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# Our Communities

### NORTH

### Anishinaabeg of

- Kababpikotawangag Resources
- 1. Anishinaabe of Naongashing (Big Island)
- 2. Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum (Rat Portage)
- 3. Big Grassy
- 4. North West Angle #33
- 5. North West Angle #37
- 6. Ojibways of Onigaming

#### **Bimose Tribal Council**

- 1. Eagle Lake
- 2. Grassy Narrows
- 3. Iskatewizaagegan (Shoal Lake #39)
- 4. Lac Des Mille Lacs
- Naotkamegwanning Anishinawbe (Whitefish Bay)
   Shoal Lake #40
- 7. Wabaseemoong
- 8. Wabaseemoon
- 9. Wabauskar
- 10. Washagamis Bay

#### Matawa First Nations Management Inc.

- 1. Aroland
- 2. Constance Lake
- 3. Eabametoong (Fort Hope)
- 4. Ginnogaming (Long Lac #77)
- 5. Horne Payne
- 6. Long Lake #58
- 7. Marten Falls
- 8. Neskantaga (Lansdowne House)
- 9. Nibinamik (Summer Beaver)
- 10. Webequie

### Pwi-Di-Goo-Zhing Ne-Yaa-Zhing

- Tribal Council
- 1. Couchiching
- 2. Lac La Croix
- 3. Naicatchewenin
- 4. Nicickousemenecaning (Red Dog)
- 5. Rainy River
- 6. Seine River

4

7. Stanjikoming

### Unaffiliated Western First Nations

- 1. Biinjitiwabik Zaaging Anishinabek
- (Rocky Bay)
- 2. Fort William
- 3. Gull Bay
- 4. Michipocoten
- 5. Mishkeegogamang (New Osnaburgh)
- 6. Ochiichagwe'babigo'ining (Dalles)
- 7. Ojibways of Pic River
- 8. Pays Plat
- 9. Pic Mobert
- 10. Red Rock (Lake Helen)

#### Keewaytinook Okimakanak

- Tribal Council
- 1. Deer Lake
- 2. Fort Severn
- Kee-Way-Win
   McDowell Lake
- 5. North Spirit Lake
- 6. Poplar Hill

#### Shibogama First Nations Council

- 1. Kasabonika Lake
- 2. Kingfisher Lake
- 3. Wapekeka
- 4. Wawakapewin
- 5. Wunnumin

### 6. Sand Point

### Windigo First Nations Council

- 1. Bearskin Lake
- 2. Cat Lake
- 3. Koocheching
- 4. North Caribou Lake (Round Lake)
- 5. Sachigo Lake
- Saugeen Nation (Savant Lake)
   Slate Falls

### . . . . . . . . .

#### Independent First Nations Alliance

- 1. Kitchenumaykoosib Inninuwug (Big Trout Lake)
- 2. Lac Seul
- 3. Muskrat Dam
- 4. Pikangikum
- 5. Whitesand

ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL SERVICES CORPORATION

### SOUTH

### Mushkegowuk Tribal Council

Southern First Nations

2. Chippewas of Aamjiwnaang

3. Chippewas of Kettle & Stony

4. Chippewas of the Thames

6. Munsee-Delaware Nation

Ogemawahj Tribal Council

1. Chippewas of Beausoleil

4. Mississaugas of Alderville

Southern Unaffiliated First

1. Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

2. Chippewas of Nawash (Cape

3. Chippewas of Saugeen

6. Mississaugas of New Credit

7. Wahta Mohawks (Gibson)

1. Bkwejwanong Territory (Walpole

2. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne

3. Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

4. Six Nations of the Grand River

5. Wikwemikong Unceded Indian

LARGE FIRST NATIONS

(Christian Island)

6. Moose Deer Point

(Golden Lake)

Croker)

4. Curve Lake

5. Hiawatha

Island)

(Tyendinaga)

Territory

Reserve

\*As Of May, 2003

**Nations** 

5. Delaware Nation (Moravian)

7. Oneida Nation of the Thames

2. Chippewas of Georgina Island

5. Mississaugas of Scugog Island

3. Chippewas of Mnjikaning (Rama)

Secretariat

1. Caldwell

(Sarnia)

Point

- 1. Attawapiskat
- 2. Chapleau Cree
- 3. Fort Albany
- 4. Kashechewan
- 5. Missanabie Cree
- 6. Moose Cree
- 7. Taykwa Tagamou Nation (New Post)

#### Wabun Tribal Council

#### 1. Beaverhouse

- 2. Brunswick House
- 3. Chapleau Ojibway
- 4. Matachewan
- 5. Mattagmi
- 6. Wahgoshig (Abitibi #70)

#### North Shore Tribal Council

- 1. Garden River
- 2. Mississagua #8

5. Serpent River

7. Whitefish Lake

6. Thessalon

Manitoulin

3. Sheguiandah

4. Sheshegwaning

5. Whitefish River

1. Dokis

2. Henvey Inlet

3. Magnetawan

5. Wahnapitae

1. Shawanaga

4. Weenusk

4. Nipissing

Nations

Ojibways of Batchewana (Rankin)
 Sagamok Anishinawbek

United Chiefs and Councils of

1. M'Chigeeng (West Bay)

2. Ojibways of Sucker Creek

6. Zhiibaahaasing (Cockburn)

Association of First Nations

**Unaffiliated Sudbury First** 

Temagami (Bear Island)
 Wasauksing (Parry Island)

Waabnoong Bemjiwang

# President's Message

am pleased to present the 2002/2003 Annual Report. Again this year the report will outline for you the technical and advisory support provided to First Nations in Ontario.

Most importantly, OFNTSC continues to implement the Planning and Priority Process (P3) restructuring process which includes new organizational structures and the addition of permanent and contract staff to strengthen our mandate in providing direction and technical advice to our clients.

Last year we released of the OFNTSC water quality report. As a result we spearheaded various initiatives and have been working with our partners to improve the water and waste water services to our First Nations.

From expanding and increasing the amount of our Water Operator training sessions to developing engineer assessments for the high risk First Nation communities, OFNTSC has taken a lead role.



"I have had the opportunity to visit many of our communities to witness the grassroots accomplishments of our stakeholders and to better understand the issues first-hand."

OFNTSC enjoyed its largest and most successful Annual Conference and Trade Show to date last year in Niagara Falls. Our clients, partners and supporters had a full agenda of informative workshops and discussion groups, not to mention the trade show which attracted suppliers from across Canada. We look forward to hosting this year's conference in Sault Ste. Marie.

