



Ontario First Nations
Technical Services
Corporation

ANNUAL REPORT

2016-17





Ontario First Nations
Technical Services
Corporation

WWW.OFNTSC.ORG

HEAD OFFICE

Mississaugas of New Credit Indian
Reserve, 4453 First Line Rd.,
New Credit Commercial Plaza
Unit 202, Box 8
Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0
Tel: 905-768-3399

**THUNDER BAY
SERVICE CENTRE**

200 South Syndicate Ave., Suite 206A
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1C9
Toll Free: 1-888-892-8281
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

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
-

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OUR COMMUNITIES

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
Horne Payne

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

Couchiching
Lac La Croix
Naicatchewenin
Nicickousemenecaning
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)
Kiashke 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
Naotkamegwanning

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 Inninuwig
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
Mattagmi
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)
Weenusk
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



WHAT IS THE OFNTSC?

DID YOU KNOW...

ESTABLISHED IN
1995

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation has been established for 22 years.

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) was established in 1995 to provide expert technical advisory services to the First Nations of Ontario. At that time, it was the first aboriginal organization in Canada mandated to provide professional technical and advisory services to First Nation 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:

- Housing
- Operation & Maintenance
- Fuel System Management Program
- Environment
- Water & Wastewater Specialist
- Communications
- Infrastructure
- Engineering
- Fire, Safety & Firefighting
- Water & Wastewater
- Emergency Planning
- Climate Change

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 Indigenous and Northern Affairs 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 and Ministry of Natural Resources. Furthermore, the OFNTSC pursues strategic alliances with other First Nation organizations, provincial and municipal governments, professional associations and the private sector.

OUR MANDATE

The OFNTSC was mandated by Ontario First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly to provide advisory level technical services to Ontario’s Tribal Councils, Large First Nations, and Unaffiliated First Nations in the areas of:

- Capital Project Planning and Development
- Quality Assurance
- Training
- Operations and Maintenance
- Fire Protection
- Architectural Support Services
- Housing Inspections
- Housing Program

Its underlying objectives include fostering greater First Nation autonomy in the acquisition of capital facilities and infrastructure development as well as promoting the development of modern community health and safety practices.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The OFNTSC is responsible to report to the Chiefs-in-Assembly, Tribal Council technical service units, Large First Nations, and Unaffiliated First Nations through a variety of means including the Annual Report and Board Member updates.

DID YOU KNOW...

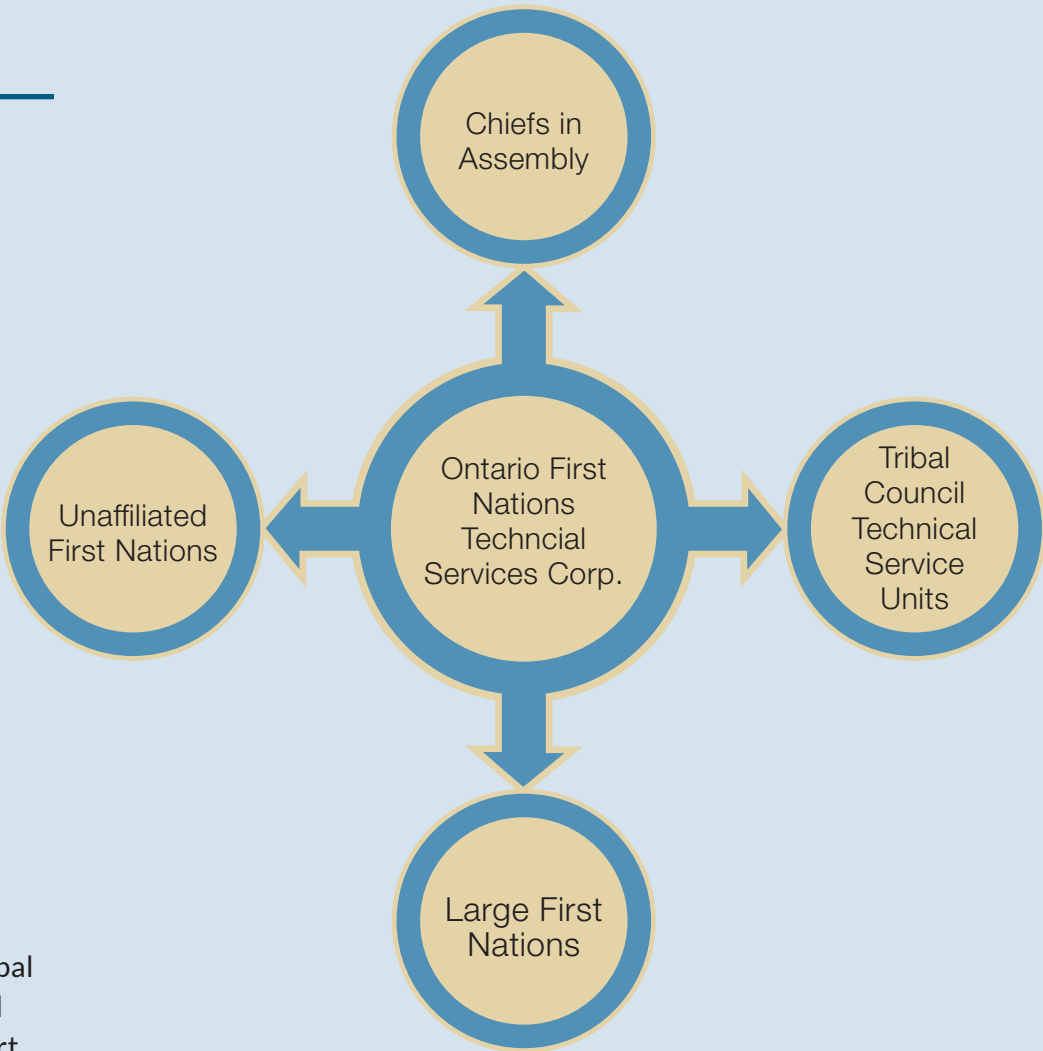
POPULATIONS OVER
2500

Large First Nations in Ontario are defined as those First Nations with on-reserve populations of over 2500.

DID YOU KNOW...



Unaffiliated First Nations are defined as a First Nation that does not have a Tribal Council affiliation.





