all of the support and respect from my community in recognizing all the hard work and dedication it took to get to this point.”



Noah Bero

Noah Bero is studying electrical technology at SUNY Canton and is a Student Achievement Award Winner. From Mohawks of Akwesasne, Bero is the oldest child of parents Gary and Melissa Bero. In the winter Bero tries to be as helpful as possible to his elderly neighbours. He has also participated in a student panel to talk about his educational and career goals to other youth from the community. Bero said, “once I graduate from college I hope to use my degree at a local company to help better the community I was raised in.”



Lauren Ashley
Adams

This year’s Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award recipient is Lauren Ashley Adams. Adams is a graduate of Civil Engineering from Clarkson University. She has concentrations in structural and architectural engineering. While she comes from a large family, she is no stranger to endured hardships. Adams grandfather was maintenance foreman on a bridge and his hard work ethic has resonated with Adams, and her family. She said, “His hard work throughout his life taught me what it really meant to be someone your family can lean on. My family is full of hard workers, and it is where I get my work ethic, and my determinedness to succeed.” In the future Adams aims to contribute to her community by designing new housing projects and assisting in the updating/renovation of older homes so they become more energy efficient and therefore less costly.

The OFNTSC Board of Directors would like to congratulate and thank all of the winners from 2014, and all the applicants. To learn more about the Student Achievement Awards, Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award, and the OFNTSC please visit www.ofntsc.org. The 2015 winners will be announced at the 20th OFNTSC Conference and Tradeshow in August.

20 YEARS OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

Over the past 20 years, the OFNTSC has made a commitment to encourage First Nation youth in the science, and technology fields. That commitment has supported 61 First Nation youth in post-secondary education. It is with great pleasure that we present you with 20 years of First Nations students who have excelled in science and technology. And the winners are.....



1997 WINNERS

Richard Chukra
Stacey Lickers
Shawna Simpson

1998 WINNERS

Ken Vanevery
Catherine Rodger
Kevin Ward

1999 WINNERS

Tiohakwente Peter Horn
Morgan Green

2000 WINNERS

Darryl Fisher
Jamie Maki

2001 WINNERS

N/A

2002 WINNERS

Annette Francis
Jonathan Gregg

2003 WINNERS

Clarence Meekis
Sylvia Coleman

2004 WINNERS

Leslie Papineau
Sydney Mamakwa

2005 WINNERS

Perry Bebamash
Adam Greig

2006 WINNERS

Beynan Ransom
Shawna Snache
Richard Waite
Veronica Kahgee-Cutbush

2007 WINNERS

Matthew Douglas
James Roach
Travis Duncan
Clifford Wabasse

2008 WINNERS

Tim Krug
Wilson Sands
Jonathan Whittaker
Leanna Farr
Nicole Recollet
Phillip Schoch

2009 WINNERS

Michael Allison
Chris Lefebvre
William McCabe
Nancy Debassige

2010 WINNERS

Chris Stacey
Nathan Hill
Fabian Recollet
Linda Debassige
Chris Tait

2011 WINNERS

Trista Keesic
Zachary Hill
Phil Wawia
Trevor Wells

2012 WINNERS

Lauren Ashley Adams
Raymond Phillips
Pamela Corston
Jordan Beardy

**DERRICK KAMANGA MEMORIAL
AWARD WINNER (INAUGURAL)**
Beynan Ransom

2013 WINNERS

Jodi Ross
Renata Smoke
Dillon Bickell

**DERRICK KAMANGA MEMORIAL
AWARD WINNER**
Sidney Schafrik

2014 AWARD WINNERS

Larissa Roque
Kevin (Chris) MacDonald
Deneen M. Cole
Noah Bero

**DERRICK KAMANGA MEMORIAL
AWARD WINNER**
Lauren Ashley Adams



20 YEARS OF STUDENT CLASSIC

For over 20 years the OFNTSC, and its supporters have been aiding First Nation students pursuing post-secondary education in the science, and technology fields. The OFNTSC's Student Classic golf tournament is the main fundraiser for the Student Achievement Awards, and the Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award. Each year golfers and sponsors come together to support students, and we at the OFNTSC are very thankful to have the support of our partners, and friends. Our very first golf tournament accompanied our first annual conference. And with that kick off, the OFNTSC's Student Classic tradition was born. Below is a list of tournaments the OFNTSC has held, along with its winners.