Personally, I have made an effort to open communications with our partners in the federal government and at Queen's Park. We have increased the number of OFNTSC Executive meetings in order to maintain our strong direction and to develop a sense of unity and immediacy among our partners.

I have had the opportunity to visit many of our communities to witness the grassroots accomplishments of our stakeholders and to better understand the issues first-hand. This has reinforced my belief that First Nations in Ontario continue to access improved standards of service and increased capacity for self-sufficiency.

This annual report will serve as a useful guide for a better understanding of the services offered by OFNTSC and while I believe OFNTSC will continue to respond effectively to the needs of its clients, we are constantly evolving to provide the most advanced technological advice currently available.

Yours truly, JASON BATISE,

JASON BATISE President

### **Executive Director's Message**



am pleased to bring you the 8th Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) Annual Report for the 2002/2003 fiscal year.

As Executive Director, I am pleased to say that it has been both an exciting and successful year for OFNTSC.

As we continue with our restructuring as directed in 1999-2000 by the Board of Directors we have had several changes at both our Thunder Bay and Toronto service centres. We have expanded various programs and initiated several more including the R-2000 Housing Program and a youth outreach project which we believe will be very successful.

Most importantly, OFNTSC has been at the forefront of the First Nations water problem by expanding our staff, increasing the number of water operator sessions and spearheading discussions with INAC, Health Canada and other government offices.

Last year, our successful Earth Keepers program received international recognition as representatives of OFNTSC were invited to conduct a presentation at the UN Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa. OFNTSC also hosted international guests as representatives from a national Australian Indigenous agency spent the day exploring the many ways OFNTSC serves its clients with presentations from several OFNTSC staff members and a guided tour of Mnjikaning First Nation.

We continue to publish a quarterly newsletter informing our clients of the new and ongoing projects and programs at OFNTSC. In addition we also distribute a one-page Special Bulletin that includes the most up-to-date information specific to various OFNTSC departments on special issues as it becomes available. The OFNTSC website has been expanded and redefined and is updated regularly.

I hope everyone will take the opportunity to read our report and see first hand what strides OFNTSC has taken towards technology transfer and capacity building with our stakeholders.

I believe strongly that OFNTSC is a service our clients rely on for advisory and technical advise therefore it is our obligation to continue to expand, inform and initiate progressive projects that will better serve our clients as we continue this exciting journey towards self-sufficiency for all First Nations in Ontario.

Sincerely,

IRVIN GEORGE
Executive Director

# **Thunder Bay Branch Activities**

his past year was a busy time for the staff in the Thunder Bay Service Centre. Along with conducting our normal job related duties the staff were also involved in a number of other initiatives that kept the office quite busy.

The Thunder Bay Service Centre recently completed the Video Conferencing Project that connected 11 Tribal Council Technical Units together via the Internet. Although the equipment is still new to everyone there has been a significant increase in its use and this translated into a cost saving for the users due to a decrease in travel costs. What was once done face-to-face can now be accomplished via the Internet.

The Thunder Bay Service Centre has increased its services to the clients in the North by increasing its personnel. New to our staff in the Thunder Bay office is Michelle Glena-Stamos, an Environmental Technologist with an extensive background and experience in working with First Nations in the north. Also, new to the OFNTSC is Lori Rice who is the R-2000/EnerGuide Program Administrator.

One thing that has not changed from last year is Thunder Bay's frequent meetings with the Northern Tribal Councils. Representatives from each of the Tribal Council offices meet to discuss issues of common concern to each other. Representatives from the various governmental offices are also encouraged to attend and discuss new initiatives directly with the



**OFNTSC RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE** – Thunder Bay Branch Manager Paul Seguin presents a gift to the students of Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School in Thunder Bay. In appreciation of the hard work and success of the school's senior boy's volleyball team winning the city championship, OFNTSC donated Hockey Challenge tickets to the student's union. Students Lance Loon, Gordina Oombash, Drema Keeiskquayash and Theresa Oombash accepted the gift on behalf of the school.

participants. The meetings also offer great networking opportunities for the TC representatives and government personnel, suppliers and consultants.

A meeting of the Northern Unaffiliated First Nations was held in April 2003 in Thunder Bay. Representatives from the various First Nations had the opportunity to meet with the staff of the OFNTSC and to learn first-hand the services available to them through our Corporation. Chief Earl Commanda, a founder and former President of OFNTSC with assistance from Michelle Glena-Stamos was on hand to provide a brief presentation on his visit to South Africa where he presented a paper on OFNTSC's Earth Keepers Program. In February 2003 OFNTSC helped plan and coordinate the Northern Housing Conference in Thunder Bay for the Northern Tribal Councils. The three-day Northern Housing Conference provided Northern First Nation community members with information on a range of housing issues useful in community development, housing construction, housing management, home maintenance. The conference presented information through a series of facilitated workshops and/or presentations with a northern focus. Also a trade show hosted a variety of products or services available in the field of housing. According to organizers it was both well-attended and successful.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

# Toronto Service Centre Report

" Want to thank all of the Toronto Service Centre staff for their dedication and time in ensuring that projects, proposals and meetings for our clients interest are delivering on time and on schedule."



he past year turned out to be a very busy year again with water issues taking the forefront. Major undertakings involved the submission of the Certification and Training proposal to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. This was prompted by the Minister's interest indicated at meetings with the OFNTSC Executive. Other initiatives included the successful Operator in Training sessions that resulted in over 90 OIT licenses to our First Nations operators. The OFNTSC will continue to work with the OITs by supporting them in their efforts to attain their Class 1 licenses. Work has started on the revamping of the Circuit Rider Training manuals with the awarding of a contract to prepare a Pilot Module for the Operator in Training segment. With proper support and resources it is planned to continue with the remainder of the planned training modules in the next fiscal year 2003/2004. Toronto staff continue to be active members in INAC's Short Term Action Team's. Through this collaborative effort amongst OFNTSC, INAC and other Federal departments significant advances were realized. Our staff worked with our partners in developing the Terms of Reference for the Assessment of Water Treatment plants and the preparation of an Emergency Preparedness Manual that was sent to all First Nations. A second run of this very popular manual is planned.

In the Environment field, the highly successful and popular Earth Keepers Training sessions continued. This training has seen worldwide audience when it was presented by our former President Chief Earl Commanda at the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa. Our Environmental Scientist continues to pursue the work on a Spill Response proposal and Fuel Tank Management which will carry on into this upcoming fiscal year.