WESLEY BOVA
President
Matawa First Nations Management

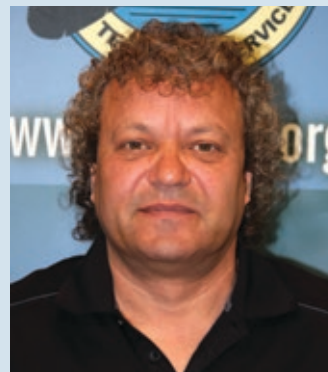
OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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



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



KEVIN TREMBLAY
Executive Committee Member
Wahgoshig First Nation



PAUL SCHISLER
Executive Committee Member
Southern First Nations
Secretariat



WILLIAM HUTCHISON
Executive Committee Member
Keewatinook Okimakanak
Tribal Council



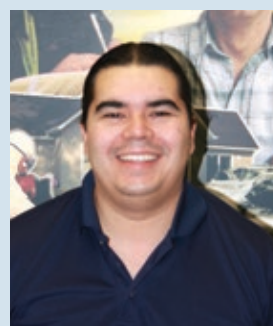
DAVID GORDON
Executive
Committee Member
Independent First
Nations Alliance



SCOTT SCHELSKE
Bimose Tribal
Council



**MARGARET
KENEQUANASH**
Shibogama First
Nations Council



**AARON
GENEREUX**
Executive
Committee Member
Ogemawahj Tribal
Council



**WILLIAM
ASSINEWAI**
Wikwemikong
Unceded
First Nation



JOE C. MEEKIS
Sandy Lake First
Nation



RYAN SMALL
Mushkegowuk
Tribal Council



IRVING GEORGE
Waabnoong
Bemjiwang
Association of First
Nations



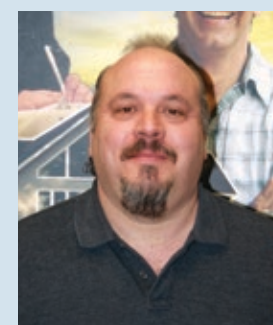
CULLEN ROBB
Anishinaabeg of
Kabapikotawangag
Resource Council



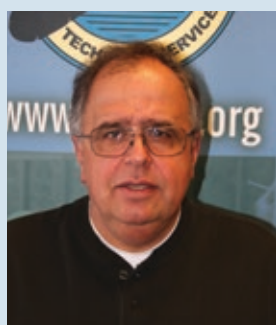
**CHIEF REGINALD
NIGANOBE**
Mississauga First
Nation North Shore
Tribal Council



JASON BATISE
Wabun Tribal
Council



TODD KRING
Mohawks of the
Bay of Quinte



**RICHARD
HABINSKI**
Windigo First
Nations Council



ROGER WILLIAMS
Executive Committee
Member
Bkwejwang Territory
(Walpole Island)














HARRY MORRISSEAU
Executive Committee
Member
Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing-
Ne-Yaa-Zhing



SEAN RUTH
Executive Committee
Member
Red Rock
Indian Band

HOW CAN THE OFNTSC HELP YOU?

The OFNTSC is a technical advisory service for Tribal Councils and Ontario First Nations. The OFNTSC provides various services to fulfill the needs of First Nation Communities. The services provided include:

 Communications	Hosts multiple events per year to encourage networking and continuous learning as well as training and certification opportunities.
 Emergency Planning	Helps to prepare and train First Nations to meet the challenges of emergency situations.
 Engineering	The Quality Assurance Initiative aids Communities in capital projects as well as tendering, contract administration and terms of reference development for large and small engineering projects.
 Environment & Climate Change	Provides a wide variety of environmental and climate change advisory services, training and project specific technical advisory services.
 Fire, Safety & Firefighting	Addresses fire and safety deficiencies, performs site visits of Community buildings and homes as well as trains volunteer fire departments.
 Fuel System Management Program	Trains fuel handlers and teaches safe fuel handling practices, completes fuel tank site visits, and provides technical advice to Tribal Councils, Unaffiliated First Nations, and Large First Nations.
 Housing	Delivers housing inspections in First Nations and provides technical advisory services in all areas of housing.
 Infrastructure	Hosts multiple events per year to encourage networking and continuous learning as well as training and certification opportunities.
 Operations & Maintenance	Provides support on the various databases and asset management systems that INAC maintains and reviews Community infrastructure models.
 Water & Wastewater	Hosts multiple events per year to encourage networking and continuous learning as well as training and certification opportunities.
 Water & Wastewater Specialist	Assists water and wastewater plant operators in the operation and maintenance of their respective plants.
 Climate Change	Works with communities in the development of plans and projects related to climate change and energy.

WHY REQUEST SERVICES?

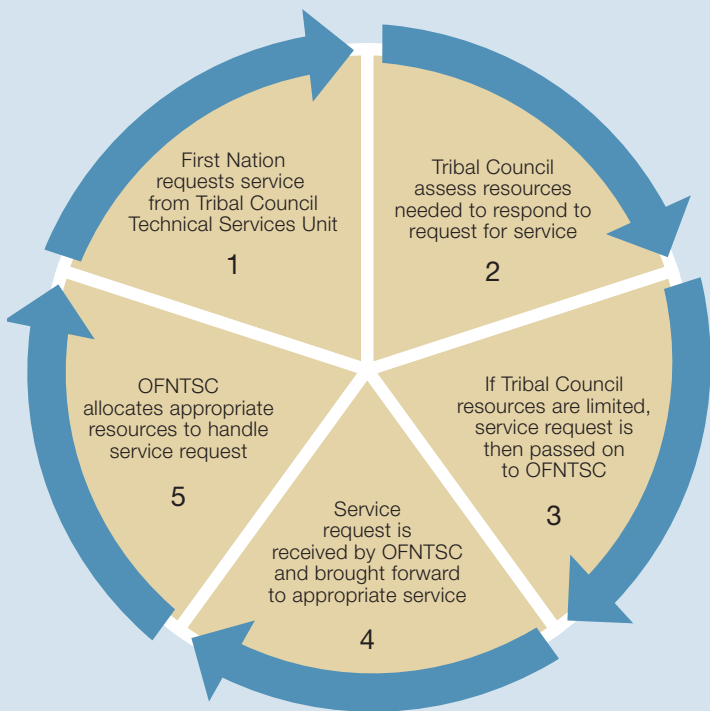
The OFNTSC prides itself in helping and advising ALL Ontario First Nations and Tribal Councils in technical services. We understand the unique needs of Communities and have the resources to assist in various sectors.