1996
Lake St. George Golf Course, Orillia - Bill Tooshkenig, Steve Tooshkenig, Cheryl Tooshkenig, Gary Roe

1997
Lake St. George Golf Course, Orillia - Curtis Assance, Allan Assance, Eric Assance, Neil Beedie

1998
Chapples Municipal Golf Course, Thunder Bay - Tom Pellitier, Trevor Pellitier (2 man scramble format)

1999
Wild Bluffs Golf Course, Bay Mills, Michigan - James Owl, RJ Morningstar, Ryan Hagger, Edwin Chiblow

2000
No Tournament

2001
No Tournament

2002
Royal Niagara, Niagara-on-the-Lake - Bill Montour, Johnny

Montour, Dude Bomberly, Rod Squire
2003
Kincheloe Memorial Golf Course, Kincheloe, Michigan - Elmer Lickers, Tom Northardt, Anthony Laforge, Irvin George

2004
Royal Niagara, Niagara-on-the-Lake - John Monture, Rod Squire, Robert Bomberly, Jeff Bomberly

2005
Whitewater Golf Club, Thunder Bay - Elmer Lickers, Frank Fisher, Tom Northardt

2006
Falcon Lake Golf Course, Falcon Lake, Manitoba - Peter Campbell, Barry Strachan, Mike Booth, Trevor Shaw

2007
No Tournament

2008
Settlers Ghost Golf Course, Craighurst - Mark Styres, Mike Bishop, Rocki Smith, Bill Yu

2009
Thundering Waters, Niagara Falls - Mark Styres, Jeremy Beal, Dallas Anderson, Sam Bunting

2010
Royal Niagara, Niagara-on-the-Lake - June Styres, Darren Thomas, Guy Martin, Doug Sullivan

2011
Grand Niagara Golf Resort, Niagara Falls - Mark Styres, Dallas Anderson, Jeremy Beal, Dave Duckers

2012
Hunters Pointe Golf Course, Welland - Mark Styres, Dallas Anderson, Dave Duckers, Roger Anderson

2013
Whirlpool Golf Course, Niagara Falls - John Monture, John Monture Jr., Brad Froman, Bill Monture

2014
No Tournament



DERRICK KAMANGA MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT



Niagara Falls, ON – Golfers came together one last time to honour the memory of Derrick Kamanga on June 20, 2014 while also raising funds for First Nation students. The final Derrick Kamanga Memorial Tournament attracted over 30 golfers to Niagara Falls to participate in the event. Golfers of the day were treated to lush sunshine and a light breeze at Hunters Pointe golf course.

As the day began Brian Staats, Operations Manager welcomed the assembled golfers and explained why the Derrick Kamanga Memorial was started. “Derrick knew that the way to self-sufficiency was to become educated and give back to your community.” True to Derrick’s commitment to help others in need the golfers of the day participated in all of the contests available to raise the most amount of money possible for this worthy cause. And with that the golfers were off!


Participants in the tournament tried a variety of contests during the day, from a putting contest to a longest drive competition. The day raised \$2000 to ensure a well deserving First Nation student from an Ontario First Nation, in an engineering program will be recognized for their hard work, and dedication.


The Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award is awarded each year to a First Nation student who is enrolled in an engineering program at a university or college. The memorial award was created in 2012 after Derrick’s sudden passing away. To learn more about the Derrick Kamanga Memorial Award, or to apply, please go to www.ofntsc.org and search Derrick Kamanga.



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20TH ANNUAL OFNTSC STUDENT CLASSIC

June 26, 2015

Greens at Renton Golf Course, Simcoe, ON
Tournament Fee - \$150



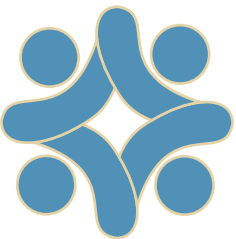
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND DERRICK
KAMANGA MEMORIAL AWARD

June 26, 2015 - Applications Deadline

20TH ANNUAL OFNTSC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

August 25 -27, 2015

Hilton Toronto Airport
Delegate Registration Fee - \$250



ALL TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 19-20, 2015

Casino Rama, ON – FREE to Register.

FOLLOW US

On Twitter @OFNTSC or Facebook at facebook.com/ofntsc
to ensure you have the most current information on our events and information.

HAVE A QUESTION?

Contact Colin French, Communications Officer at 416 651 1443 ext. 256
or by email at cfrench@ofntsc.org.





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