The Fire and Safety activities included assistance at the Regional and National Fire Fighters Competition and Workshop both of which were held in Ontario. In addition to assisting in the National Poster Contest and providing advice on fire issues the Fire Safety Officer was able to deliver on time the huge fire equipment purchase for First Nation Volunteer fire departments. Other major accomplishments included the first session of the Contract Management and Administration Training, Confined Space training and the roll out of the CAMS2000 to all of OFNTSC clients. Most of staff were again busy contributing their effort into delivering the most successful Annual Conference and Tradeshow held in Niagara Falls in October 2002.

The activity in the housing field was not as busy as I would have liked mostly due to staffing requirements. Fortunately, our recruiting efforts have been successful and the 2003/2004 fiscal year will see renewed activity in the area of housing training and support.

Going into the 2003/2004 fiscal year I want to thank all of the Toronto Service Centre staff for their dedication and time in ensuring that projects, proposals and meetings for our clients interest are delivering on time and on schedule.



### **PUBLIC AWARENESS**

Public awareness materials regarding water issues available through OFNTSC are regular one-page water Bulletins (above) which are distributed to all First Nations and available for download on the OFNTSC website.

### YEAR IN REVIEW



Chief Earl Commanda and former President of the OFNTSC made a presentation to an international audience on the innovative waste management program Earth Keepers at the UN Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in August 2001.

# **UN Summit**

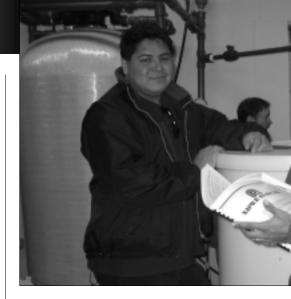
FNTSC had a tremendous opportunity to showcase the Earth Keepers Program at the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa August 26 to September 4.

A request was made by a representative of INAC's Environment and Natural Resources Directorate to INAC's International Relations Office for consideration of a case study document submission from OFNTSC's Earth Keepers Program to the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Representatives Chief Earl Commanda, a former OFNTSC President and OFNTSC Communications Officer Jamie Monastyrski attended the Summit.

The case study was based on the objectives of the United Nation's Agenda "Recognizing and Strengthening the Role of Indigenous People and their Communities." The INAC and Summit selection committee also assembled a set of case studies that reflected a wide variety of issues, and represented different regions all across the country. The Earth Keepers project based on traditional knowledge and technical techniques was the only one considered that dealt with waste management issues, and was the only case study from Ontario.

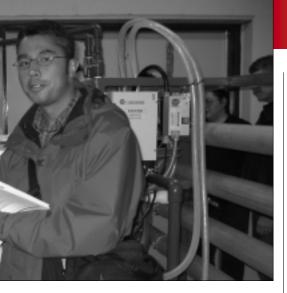
Over 60,000 people from across the globe attended.



# Infrastructure

he Unaffiliated First Nations (UFN) in the Southern District areas continue to receive Code Compliance inspections for new construction during the 2000/2001 Fiscal Year. The inspections focus on the Ontario First Nation Illustrated Housing Code requirements and has particular emphasis on health & safety of the construction development. Existing housing stock renovation inspections have been carried out in conjunction with new construction inspection visits.

Tom Northardt, the OFNTSC infrastructure specialist for the south provided advisory services towards the operation & maintenance of existing assets under First Nation control. Reps from OFNTSC explored ways of improving operations to achieve efficiencies within existing operating procedures to determine the best fit for a community. Our Specialist also provideed assistance with INAC reporting requirements as they arose such as: O&M Maintenance Plan as presented by Indian Affairs.



Above: Wasauksing First Nation Economic Development Officer and OFNTSC Board Member Bob Tababodung and OFNTSC's Infrastructure Specialist Jim Doxtdator take a tour of the community's water and wastewater plant.

We were also involved with conducting the Annual CAMS update working with the UFN staff to complete. OFNTSC provided technical advisory support to initiate, advertise for work and complete the Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS) updates. All were due this year. ACRS is a detailed review of all INAC funded assets completed once every 5 years.

In the training arena, our specialist provided ongoing CAMS Software support and training, initiated a Builders Series Workshop for UFNs commencing and provided Construction Contract Management Training in Orillia to all UFN clients.

Special projects that are ongoing or on the horizon include: a plan to provide EnerGuide for Houses training to Tribal Councils and Large First Nations; provide R2000 awareness to Tribal Councils and Large First Nations; plan to provide Southern UFN's with EnerGuide for Houses servicing and R2000 awareness as well as planning for Highway 400 business park for the Wahta Mohawks Capital projects.

# Southern Infrastructure Specialist Program

im Doxtdator, the infrastructure specialist for the Sudbury region unaffiliated has been working with R-2000 Program since it began earlier this year. He has been working with the R-2000 coordinator on training and technical support initiatives as well as his regular visits to the unaffiliated First Nations.

For instance, Doxtdator he provided technical support for the School Remediation Project in Shawanaga First Nation. He was also involved in technical support during a train derailment emergency situation in Shawanaga First Nation in February.

Other OFNTSC mandated programs that also received support this year:

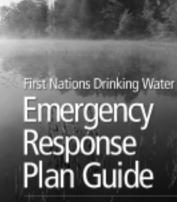
» Technical support was provided for New Water Treatment Plant project in Wasauksing First Nation including a technical review of design. The CRTP provided training during construction and commissioning. Inspection of 35 existing housing units where performed to assess extent of renovations required. Work descriptions completed for each unit.

- » In Temagami First Nation a school roof replacement was completed as well as the inspection of 32 existing housing units to assess extent of renovations required. Follow up inspections continue as the work continues.
- » In Nipissing First Nation technical support was provided for Nipissing First Nations design brief and also an inspection and technical review of Jocko Point access road that was constructed by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.
- » A technical review of Elementary School Education C project, daycare garage and roads inspection at the Mississauga's of the New Credit First Nation was conducted as well as technical assistance in tendering and contract administration of a daycare sunshade.

All communities and their mandated programs also received support this year in: CAIS submissions; New Housing Inspections and Support; Housing Policy Development and Support and Maintenance Management Development.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

# **Quality Assurance: Water Quality Initiatives**



A Handbook for Operators and Band Administrators

### **EMERGENCY BOOKLET**

The popular and recently published Emergency Response Plan Guide produced by Environment Canada, Health Canada, INAC, Chiefs of Ontario, AWWAO and OFNTSC was also distributed to Operators and Band Administrators. he OFNTSC continues to provide technical advisory services to its clients in water quality improvement. During the past year, Tejeet Singh Sodhi a civil engineering intern joined the Quality Assurance team to work under the leadership of Derrick Kamanga, M.Eng, P.Eng. The quality assurance department is extensively pursuing the goal of providing solutions to the water and wastewater issues of our First Nation clients.