HOW TO REQUEST SERVICES

The OFNTSC is the technical advisory service for Unaffiliated First Nations. In the event that the OFNTSC is requested to provide services, the designated technical advisor will be informed by the OFNTSC as part of its communications protocol. There are two ways to request services from the OFNTSC:

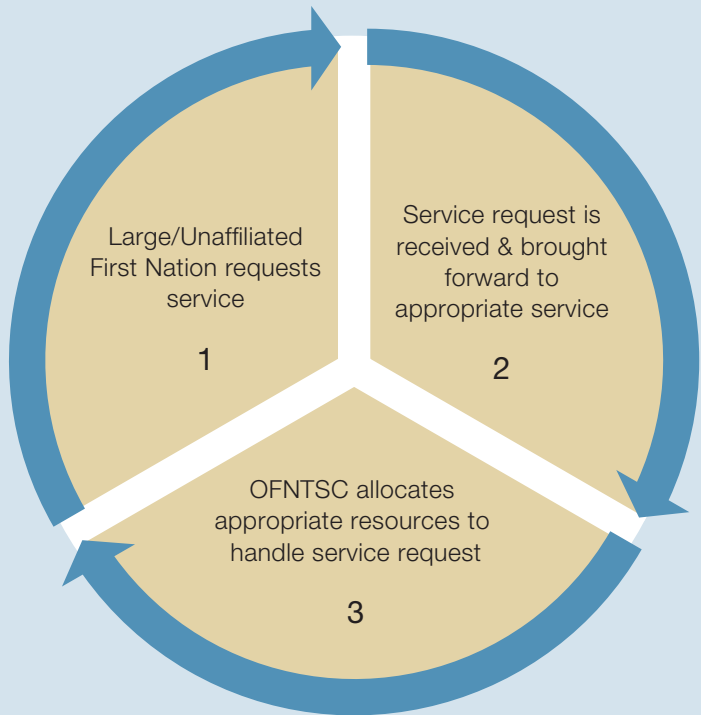
TRIBAL COUNCIL METHOD

Make a direct request to your Tribal Council’s technical services unit, then the technical services unit will make a request to the OFNTSC.



DIRECT METHOD

Call the OFNTSC to request service from either the Thunder Bay or Toronto service centre.



WHEN YOU REQUIRE SERVICE, PLEASE CALL:

THUNDER BAY:
TORONTO:

807.623.9595 OR 1.888.892.8281
416.651.1443 OR 1.888.535.3383



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WESLEY BOVA
PRESIDENT

The Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation continues to foster the technical abilities of all First Nations people. The importance of the Corporation's role in assisting First Nations communities with their technical and infrastructure needs was evident and supported by the securing of a 5-year funding agreement through 2020/2021.

There has been, and continues to be, a major focus on drinking water in First Nations.

In recognition of the Federal Commitment with respect to long term drinking water advisories, the OFNTSC:

1. Reinitiated the Trilateral Steering Committee to ensure the engineering and construction phases.
2. Coordinated two water summits to bring together Ontario First Nations Chiefs to discuss First Nations drinking water.



With respect to the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act:

1. The OFNTSC has completed a draft of implications of regulations with respect to the nine technical elements required to provide safe drinking water in First Nations. This will be circulated in the summer of 2017.
2. The OFNTSC is committed to work with First Nations, Chiefs of Ontario and the Provincial Territorial Organizations (PTOs) in developing their path forward with respect to the provision of safe drinking water for all Ontario First Nations.

With respect to operator training, the OFNTSC was also the successful proponent in the request for proposal to provide the Circuit Rider Trainer Program for First Nations Water Treatment Plant Operators in Ontario.

Emergency Management training also continued to be a very successful program delivered by the OFNTSC. In addition to the previous training components, a module on recovery was developed and included as part of the training. Although it has been indicated by INAC that they may be partnering with other partners to facilitate the provision, we will continue to provide this service as funding allows.

A mandate review of the OFNTSC that included comprehensive interviews of First Nations, PTOs and Tribal Councils was completed and will be presented at the 2017 AOCC.

A strategic planning exercise will follow the completion of the mandate review and OFNTSC will make any needed programming changes to better meet the needs of First Nations.



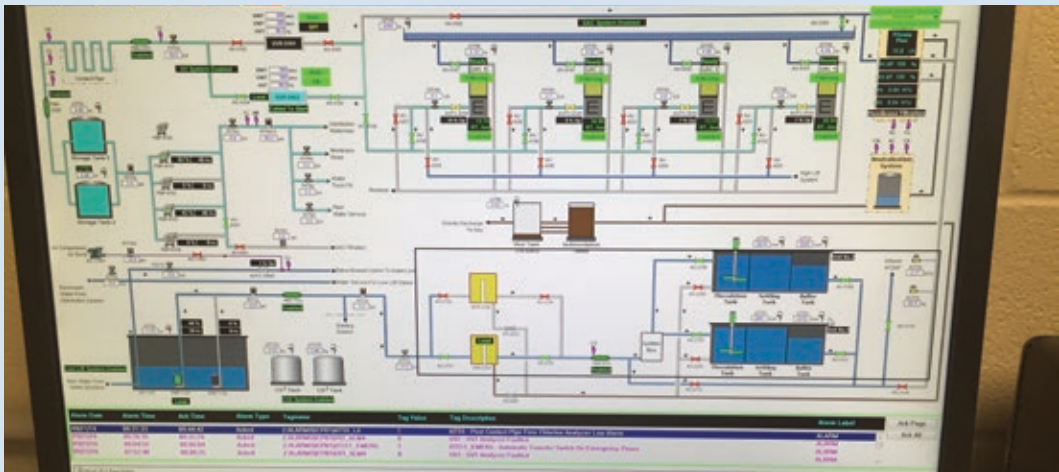


ENGINEERING MANAGER'S REPORT

MATHEW HOPPE
ENGINEERING MANAGER

It has been a very productive year at the OFNTSC. As we deliver the Circuit Rider Training Program within Ontario, our goal is to expand our training to all interested First Nation communities and to help operators maintain their water plant operator licenses.

Our fuel management program will continue to promote safe fuel handling and offer guidance when dealing with fuel spills. Engineering services will continue to offer technical advisory services. This will ensure that community infrastructure is built to meet the growing needs of each community, while maintaining sustainability for many years to come. Our goal at the OFNTSC is to support First Nations built community infrastructure that will meet community needs.





OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

BRIAN STAATS OPERATIONS MANAGER

As we begin our 22nd year and new era at the OFNTSC, it has once again proved to be a year of accomplishments and hard work for Operations at the OFNTSC.

The continued support for our clients by the OFNTSC service delivery over the past fiscal year has increased workloads for the staff, but we have managed to meet all client requests in the advisory technical services field.

Our partnerships with Tribal Councils and Large First Nations have given them the ability to pursue advisory services just as our main clients from Unaffiliated First Nations. Service requests from our Communities have spread to all service areas and special projects in Environment, Infrastructure, Fire and Safety, Operations and Maintenance, Emergency Planning, and Housing. Each have proved to be successful.

The Environment sector has continued to provide enhanced services in countless areas that include landfill and waste diversion projects and Source Water Protection. Operations and Maintenance service

has been working in the "Community Asset Management Cost Comparison" project and the "Client Change Effects on First Nation Infrastructure" pilot project. The Housing & Infrastructure Specialists were busy preparing for the changes in the CMHC Housing Inspection delivery change that will not only affect the OFNTSC, but all First Nations in Ontario. The Fire and Safety sector finished the fiscal year with the First Nation Student Fire Prevention Poster Contest and the Emergency Planning sector completed the year with the "First Nation Introduction to Recovery" training for all First Nations in Ontario.