The preparation of a Terms of References for Pilot studies, and for water supply systems and waste water systems will enable the consulting engineers to provide professional services to the First Nations water and wastewater systems.

These Terms of Reference are comprehensive and will assist First Nations in not only hiring a professional engineering consultant to prepare an Engineers report for their water and wastewater systems but will also help them in assessing the current conditions of plant and future needs.

To date, over 15 First Nations Water Supply Systems have been identified for the year 2003. They will all have an in depth study on their water supply systems to address both short term needs and long term needs. The project manager is the Ontario Clean Water Agency. A short term action team (STAT) which consists of OFNTSC, Public Works-Government Service Canada (PWGSC), Environment Health Officers and Indian Northern Affairs Canada has been formed to monitor the progress of the project and Project Manager.

### TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

In January 2003, OFNTSC proposed a framework for developing and implementing a comprehensive operator training, licensing and certification program to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). The proposal highlights the immediate need for training and certification of operators, if First Nations are to be provided with safe drinking water and proposes to conduct a study for a "Hub System."

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) report of 2000-2001 identified 192 First Nations Water and Wastewater systems from 133 First Nations in Ontario. Based on this study and a 24/7 coverage to operate plants, 384 plant operators are required. A survey of number of First Nations certified operators showed a grim picture and necessitated the need for comprehensive training and certification.

OFNTSC proposed several action plans and time lines together with necessary human and financial resources to achieve the required operator training and certification by the year 2007. The OFNTSC estimates an average expenditure for the training and certification of \$4.1-million per year, for a five-year period starting 2003 to 2007.

## WATERSHED SOURCE PROTECTION PLANNING:

Source Protection plan is first of the many Multiple Barriers necessary to prevent contamination of drinking water supply. Prior to the publication of the part II, Walkerton report, OFNTSC has been advocating the multiple bar-

# **Skills Development**

rier approach in preventing contamination of the drinking water in First Nations communities.

Derrick Kamanga representing Chief's of Ontario in the Advisory Committee on Watershed Based Source Protection Planning is providing excellent recommendations to ensure that First Nations are consultant and are equally represented in all and every effort towards source protection planning.

## NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS (NOS)

The OFNTSC is also participating in the National Occupational Standards for Water and Wastewater operators, technical advisory committee. The committee is lead by the Canadian Council for Human Resources in the Environment Industry (CCHREI).

The intent of a national occupational standard is to ensure the proper uniform in certification and training of water and wastewater operators throughout Canada. Key issues include adequate input of knowledge, skills and competency in the certification and training of water and wastewater operators throughout Canada. Opportunities and benefits include adequate supply of properly trained operators and recognition of their talent throughout the water industry. ost recently, OFNTSC entered into an agreement with Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to become a delivery agent for its catalogue of over twenty housing related courses. These courses are core elements for a number of professional designations in Ontario, and plans are underway to include them in the OFNTSC Housing Inspector program. The addition of these courses by the OFNTSC means that clients across the province will have improved access and control over the delivery of these core courses.

The introduction of video conferencing to the northern First Nations Councils has proved to be a great asset to our client base. Although still relatively new, the technology has proved to be an asset. The high point of the year came when, with the assistance of Keewaytinook Okimakanak technical staff, we were able to include a message from the Chief of Fort Severn, via video, in the opening ceremonies of our 2002 Annual Technical Conference. It will not be long before we see the use of video conferencing to enhance training delivery.

The encouragement of our First Nations youth to explore careers opportunities in the technical field is an important gaol for the OFNTSC. Last summer the OFNTSC recruited four summer students to help with a wide variety of projects in both service centres. In addition, we have been fortunate to secure an engineering placement at the Toronto Service Centre to assist with the work of the Quality Assurance staff. The Thunder Bay office was successful in securing placements for two co-op



Kevin Sherlock, the Skills Development Officer is involved in various initiatives that include accessing partnerships, raising awareness of OFNTSC projects and capacity development.

students to assist with projects ranging from developing house plans to assembling a database.

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS:**

- Local Labour Market Partnership project working with HRDC and our client to research the human resource needs of the First Nations Water and Wastewater Industry in the province.
- Disseminating information on recent changes in domestic fuel oil storage regulations
- Development of a Training Database to record details of all training undertaken by the OFNTSC
- Working with funding agencies to sponsor training project for clients

# Earth Keepers Solid Waste Management Program

arth Keepers is a learning program designed to promote sustainable solid waste (garbage) management in First Nation communities. This program has been developed by the OFNTSC, in consultation with many First Nation communities.

The waste generated by our ancestors was derived from natural products that were all biodegradable. Wastes were simply returned to the earth where they naturally decomposed. However, new lifestyles have altered our commu-



nities and we now have a 'garbage problem'. Wastes such as plastic and metals, that do not biodegrade, are commonplace in our homes and in our 'dumps'. Our careless disposal of garbage is creating a number of aesthetic and environmental impacts, including leachate that seeps into the earth and contaminates ground-water supplies. Barrel burning and burning garbage in our wood stoves and at our dumps is also having a negative impact on the quality of the air we breathe.

### KEY CONCEPTS OF THE EARTH KEEPERS PROGRAM

The Earth Keepers Program is based on four key concepts as they relate to improving solid waste management in First Nation communities.

Sustainability: Sustainable waste management looks at the garbage problem today and what that problem means for future generations. It involves considering the potential impacts of our current waste accumulation and disposal practices on the environment and our communities. We do not want our grandchildren to grow up in communities surrounded by toxic garbage dumps that have contaminated the air, land and water that sustain all life. Traditional Knowledge: First Nations people are tied to the land, which must continue to support First Nation communities. Traditionally there was no garbage, as everything was used and reused. Elders are part of every Earth Keepers session.

Community-based Planning: The Earth Keepers program was developed for, and by, First Nation communities in Ontario. Participants learn to lead a community-based planning process that includes setting up a Task Force composed of community members to collectively gather information, set priorities, develop budgets and schedules, and communicate changes through the development of communication strategies. These efforts will enable each community to create their own "Solid Waste Management Plan".

Technical Knowledge: Developing a sound management plan requires some technical knowledge. The Earth Keepers program provides specific information on waste reduction strategies, recycling opportunities, composting, designing waste management sites to minimize environmental impacts, opening, closing and operating waste management sites, alternatives to waste disposal and the proper handling of special wastes.



Facing page: Dr. Wendy Mortimer, OFNTSC's Environmental Scientist has been spearheading the Earth Keepers Program since its inception two years ago. Above: The Canadian Aboriginal delegation which included representatives from across the regions at the UN Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa.