Teamwork continues to be a driving force for the OFNTSC to improve our own working environments. Our employees carry this into our client workplaces as well. We will always remain committed to the highest quality standards when delivering services to our clients.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Directors, 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 during these busy days.



Communications

Services

The OFNTSC Communications Department is responsible for all external and internal communications at the OFNTSC. This includes liaising with PTOs, Tribal Councils, Large First Nations and Unaffiliated First Nations, as well as liaising with Federal and Provincial ministries, other Aboriginal groups and professional associations as needed. Communications produces all print resources, maintains the OFNTSC website and social media accounts, produces all OFNTSC events, public relations, and communicates all training and certification opportunities.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- All Tribal Councils & Unaffiliated First Nations Meeting (September 2016)
- Chiefs' Water Crisis Summit & Symposium (October 2016)
- Chiefs' Water Crisis Summit: Next Steps (April 2017)
- Community Engagement (2017)
- Pucks and exhibitor booth provided at Little NHL & Little Bands Northern Youth Hockey Tournament
- Continues news posts to OFNTSC Website
- Numerous tweets and Facebook posts
- 21st Annual Report (2017)

Future Direction 2017-18

For the upcoming year, Communications is focused on executing the Annual Conference, rebranded as TechNations for 2017.



COLIN FRENCH
Communications Director

DID YOU KNOW...

Communications has evolved over the years to include the Annual Report, newsletters, websites, brochures, calendars, promotional materials, and much more!

DID YOU KNOW...

SINCE
1997

OFNTSC Communications unit has served as the link between the Corporation, First Nations, and Tribal Councils since 1997.



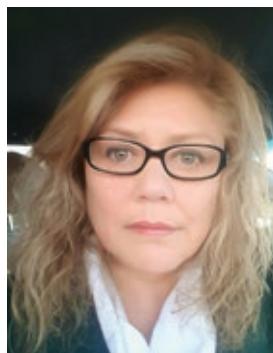


Services

The Emergency Management Planning Training Program exists to help prepare First Nations meet the challenges of an emergency. A focus is placed on training community members who are responsible for managing emergencies to develop and test community Master Emergency Response Plans. The Emergency Planning Coordinator manages the coordination and implementation of the program, while the Emergency Planning Maintenance Officer assists and advises First Nations in the development and activation of their Master Emergency Response Plans.



ALISHA ANDERSON
Emergency Planning
Maintenance Officer



TRACEY ANDERSON
Emergency Planning
Coordinator



KYLE MARTIN
Emergency Planning
Program Assistant

STRATEGY

Phase I:

Risk Assessment and Introduction to Emergency Management Planning (2010/2011) + (2011/2012)

Phase II:

Framework – (2012/2013)

Phase III & Review:

Tabletop Exercise

Phase 1/2 + Phase 1/2/3 (2012/2013)

Phase IV and Review:

Planning for a Full-Scale Exercise (2014/2015)

Live Exercises and

Review: Operations-Based Exercises (2015/2016)

Phases I-IV Review

Training Sessions:

(2012/2013 to Current)

Introduction to Recovery (2016/2017 to Current)

Accomplishments 2016-17

- There was a total of 192 participants who attended the regional training sessions this fiscal year.
- OFNTSC delivered 3 Phase 1/2 Review Sessions: 31 First Nations and 2 Tribal Councils and 2 Organizations participated
- OFNTSC delivered 3 Phase 3/4 Review Sessions: 23 First Nations and 1 Tribal Council and 1 Organizations participated
- OFNTSC deliver 4 Introduction to Recovery Sessions: 38 First Nations and 5 Tribal Council and 3 Organizations participated
- There were 6 in-Community training sessions held with a total of 76 participants
- To date, 90% of First Nations in Ontario have a Master Emergency Response Plan as the OFNTSC assists First Nations to develop and update them

Future Direction 2017-18

For the 2017-2018 fiscal year, Emergency Planning will continue to offer review sessions in the north, mid-central and southern regions. OFNTSC will continue to work with First Nations to develop or update and exercise their Master Emergency Plans.



Engineering

Services

The Engineering sector works with Ontario First Nations to provide technical engineering advisement. This includes project planning and development; project management; capital planning; engineering advisory services for large or small projects (planning, design, construction, commissioning); terms of reference development; quality assurance; and training.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Some highlighted accomplishments from Engineering Services include:
 - Mishgeegogamang – Power Study
 - Naotkamegwanning – School Roof Repairs
 - Naotkamegwanning – E.M.S. Building Construction
 - Six Nations of the Grand River – Woodland Cultural Centre Renovations.
 - Hiawatha – Feasibility Study – New Community Centre
 - Curve Lake – Seniors Housing

DID YOU KNOW...

SINCE
1996

Engineering services have been a part of the OFNTSC since 1996.