### THE EARTH KEEPERS PROGRAM

Earth Keepers consists of four week-long units delivered over a four to five month period. Each unit guides the participants through the phases of preparing a Solid Waste Management Plan while incorporating First Nation cultural values into the process. The program is funded 100% by INAC on a one time basis per community.

This program has been very successful since its inception two years ago. To date forty-six First Nations across Ontario have participated in the Earth Keepers program. Generally, two sessions have been held each year, one for the northern communities, and the second session for southern communities.

### PARTICIPATING FIRST NATIONS

Session 1: Wahta Mohawks, Shawanaga, Mississauga, Curve Lake, Sheshegwaning, Chippewas of Nawash, Whitefish River, Wasauksing, Ojibways of Sucker Creek, Moose Deer Point, Garden River, Mississaugas of New Credit, Mattagami, Michipicoten, Sagamok Anishnawbek, Ojibways of Pic River, Wahnapitae, Constance Lake

Session 2: Sachigo Lake, Muskrat Dam, Ochiichagwe' Babigo'ining Ojibway, Deer Lake, Pikangikum, Kingfisher Lake, Sheguiandah, Poplar Hill, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Fort Severn, North Spirit Lake, Eabametoong Session 3: Serpent River, Wahgoshig, Batchewana, Magnetawan, Rainy River, Mohawks of Akwesasane, Beausoleil, Fort William, Dokis, Georgina Island

Session 4: Wawakapewin, Slate Falls, Kitchenumaykoosib Inninuwug, Wunnumin Lake, Sandy Lake, Mishkeegogamang

# **Project Planning & Development**

hee Lee, OFNTSC's Project Planning And Development Engineer has been busy this past year from coordinating construction workshops to developing Terms of Reference for Capital Planning Studies for various First Nations.

The Terms of Reference for a Capital Planning Study was developed by OFNTSC and was used for Capital Planning Studies for the Chippewas of Nawash, Curve Lake First Nation and all the First Nations in Ogemawahj Tribal Council.

Also, a Terms of Reference for Project Management is being developed for a completion time of summer 2003.

Over 20 representatives participated and successfully completed the First Nation Construction Contract Administration and Management Workshop held in Orillia this past November. These training sessions are jointly funded by INAC and OFNTSC.

Individuals who have responsibilities associated with construction contract administration and management within the First Nation communities attended the educational and informative workshop coordinated by OFNTSC.

"We wanted to have our participants walk away from the session with a better understanding of the basic principals and strategies of construction contract management," said Chee Lee, P. Eng. who coordinated the workshop.

Besides a basic understanding, Lee also hoped the participants learned the basic strategies for maximizing socio-economic benefits for First Nation communities, such as: community planning; involvement of First Nation-owned companies; use of local labor and materials and training.

During the three-day workshop the 23 successful participants also learned to be conversant with the roles and responsibilities of the key players in contract administration and be familiar with the application of applying the tendering/contracting processes and sound contract management practices. There are two additional workshops planned for the Southern Tribal Councils in the summer of 2003.

Other projects this coming year include: an advisory role on the construction of a Maadookii Senior Centre in Naswash. The project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2003; A water study in Saugeen First Nation; coordinating a drainage study in the Mississaugas of New Credit and a Water and Growth Study in the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan - Water and Growth Study.

### OFNTSC to lead training in EnerGuide and R2000

he OFNTSC has signed a contribution agreement with NRCan to educate the First Nations in Ontario with regards to energy efficiency and the health and safety benefits of designing R2000 homes. During this process the OFNTSC will be training the technical staff at the tribal council level and large First Nations to deliver these services to their membership.

The OFNTSC will act as the primary liaison between NRCan, the communities and the tribal councils. As the File Manager, the OFNTSC will offer technical support.

The EnerGuide and R2000 is a product of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and its purpose is to provide designers, builders, and consumers with energy efficient alternatives. The main focus is on Health, Safety, and Energy Consumption. Training at the OFNTSC has begun with the hope that four Infrastructure Specialists – two in the Toronto Service Centre and two in the Thunder Bay Service Centre – will be on the road and training the Tribal Councils, large First Nations and the unaffiliated communities early in the New Year.

The workplan for the upcoming year includes training for appropriate OFNTSC staff in areas such as R-2000 Builder's Workshop; Plan evaluation, inspection and airtightness testing; and Mechanical ventilation Installation.

Lori Rice, the R-2000 Coordinator will also carry out File Management Training and Identify Inspectors outside OFNTSC to determine training needs and most importantly perform EnerGuide for Houses Inspection as requested by the Unaffiliated Communities.



WATER GRADS: OFNTSC organizes and administers the OIT training sessions across northern and southern Ontario in order to protect and preserve the high standard of quality potable drinking water. Everyone in this northern Ontario group attended the classes and passed the examination which was held in Thunder Bay.

# **Circuit Rider Training Program**

he clean and potable water situation in our First Nations has been a priority for OFNTSC this past year. A majority of our resources and energy have been directed towards this initiative.

This year, 12 trainers were assigned to provide operator training at 56 high risk water treatment plants. These plants were identified in the Risk Assessment Study initiated by OFNTSC and jointly funded with INAC while OCWA was contracted to conduct the studies. Trainer's reports and the deficiency list are being provided to First Nations and Tribal Councils by the trainers. This year, 12 trainers were assigned to high risk First Nation water treatment plants subsequent to the water and wastewater plant assessment by OCWA. Trainer's reports and the deficiency list were provided to First Nations and Tribal Councils. Portable monitoring equipment i.e. colorimeter, turbidimeter, pH meter and associated reagents were provided to the high risk water treatment plants.

OFNTSC has also increased its training sessions. In the operator certification area, 95 participants have taken the Operator-in-Training courses over seven sessions administered and sponsored by OFNTSC and successfully passed the licensing examination. The sessions were held in Orillia, Thunder Bay, Dryden, Sudbury and Timmins.

Also three confined space train-the-trainer courses were arranged through the Municipal Health and Safety Association for the water plant operators.

As the water situation continues so does the work of our staff at OFNTSC. First Nations have readily adopted to the recommendations of Justice O'Connor in the Walkerton Report by taking steps to improve the training levels of the operators.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

# **Operations & Maintenance**



CAMS 2000, the community asset management system OFNTSC administers, launched a demonstration CD-ROM this year which includes information on how to better manage community assets and maintenance; collect detailed information on new or existing stock among other features. he CAMS2000 software was officially released at OFNTSC 7th Annual Technical Conference and Tradeshow in Niagara Falls 2002. To date all CAMS2000 that were in Dos files have been completely converted to Windows and the CAMS2000 System was tested at all Tribal Councils, Large First Nations and (3) unaffiliated First Nations.