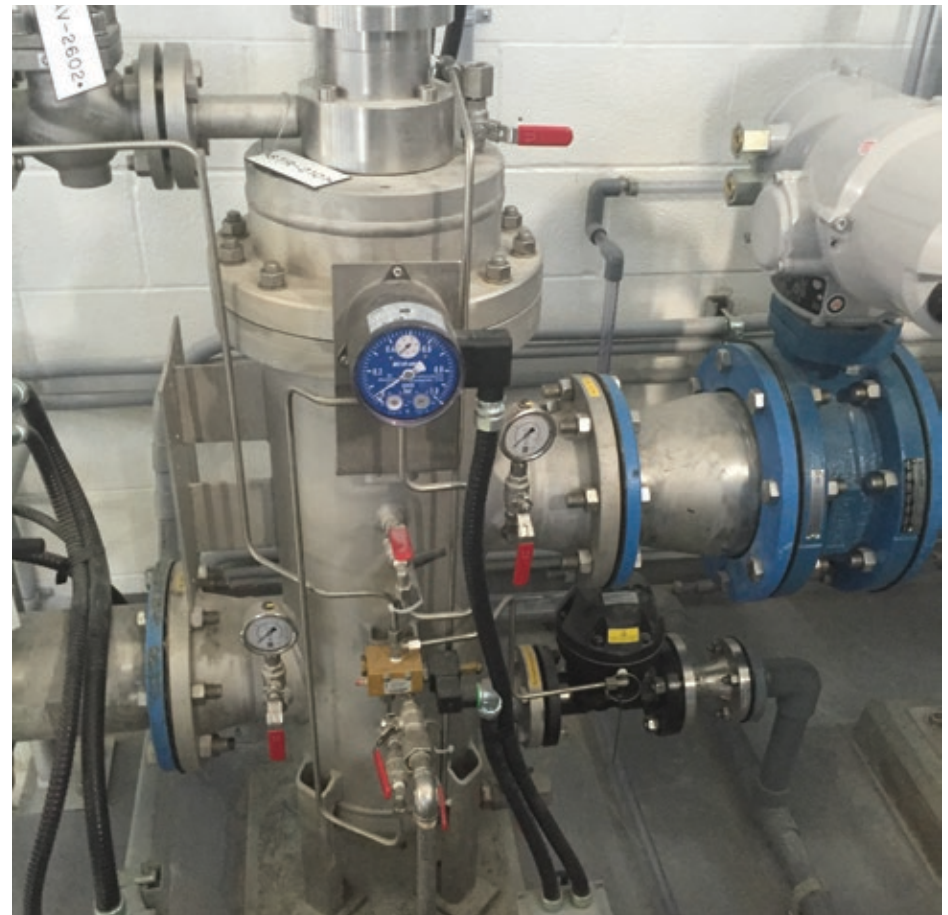
DEREK HILL
Senior Engineer



ROBERT OLIVIER
Water and Wastewater Engineer



TRICIA HAMILTON
Water and Wastewater Engineer



Future Direction 2017-18

The Engineering sector will continue to aid First Nations in terms of reference development, technical document reviews, and advisory services for capital and operation and maintenance projects and training in project management, contract administration and public works management. The sector will continue to provide technical advisory services in all aspects of infrastructure; update GAP Analysis projects; develop/revise training programs in contract administration, project management and public works management; and support work of the Tri-Lateral Working Group.

DID YOU KNOW...



OFNTSC created the Quality Assurance Initiative to keep up to the demand for qualified First Nations.



Environment

Services

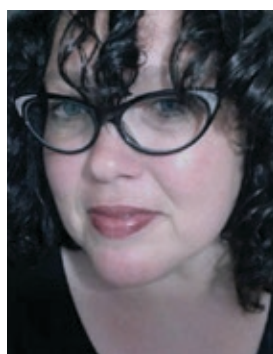
The Environment sector provides advisory and technical services in environmental assessments, contaminated site assessments and remediation, solid waste management, water quality and source water protection, as well as spill response and clean-up instruction. They also provide assistance with environmental related projects and funding opportunities in addition to providing best management practices, codes of practice, policies and guidelines.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Provided direct technical advisory services to numerous First Nations and Tribal Councils on environment related needs, as requested
- Provided environmental technical support to other OFNTSC departments, including infrastructure and engineering
- Worked with the Northern Tribal Councils on the Planning Committee for NOFNEC 2016 – Adapting Our Knowledge to Empower Change
- Presentations were delivered at NOFNEC, OFNTSC Annual Conference, Ontario Aboriginal Land Managers Association, and the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Environment, Climate Change & Water Security Special Session
- Coordinated and delivered 3 training sessions on the Operations and Maintenance of Natural Attenuating Landfill Sites and Solid Waste Diversion



DENEEN BRIGHAM
Environmental
Scientist



STEPHANIE ALLEN
Environmental
Scientist



DID YOU KNOW...

SINCE
1996

Environment services started in 1996 as an environment health study and has grown significantly over the past 15 years to meet the evolving needs of First Nations in Ontario.

- Secured funding for and began development of an Ontario First Nations Source Water Protection Plan Training Course. Additionally, working with the MOECC on an online toolkit website for First Nations on Source Water Protection to support the Course and any interested First Nation.
- Provided direct support for solid waste, source water and/or contaminated site projects to the following First Nations: Couchiching First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashing, Weenusk First Nation, Temagami First Nation, Chippewas of Georgina Island, Thessalon First Nation, Wahgoshig First Nation, M'Chigeeng First Nation, and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan
- Representative on INAC's National State of the Environment Committee and INAC's National Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Future Direction 2017-18

The OFNTSC Environment sector will continue to develop and plan the first pilot delivery of the Ontario First Nations Source Water Protection Plan Training and deliver training regarding Landfill Operation & Maintenance and Solid Waste Diversion funding dependent. They will provide direct project support to numerous First Nations projects concerning solid waste, landfill, contaminated sites, and infrastructure. OFNTSC Environment will also take part in NOFNEC 2017 as a planning committee member, INAC National Solid Waste advisory committee member, and Ontario Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence review panel member.



Climate Change

Services

The Climate Change Program works closely with communities on climate change and energy related activities. The services provided include community energy planning; renewable energy and conservation projects; and sharing information on the impacts of climate change, carbon cap and trade and the economic potential of carbon offsets.



BILL MALONEY
Climate Change
Specialist



ROOPA RAKSHIT
Energy Planning
Specialist



MARIANO ARRIAGA
Energy Specialist

DID YOU KNOW...

IMPLEMENTED IN
2016

The Climate Change Program was implemented at OFNTSC in July 2016 to implement the newly established program.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Delivered 16 presentations to various PTOs, Tribal Councils and Communities regarding climate change and carbon credit impacts
- Aided in the completion of Community energy plans and are actively trying to find ways to implement them
- Currently working with 10 Communities to assist them with their energy planning processes
- 4 renewable energy feasibility studies have been completed with ongoing work to assist Communities with implementation

Future Direction 2017-18

The Climate Change program will continue to work with Communities to help develop and implement their energy plans. The OFNTSC is now available to assist in the development of feasibility studies, renewable energy training and capacity building. The program will visit Ontario First Nation Communities, share valuable information and help answer climate change related queries.

DID YOU KNOW...



There are 3 KEY AREAS of the Climate Change program:

1. *Carbon Cap and Trade*
2. *Energy Planning*
3. *Renewable Energy Feasibility*



Fire, Safety & Firefighting

Services

Fire and Safety provides public fire services and protection in accordance with the National Building Code. Advisory services are provided to First Nation Communities for fire prevention, code interpretation and compliance, emergency vehicle specification review, community fire prevention issues, and fire department administration.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Administered a Fire Prevention Poster Contest for school-aged children
- Assisted in the Development of Fire Safety Literature for the Emergency Planning Program
- Fire Loss Reports were compiled for Calendar Year 2016
- Generic fire hall designs were shared with First Nations

Future Direction 2017-18

The OFNTSC Fire and Safety program will continue to provide fire safety technical service to clients. Submission requests for funding to INAC for Bulk Fire Equipment and Fire Prevention Materials will take place in the future. The program will continue to compile fire loss statistics and administer a fire prevention poster contest for school-aged children to raise awareness.



SIOBHAN KENNEDY
Fire and Safety
Coordinator





Fuel System Management Program

Services

Fuel Systems Management at the OFNTSC provides services such as fuel tank best practice inspections (home and commercial); emergency fuel spill response training and plan development; fuel equipment support; and proper fuel management and fuel handling techniques. The Fuel Systems Management sector also liaises with private and government sectors and complies with Federal legislation regarding fuel tank storage.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- 9 training sessions were completed: 7 were in remote northern First Nations; 1 in a southern First Nation; and 1 in non-remote Northwestern Ontario
- 2 training sessions were held at Band-owned gas bars
- 1 training session was with Kimesskenemenow LP (a James Bay winter road group), training took place in Moose Cree First Nation
- 2 presentations were given: in Rama regarding Fuel Program, and at the Northern Ontario First Nations Environmental Conference regarding Spill Reporting and Spill Response
- Successful in obtaining capital purchase funding. Purchase was made for training material, which enables the program to teach proper fuel handling using a hands-on approach.



DOUG STUART
Fuel Systems
Management Trainer

DID YOU KNOW...



Fuel Systems Management assists communities with spill kit support when needed.



Future Direction 2017-18

During this next fiscal year, the OFNTSC Fuel Systems Management Service will be focusing on continuing to deliver Fuel Handling training sessions to First Nations. The goal of these sessions is to ensure First Nations are prepared in the event of an emergency and are operating their facilities properly and meeting all legislative commitments.

A focus will also be placed on remote First Nations who are dependent on fuel systems to operate their communities. This includes gas bars which require staff to be fully trained.

Fuel Systems Management Program is currently working with the CRTP Water Program in regard to Water Treatment Plants across the Province who have oil burning appliances in their water plants. Spill kits will be distributed to water treatment plants to protect the potable drinking water that plants have in storage. Spill kits will be shipping through July 2017.

A capital request will be submitted to procure spill kits and other related items for distribution at training events. Fuel Systems Management will also continue to look for funding to expand the video training library for videos regarding a First Nation Marina and Float Plane Base safety video.

DID YOU KNOW...

SINCE
1998

Fuel Systems Management started in 1998 to address the growing need of trained fuel handlers in First Nations across Ontario.



Housing

Services

OFNTSC Housing offers a variety of services including training and capacity development comprising OBOA building code training courses, CMHC Housing Quality workshops, and NRCan's energy efficiency training. The sector also provides housing policy reviews, analysis and development; advice on housing management and administration; assistance and advice in the research and development of business plans, funding proposals and various policies; provides technical advice to the AFN Chief's Committee on Housing Technical Working Group and the Ontario First Nations Steering Committee on Housing; advice and guidance regarding government and non-government housing programs, funding and special initiatives; and build and maintain relationships with government agencies, First Nation communities and organizations to develop and deliver programs and services.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- In partnership with CMHC, OFNTSC supported Tribal Council technical service advisors/inspectors and First Nation community housing professionals by providing quality technical training and capacity development opportunities which included:
 - Working closely with the Ontario Building Officials Association, provided 5 building code courses required for building inspector certification and/or qualification;



GRACE MARTINEAU
Housing Advisor



- For First Nation communities, 2 BRAM (Building and Renovating to Avoid Mould) workshops and one HRV-Ventilation workshop involving approximately 50 First Nation Participants.
- OFNTSC assisted Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's Evaluation, Performance Measurement and Review Branch in the Evaluation of On-Reserve Housing - Methodology, Case Studies and Analysis- a contracted project that essentially was to produce technical reports/summaries from 7 site visits involving First Nation communities in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. OFNTSC Infrastructure Specialists conducted visual inspections detailing the condition of selected houses relative to building codes and best practices; related approaches for improving longevity of assets and sustainability of approaches; gaps in construction, maintenance and management capacity; and models for best practices.
- OFNTSC contributed to the Assembly of First Nation's and the First Nations Information Governance Centre's (FNIGC) Pilot of the Electronic-Community Self-Assessment Tool (eCSAT). OFNTSC technical professionals were contracted by AFN to assess the presence of mould in 75 randomly selected homes in an Ontario First Nation Community using tablet software that focused on physical characteristics of the home including the building history, exterior and interior conditions, and the presence of mould.
- OFNTSC contributed to and successfully executed the 15th First Nations Housing Conference (FNHC) along with 11 Tribal Councils. The FNHC included the usual highlights of the Builders Challenge and Housing Recognition Awards, along with workshops on housing policy creation and implementation, fire safety, and tenant relations.

Future Direction 2017-18

With the federal government's commitments to housing reform, OFNTSC will continue to work with the AFN and participate on the National Chiefs Committee in the development of national strategies ensuring an Ontario regional perspective. OFNTSC will communicate with and assist the COO as they work towards housing and infrastructure strategies. As CMHC moves towards one national contract provider for technical services required under all their On-Reserve Non-Profit Housing Programs, OFNTSC will strive to assist First Nations and Tribal Councils during this process by providing building code compliance services ensuring that funding requirements are met as set out in their agreements with CMHC. OFNTSC will look for ways to improve building code compliance concerning houses in First Nation communities through training, policies, enforcement mechanisms and code adoption.



Infrastructure



Services

Infrastructure services include housing inspections to ensure code compliance on residential homes, inspection of existing housing stock, CMHC RRAP inspections, CMHC section 95 inspections, physical condition reviews (PCRs), and air quality and mold assessments as well as training. Infrastructure services also provide O&M services supporting INAC ICMS/CAIS/ACRS and reporting such as the five-year capital plan.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Integrated Capital Management System call letters were sent out from 3 First Nations
- 1 First Nation received confirmation to send in a new application for Phase 2 of the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program
- Capital Projects Officer reviews upcoming projects continuously
- 2 projects were approved for Saugeen First Nation
- 3 new projects commenced in Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Future Direction 2017-18

Infrastructure Services will continue to provide inspection services around homes and buildings on-reserve over the next year. In addition to the inspection services, Infrastructure Services plans to build a 6-unit complex and are planning for 2 new start-ups to commence. They will also be assisting First Nations with reporting and working with housing services to assist First Nations inspectors become certified building inspectors under provincial requirements. They will continue to provide training sessions as well.



JONATHAN GREGG
Infrastructure
Specialist



TRACEY JOHN
Infrastructure
Administration



CLARENCE MEEKIS
Infrastructure
Specialist



THOMAS NORTHARDT
Lead Infrastructure
Specialist



CHARLES PETAHTEGOOSE
Infrastructure
Specialist



CHASITY TOULOUSE
Infrastructure
Specialist



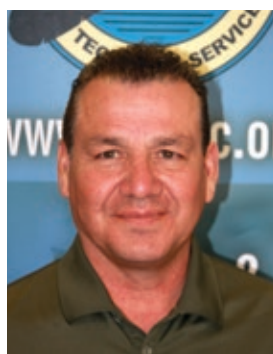
Operations & Maintenance

Services

O&M at the OFNTSC provides support for: Integrated Capital Management Systems (ICMS), Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS), ACRS Terms of Reference, Capital Asset Inventory Systems (CAIS), Capital Management Database (CMDDB), Maintenance Management Systems (MMS), Asset Management Systems (AMS), Conditional Assessment & Housing Database (CAHD), O&M Forecasting Model for Water & Wastewater, Tangible Capital Assets (TCA), and updates on government O&M policies & reporting requirements as well as public sector accounting board 3150 (PSAB3150). The O&M sector also supports First Nations in recording, tracking, assessing and evaluating of current capital assets and methods for improving funding levels.