CAMS2000 was primarily designed as a administrative tool for First Nations and Tribal Councils to manage and track the day to day operations and maintenance of community capital assets and was recently released to 141 First Nation and Tribal Council sites throughout Ontario.

OFNTSC utilized the CAMS2000 software as an automated approach to conduct a regional roll up of First Nations data. A large numbers of First Nations and Tribal Councils managed to include the software in their process to provide Indian & Northern Affairs with O&M data. OFNTSC will continue to lobby to complete the maintenance management module that's partially built in the CAMS2000 software. The CMS module primarily would allow First Nations to capture detailed information on the day to day operations and maintenance of community capital assets. This module would be a fully customized, easy to use, tracking system for either large or small assets to help identify and track daily and schedule maintenance and built relevant to First Nations needs.

CAMS2000 comes packaged with a complete suite of tools for asset tracking, costing and management needs and includes the following modules: Capital Asset Inventory System (CAIS); Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS); Capital Management Database (CMD); and the Conditional Assessment and Housing Database (CAHD).

OFNTSC will continue with on-going support to Tribal Councils and First Nations that would include in-depth training sessions required to help manage and better utilize the transfer of the CAMS2000 software. Training is proposed for 15 Tribal Councils sites, five Large First Nations and all unaffiliated First Nations.

The CAHD module in CAMS is now available to First Nations as a tool to help manage growth, better identify and track maintenance needs to existing housing. Furthermore, to assist First Nations in managing and tracking the progress during various stages to new housing construction.

# **Inspections & Training**

n the fall of 2003, the development of the certification for building inspectors will be complete. A committee of building inspectors was formed to oversee criteria surrounding the development of the certification that will research and develop levels of training and certification for building inspectors.

In June last year The Project Management Course was developed for individuals responsible for the construction contract administration and management of housing in First Nations communities. A three-day Train-the-Trainer was also developed to provide the knowledge and skills required for delivery of First Nation Builder Workshop training program. The course helped participants in their ability to deliver effective training and to provide the knowledge and skills that allowed them to customize material to the specifics needs of the training group.

The Burn-it-Smart Program co-sponsored by CMHC, NRCAN and OFNTSC and facilitated by Tribal Council reps & Tex McLeod occurred across First Nation communities across Ontario. The free residential wood burning workshops were held Northern and Southern Ontario until April 2003. It started as a national campaign led by NRCAN to promote safer, cleaner and more efficient wood burning practices for those who heat their homes with wood. The workshops have three main themes related to wood heating - safety, efficiency and wood-smoke pollution while economizing Also in March 2003 OFNTSC and CMHC cosponsored a Native Inspectors Services Inititative (NISI) in Sault Ste. Marie for all Tribal Councils and Unaffiliated First Nations. It was a two-day session for building inspectors in Ontario with a focus on CMHC's new initiatives including web-based access for the Physical Condition Reviews; First Nations Research & mentoring initiative; update to the NISI guide. The latest developments and plans for the National Native Inspectors Association on a national and regional level were also reviewed. Time was well spent discussing and gathering ideas and suggestions.

# **Bulk Fuel Training**

ver the past year and a half Bulk Fuel trainer Ed Baxter – based out of the Thunder Bay Service Centre – trained individuals in 12 First Nation communities in proper bulk fuel management.

With four sessions per community over the course of a year, Baxter said the representatives in the communities are learning first-hand how to be accountable for fuel management.

Baxter not only provides practical and vital training in spill response, inventory control and maintenance but also advises the community on cost saving measures. There are usually 6 to 12 individuals taking the course at one time during a session said Baxter. His training sessions include PowerPoint presentations, handouts, videos and hands-on training.

Baxter plans on completing bulk fuel training sessions in 8 to 10 communities in the new year.

One of the future goals of the training project include: OFNTSC to work closer with First Nations and government agencies to become a source of education, training and source information; to upgrade and extend the fuel handling strategies to meet current and changing requirements by the Canadian Council of Ministry of (CCME).

An extra training workshop for petroleum mechanics was held in Thunder Bay March 3 to 7, 2003. The training was very well received by the trainees all participated and attendance was excellent. There were 17 participants that attended from the First Nation communities from across northwestern Ontario.

# Fire Safety & Construction Management

Rian Staats is a member of the Six Nations. He is a Canadian Registered Safety Professional with over 15 years experience in the technical services field. He has held positions as the regional Fire Safety Officer with the government and while there worked extensively with Ontario First Nations Fire Prevention Officers and other government agencies dealing with fire protection and prevention services.

Since 1994 he has been the Fire Safety Officer with OFNTSC where he has been instrumental in assisting First Nations and Tribal Councils with fire prevention issues and assisting clients with fire department equipment requirements among countless other duties.

For example his office assists clients with fire hall design and minimum standards, fire department inventories, fire department job descriptions and assists clients with water flow for community fire protection. He is also committed to documenting all fire loss statistics for all First Nation communities.

Along with those duties Mr. Staats was responsible for reviewing training contract work plans and course curriculum for training; assisted contractors in finding additional resources other than OFNTSC and evaluated the community needs assessments for fire fighter training.

One of the highlights however is the promotion of community fire prevention training through a National Poster contest for school children held every year. It is gaining in popularity and OFNTSC which administers the provincial pro-



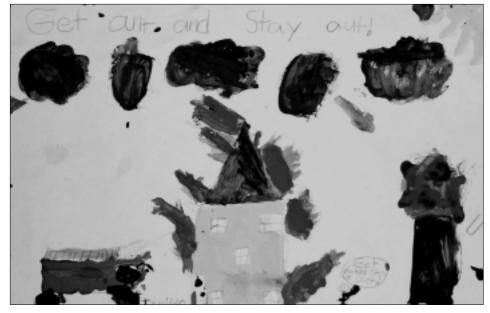
gram receives more poster entries every year. Not restricted to Fire Prevention, OFNTSC also heads up the Construction Safety - Confined Space Training and assists the CRTP training coordinator in obtaining confined space training for client water plant operators. Currently the OFNTSC Fire Prevention officer is developing a training library.