BRIAN STAATS
Operations Manager



ELMER LICKERS
Senior O&M Advisor

DID YOU KNOW...

SINCE
1995

O&M sector was one of the first services to be offered by the OFNTSC during its creation in 1995.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- In partnership with INAC and OCCAR, the O&M sector is currently conducting a Climate Change Project that will systematically review historical climate information, conduct risk assessments, and identify potential risk as it relates climate change on First Nations infrastructure facilities
- Development of a climate change toolkit that First Nations can use to conduct risk assessment, mitigations and develop adaptation plans for infrastructure vulnerability as it relates to climate change
- OFNTSC is working to recreate the existing CAHD database by building a comprehensive housing data within a more modern asset management housing software and testing the concept within a First Nation community setting
- OFNTSC has partnered with 10 First Nations & 10 Municipalities to conduct a detailed review of actual O&M expenditures to various infrastructure facilities

Future Direction 2017-18

The O&M sector will continue to develop adaptation plans for infrastructure vulnerability as it relates to climate change and create comprehensive training material that will be used to deliver Climate Change Adaptation workshops to all Ontario First Nations. The sector will also continue to implement the modern housing system which will have advance functionalities and methods to better track and manage housing inventory, inspections and financials for all First Nations housing stock. OFNTSC O&M will also gather actual O&M expenditures data from various First Nations and municipal communities to compare the formula funding provided by INAC. The results of the analysis will be completed in the summer of 2017.

DID YOU KNOW...



O&M provides support on the various databases and asset management systems that INAC maintains.



Water & Wastewater

Services

The Water and Wastewater sector provides technical advice to Ontario First Nations in regards to water and wastewater quality assurance. This includes services such as project planning and development; quality assurance; capital planning; terms of reference development; technical advisory; and training.

DID YOU KNOW...



The Water and Wastewater sector incorporates engineering services into its offerings.

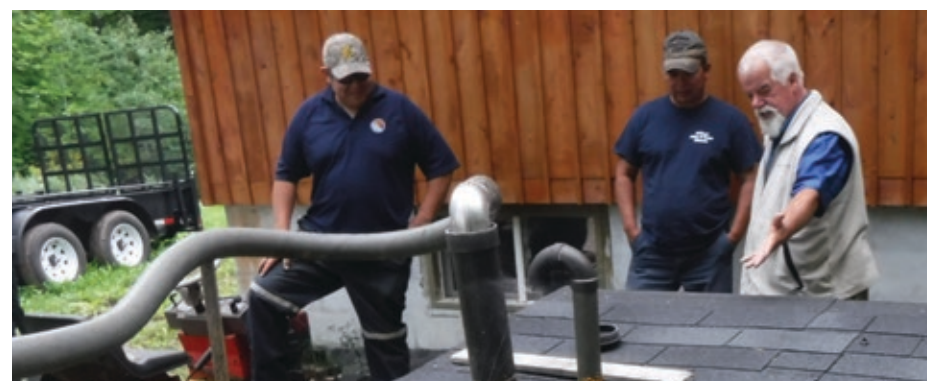
DID YOU KNOW...

BEGAN IN
1996

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.



GLEN GOODMAN
Civil Specialist



Accomplishments 2016-17

- Some highlighted accomplishments from Water and Wastewater services include:
 - Bill S-8 Technical Review
 - Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER) implementation
 - CRTP Technical Support
 - Serpent River First Nation – New Water Treatment Plant
 - Weenusk First Nation - Water Treatment Plant Upgrades
 - Northwest Angle 33 – Feasibility Study Water System Upgrades
 - Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay) – Feasibility Study Water System Upgrades
 - Wauzhushk Onigum – Feasibility Study Water System Upgrades
 - Sandy Lake First Nation - Feasibility Study – Water System Upgrades.
 - Munsee-Delaware – New Water Treatment and Distribution System

Future Direction 2017-18

The Water and Wastewater sector will continue to provide technical analysis on First Nations Safe Drinking Water Act. This legislation will dramatically change the way First Nations deliver drinking water services. Water and Wastewater will continue to be part of the Tri-Lateral Working Group which is attempting to eliminate long term Drinking Water Advisories. The sector will continue to update GAP Analysis projects; assist Communities with upgrading/repairing, designing and constructing new water and wastewater systems; assist Communities with the Operation and Maintenance of their systems; and conduct system assessments. An emphasis will also be placed on working with OFNTSC Environment on Source Water Protection.



Water & Wastewater Specialist



RICHARD SHAWANDA
Water and Wastewater
Engineer



DID YOU KNOW...



The Water and Wastewater specialist provides on-site inspections and recommendations to First Nations with water treatment facilities.

Services

The Water and Wastewater Specialist focuses on quality regulation and provides services such as regulation review; preventative maintenance plans; sampling/test requirements; record keeping and reporting; training plans; safety awareness; emergency response plans; and the service provider pilot project.

Accomplishments 2016-17

- Completion of 2 Annual Performance Inspections for Whitefish River First Nation and M'Chigeeng First Nation
- Service Provider Pilot creation and initial trials for 3 First Nation communities
- Assist with the 19 Unaffiliated First Nations communities in preparing and completing operator training subsidy plans and submissions
- Involved with Source Water Protection Plan committee in an advisory role
- A part of the Ministry of Environment's Operator Certification Working Group
- Planned and hosted Service Provider Pilot Workshop in Thunder Bay for northern Unaffiliated First Nations
- Site visits to 3 Unaffiliated First Nations with respect to water treatment and distribution concerns and provided recommendations for remedial action plans
- Assisted with CRTP initial meeting and planned and organized second meeting for new fiscal year goals and tangibles

Future Direction 2017-18

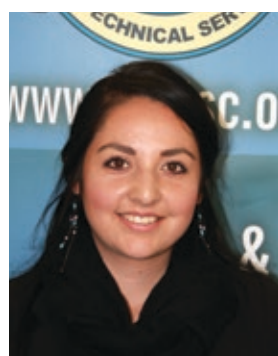
Moving forward, the Water and Wastewater Specialist will continue performing site visits upon request, providing technical advice, and advance the service provider pilot project. As the program grows and evolves to meet the needs of First Nation Communities, so will the variety of training and services provided. The service provider pilot project is offered specifically for First Nation Communities.