Top: The team from M'Chigeeng First Nation were the big winners of the Annual Ontario Regional Native Fire Fighter's Competition held in Thunder Bay 2001. Middle: OFNTSC Fire and Prevention Officer Brian Staats congratulates Louis Pelletier on his 22-year and 11-month service to Fort William First Nation Fire department at the Annual Native Fire Fighters Banquet. Bottom: Native Fire Fighters representing nine First Nations received the Governor General of Canada Fire Services Medal at a ceremony June 1, 2002. The medal is awarded to fire fighters with more than 20 years exemplary service. The 17 fire fighters represented nine First Nations from across the province and are the largest group of Native Fire Fighters in Ontario to receive this prestigious award.

# **OFNTSC Fire Poster Contest Winners 2002/03**



The work of first place winners Jerilyn Don Shakakeesic (above) and Cynthia Edwards (right).

#### **PRIZES:**

1st - \$300 2nd - \$200 3rd - \$100 Honourable Mention - \$50

The winners are:

### CATEGORY # 1: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 2

FIRST PLACE: Jerilyn Don Shakakeesic Grade 2, Slate Falls School, Slate Falls First Nation

SECOND PLACE: Jarett Copenace Senior Kindergarten Big Grassy School Big Grassy First Nation

THIRD PLACE: Justice Hookimaw Grade 1 St. Andrews School Kashechewan First Nation

HONOURABLE MENTION: Mickenzie Martin Grade 1 O. M. Smith - Kewennio Elementary School Six Nations

### CATEGORY # 2 GRADE 3 TO GRADE 6

FIRST PLACE: Cythnia Edwards Grade 4 Windigo Island School Windigo Island First Nation

SECOND PLACE: Rily Williams Grade 6 Emily C. General School Six Nations First Nation

THIRD PLACE: Devon Hill Grade 5 Quinte Mohawk School Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

HONOURABLE MENTION: Kahionhano:ron Loft Grade 6 Quinte Mohawk School Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte



### CATEGORY # 3 GRADE 7 AND UP

FIRST PLACE: Karonhi:io Loft Grade 8 Quinte Mohawk School Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

SECOND PLACE: Stephanie Jean Powassin Grade 8 Windigo Island School Windigo Island First Nation

THIRD PLACE: **Roxxanne Mandarmin** Grade 8 Pontiac School Wikwemikong First Nation

HONOURABLE MENTION: Lorraine Wesley Grade 8 St. Andrews School Kashechewan First Nation

### YEAR IN REVIEW

# **OFNTSC Annual Conference**

FNTSC held the 7th Annual OFNTSC Technical Conference & Trade Show October 7 - 11, 2002 at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre in Niagara Falls, On

It was the largest and perhaps one of the most successful Conference OFNTSC ever hosted.

The Conference has become one of the technical industry's largest events that clients, exhibitors, First Nations and private companies look forward to every year.

The conference included innovative technical information, the industry's latest products, incomparable networking opportunities and much more.

Most importantly, over 300 registered guests attend workshops in Capital Planning, Operations & Maintenance, Housing, Infrastructure, Water and Wastewater, Environment, Fire and Safety and more.

The 2003 Annual Conference will be held in Sault Ste. Marie this August.











OFNTSC's technical workshops explored such issues as housing regulations, water safety measures, environmental issues and construction management topics. It was an opportunity for old friends to get reacquainted, play a round of golf and gain some invaluable knowledge and contacts at the innovative trade show. This year's OFNTSC's Annual Conference is being held in Sault Ste. Marie August 19 - 21 and will include The Aboriginal Water and Wastewater Association of Ontario's (AWWAO) 9th General Assembly. Financial Statements of ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Year ended March 31, 2003



### AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

We have audited the balance sheet of Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation as at March 31, 2003 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 2003 and the results of its operations and the cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

KPMGUP

Chartered Accountants Hamilton, Canada May 23, 2003

### Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2003, with comparative figures for 2002

|  |         | 2003             | 2002                  |
|--|---------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Assets   |         |                  |                       |
| Current assets:  |         |                  |                       |
| Cash and short-term deposits   | \$ 1,82 | 29,805           | \$ 2,650,664          |
| Amounts receivable   |         | 94,607           | 325,143               |
| Prepaid expenses   |         | 29,797           | 11,229                |
|  | 4,55    | 54,209           | 2,987,036             |
| Capital assets (note 4)  | 18      | 38,300           | 111,705               |
|  | \$ 4,74 | 12,509           | \$ 3,098,741          |
| Current liabilities:<br>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities<br>Deferred revenue |         | 95,686<br>92,564 | \$ 528,970<br>164,232 |
|  | 2,78    | 38,250           | 693,202               |
| Scholarship fund (note 5)  |         | 4,000            | 5,083                 |
| Net assets:  |         |                  |                       |
| Internally restricted for special projects (note 6)                                  | 62      | 20,367           | 620,367               |
| Unrestricted   | 1,14    | 11,592           | 1,668,384             |
| Invested in capital assets   | 18      | 38,300           | 111,705               |
|  | 1,95    | 50,259           | 2,400,456             |
| Commitments (note 7)   |         |                  |                       |
|  | \$ 4,74 | 12,509           | \$ 3,098,741          |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

Original signed by Jason Batiste, OFNTSC President and Larry Karaim, Finance portfolio, OFNTSC

### Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2003, with comparative figures for 2002

|   | 2003         | 2002         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| venue:  |              |              |
| Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development | \$ 5,004,320 | \$ 4,952,266 |
| Department of National Health and Welfare             | 115,588      | 115,000      |
| Other   | 494,429      | 140,467      |
|   | 5,614,337    | 5,207,733    |
| erating expenditures:                                 |              |              |
| Salaries  | 1,765,126    | 1,483,988    |
| Benefits  | 297,581      | 194,341      |
| Board, committees and meetings                        | 200,125      | 220,708      |
| Travel  | 666,572      | 434,160      |
| Rent  | 127,550      | 117,486      |
| Professional services                                 | 408,851      | 155,229      |
| Copier, fax, telephone and postage                    | 98,929       | 79,890       |
| Amortization of capital assets                        | 78,309       | 44,847       |
| Loss on disposal of capital assets                    | 11,972       | -            |
| Technical workshop                                    | 247,700      | 80,117       |
| Training  | 279,919      | 137,903      |
| Special advisory services                             | 60,027       | 40,018       |
| General and office                                    | 196,281      | 163,091      |
| All Ontario Chiefs Conference                         | 25,000       | 25,000       |
| Computer support                                      | 26,131       | 18,974       |
| Insurance   | 30,019       | 14,228       |
| First Nations transfers                               | 68,498       | -            |
| Contributions   | 220          | -            |
|   | 4,588,810    | 3,209,980    |
| Project expenses (schedule)                           | 1,475,724    | 857,428      |
|   | 6,064,534    | 4,067,408    |
| tess of revenue or expenses                           | \$ (450,197) | \$ 1,140,325 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2003, with comparative figures for 2002

|                                    |                                  |   |              | 2003            | 2002            |  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
|                                    | Invested<br>in capital<br>assets | Internally<br>restricted<br>for special<br>projects | Unrestricted | Total           | Total           |  |
| Balance, beginning of year         | \$<br>111,705                    | \$<br>620,367                                       | \$ 1,668,384 | \$<br>2,400,456 | \$<br>1,260,131 |  |
| Excess of (expenses over revenues) | (90,281)                         | -   | (359,916)    | (450,197)       | 1,140,325       |  |
| Investment in capital assets       | 166,876                          | -   | (166,876)    | -               | -               |  |
| Balance, end of year               | \$<br>188,300                    | \$<br>620,367                                       | \$ 1,141,592 | <br>\$1,950,259 | \$<br>2,400,456 |  |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