Administrative

Services

The Administrative sector provides services to OFNTSC that plan, direct, and coordinate supportive services like finance, accounting and management. They provide support for corporate activities, business development, and strategic business planning processes.



CORRIE HILL
Executive Assistant



COURTNEY CADA
Administrative Support



PAT SEGUIN
Administrative Support



BRIAN KATZ
Finance Manager



ASH HABASHY
Accountant





CHIEFS' WATER CRISIS SUMMIT

On April 4th, 2017 Chiefs from across Ontario gathered to discuss the water landscape in the province. The meeting allowed for Chiefs to first be educated about all First Nation water initiatives in the province, then privately converse about how to take the Next Steps together to provide clean, safe drinking water for all.

There were 130 delegates registered, including 73 Chiefs/Proxies. Registrants included the Ontario Regional Chief, leadership and water technicians from First Nation Communities and organizations, government officials, OFNTSC Board of Directors, OFNTSC staff members and others involved in First Nation water initiatives.

At the end of the discussion, the Chiefs unanimously agreed to a declaration indicating that the adoption of a First Nations Led Approach be made by the Chiefs in Assembly at the June 2017 AOCC. That through their elected leaders, the future of infrastructure in Ontario First Nations be First Nations led. It was decided that the OFNTSC shall support the Working Group established by the Declaration and develop recommendations



to the Chiefs on how to properly organize and create productive, strategically collaborative roles, order and communications among the various key players in the water and wastewater management field. Further to that, the Chiefs in Assembly is to direct the release of all First Nation technical information by INAC to OFNTSC to assist in its initiatives.

CIRCUIT RIDER TRAINING PROGRAM (CRTP)

OFNTSC WELCOMES BACK THE CIRCUIT RIDER TRAINING PROGRAM

The CRTP is designed to provide on-site, hands-on training and mentoring services to operators of First Nations drinking water and wastewater systems. Under this program, mentoring services are delivered by Circuit Rider Trainers (CRTs) who provide the training to assist First Nation operators to attain and maintain the level of certification required for them to operate, maintain, and monitor their community's drinking water and wastewater systems.

DID YOU KNOW...

RATE OF
84%

OFNTSC provided training to 73 First Nations, a participation rate of 84%. This is a 14% improvement from the previous year.

DID YOU KNOW...

78
COMMUNITIES

Trainers have provided 1,933.5 training hours, resulting in 3,431.5 hours of on-the-job training to 78 communities.



RICHARD SHAWANDA
CRTP Coordinator



SAMANTHA ROWE
Administrative Support

The program supports First Nations in:

- Developing and maintaining capacity to manage systems
- Increasing reliability of systems
- Ensuring efficient operation
- Ensuring standards for health and safety are met
- Decreasing the number and duration of drinking water advisories (DWAs)
- Maximizing the use of existing infrastructure
- Providing 24-hour access to qualified experts in case of emergencies
- Development of site specific training plans

OFNTSC is the CRTP for the period of October 2016 to March 2017. There are 87 First Nations that are eligible for participation through OFNTSC.

Trainers are tracking the names and levels of operators who have received training. It was noted that, of 148 operators, 45 of them (30%) do not have a license and 30 of them (20%) have their OIT. Out of 78 communities which information was available, 19 (26%) are not on-track in terms of obtaining CEUs, and 16 (22%) are not on-track in terms of obtaining OJTs, for renewing operator licenses.

Additional value that OFNTSC is bringing to the program is providing cross-training for operators to other nearby First Nation treatment plants; identifying communities missing spill kits and providing them; and tracking which operators would benefit from upcoming anticipated changes to licensing regulations.

MOVING FORWARD

The CRTP hopes to restore Continuing Education Unit Training (CEUs). This will allow the trainers to proctor director approved courses, which will help the operators in the renewing of their current operator licenses as well as new plant trainees that desire to become water plant operators within their Community. Currently, the program will continue to train and provide operators with site visits and on-the-job practical training. The future of CRTP is exciting, not only for the OFNTSC, but for the Communities that benefit from this very important training program.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY PLANNING SPECIALISTS

In 2016, OFNTSC hired 3 new specialists to implement the new Climate Change Program – Bill Maloney, climate change specialist; Roopa Rakshit, energy planning specialist; and Mariano Arriaga, renewable energy specialist. The program's deliverables are in 3 key areas including carbon cap and trade, energy planning, and renewable energy feasibility. New to OFNTSC, the program is to help address the impacts of climate change and energy related issues in First Nations.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The OFNTSC supports numerous communal activities for First Nations throughout the year. By engaging our communities, the OFNTSC supports efforts that ensure healthy and safe communities for all to enjoy. Some community engagement projects that the OFNTSC has participated in includes Little NHL Tournament, Little Bands Northern Youth Hockey Tournament, and several career fairs across the province.



FIRST NATIONS WATER SYMPOSIUM 2016

The OFNTSC hosted the First Nations Water Crisis Summit & Symposium in Niagara Falls, Ontario on October 17-19, 2016. Formerly known as the First Nations Water Symposium, this past year's event was significantly modified to address the First Nations water crisis in Ontario (and Canada) and included a historic Chiefs' Summit.

The successful event brought water plant operators and technicians from First Nations across the province to learn, engage, and network. The OFNTSC provided educational workshops to help build capacity and demonstrate important skills.

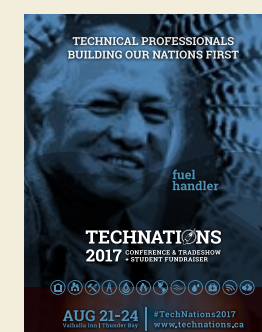


TECHNATIONS 2017 CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW + STUDENT FUNDRAISER

With great success, the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation has hosted several Annual Conferences throughout its 22-year history. This year, the OFNTSC is rebranding the event as **TechNations 2017 Conference & Tradeshow + Student Fundraiser**. Formerly, the OFNTSC Annual Conference, TechNations will focus on the professionals and people that help build self-reliance in First Nations.

The event will be held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, August 21-24, 2017.

TechNations will also feature a tradeshow to give delegates the opportunity to network with technical professionals, manufacturers, and suppliers to compare products, discuss concerns, learn best practices, and disseminate advice on a regional level. The Student Fundraiser will surround a Golf Tournament at Whitewater Golf Club and feature the student achievement and Derrick Kamanga Awards.





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WWW.OFNTSC.ORG

HEAD OFFICE

Mississaugas of New Credit Indian
Reserve, 4453 First Line Rd.,
New Credit Commercial Plaza
Unit 202, Box 8
Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0
Tel: 905-768-3399

**THUNDER BAY
SERVICE CENTRE**

200 South Syndicate Ave., Suite 206A
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 1C9
Toll Free: 1-888-892-8281
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