### Statement of Cash Flows

### Year ended March 31, 2003, with comparative figures for 2002

|   | 2003         | 2002         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities:               |              |              |
| Excess of (expenses over revenues)                  | \$ (450,197) | \$ 1,140,325 |
| Amortization of capital assets                      | 78,309       | 44,847       |
| Loss of disposal of capital assets                  | 11,972       | -            |
| Change in non-cash operating working capital        |              |              |
| Amounts receivable                                  | (2,369,464)  | 155,283      |
| Prepaid expenses                                    | (18,568)     | 9,769        |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities            | 266,716      | 56,478       |
| Deferred revenue                                    | 1,828,332    | (900,180)    |
| Change in scholarships                              | (1,083)      | -            |
|   | (653,983)    | 506,522      |
| Cash flows from financing and investing activities: |              |              |
| Purchase of capital assets                          | (166,876)    | (19,684)     |
| Increase in cash                                    | (820,859)    | 486,838      |
| Cash, beginning of year                             | 2,650,664    | 2,163,826    |
| Cash, end of year                                   | \$ 1,829,805 | \$ 2,650,664 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

### Notes to Financial Statements

#### Year ended March 31, 2003

Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (the "Corporation") was incorporated on February 13, 1995 as a corporation without share capital under the Corporations Act (Ontario). The Corporation was mandated by Ontario First Nations' Chief-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, Operation and maintenance, Fire Protection, Architectural Support Services, Housing Inspections and Housing Program. The Corporation's underlying objectives are to foster greater First Nation Autonomy in the acquisition of capital facilities and infrastructure development.

The Corporation commenced operations on April 1, 1995. Prior to April 1, 1995, the effective operations of the Corporation were carried out and administered under the offices of the Indian Associations Co-ordinating Committee of Ontario Inc. (" Chiefs of Ontario")

#### 1. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Capital assets:

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization of capital assets is provided on a declining basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

| Asset              | Basis             | Rate |
|--------------------|-------------------|------|
| Office furniture   | Declining balance | 20%  |
| Computer equipment | Declining balance | 30%  |
| and software       |                   |      |

#### (b) Deferred revenue:

Funding received in advance of directly related expenditures are deferred and are recognized as revenue when the expenditures are incurred.

#### (c) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. Economic dependence:

The Corporation receives the major portion of its revenues pursuant to funding arrangements with INAC.

### 3. Cash and short-term deposits:

The Corporation considers deposits in banks and guaranteed investment certificates with original maturities of three months or less as cash and short-term deposits.

#### 4. Capital assets:

|                                       |               |                          | 2003              | 2002              |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                       | Cost          | Accumulated depreciation | Net book<br>value | Net book<br>value |
| Office<br>furniture                   | \$<br>86,495  | \$<br>44,374             | \$ 42,121         | \$ 16,948         |
| Computer<br>equipment and<br>software | 57,917        | 211,738                  | 146,179           | 94,757            |
|                                       | \$<br>444,412 | \$<br>256,112            | \$188,300         | \$ 111,705        |

#### 5. Scholarship Fund:

The Corporation currently maintains the OFNTSC Scholarship Fund. The Fund was established in 1998 to provide First Nation post-secondary students scholarships in the science and technical fields of study. During the year, \$917 was allocated to the Fund from fundraising activities. Two awards were made to qualifying students during the currrent fiscal period of \$1,000 each.

#### 6. Internally restricted for special projects:

The appropriations for special projects have been established by the Board of Directors and are subject to change at their discretion. The appropriations consist of the following:

|   | 2003          | 2002          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Enhanced alliances  | \$<br>50,000  | \$<br>50,000  |
| Improved technical standards  | 100,000       | 100,000       |
| Technical skills development  | 100,000       | 100,000       |
| Communications systems  | 50,000        | 50,000        |
| Transfer of technical services  | 10,907        | 10,907        |
|   | 310,907       | 310,907       |
| Computer networking   | 68,000        | 68,000        |
| Training  | 236,460       | 236,460       |
| Software development for<br>conditional assessment<br>of existing housing stock | 5,000         | 5,000         |
|   | 309,460       | 309,460       |
|   | \$<br>620,367 | \$<br>620,367 |

### 7. Commitments:

The Corporation has entered into agreements to lease office space. Annual minimum rentals over the terms of the leases are as follows:

| 2004 | \$ 28,796 |
|------|-----------|
| 2005 | 8,289     |
|      | \$ 37,085 |

### 8. Comparative figures:

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted in the current year. ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS TECHNICAL SERVICES

### Schedule - Project Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2003, with comparative figures for 2002

|                              | 2003      | 2002          |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
|                              |           |               |
| CAMS project \$              | 158,951   | \$<br>195,550 |
| Earth Keepers Training I     | 265,393   | 88,468        |
| Fire equipment purchases     | 178,728   | 7,693         |
| Incident response strategy   | 3,918     | 6,099         |
| Public works manual          | -         | 4,182         |
| Renewable energy workshop    | -         | 14,484        |
| Sewage effluent              | -         | 5,758         |
| Water/sewage - phase I       | (26,478)  | 386,468       |
| Water/sewage - phase II      | 106,947   | 148,726       |
| Video Conferencing Set Up    | 304,330   | -             |
| Organic Waste Composting     | 6,500     | -             |
| Johannesburg                 | 17,993    | -             |
| Earth Keepers Training II    | 138,049   | -             |
| Environmental Contaminants   | 588       | -             |
| Traditional Knowledge        | 2,210     | -             |
| Engineering Assessements     | 106,927   | -             |
| Portable Monitoring Equipmen | t 211,668 | -             |
| \$                           | 1,475,724 | \$<br>857,428 |

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