



ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS
TECHNICAL SERVICES
CORPORATION

JUNE 2019 QUARTERLY *Newsletter*

STORIES:

- *TechNations* Conference, August 27 & 28, 2019 in Blue Mountain Postponed
- Student Classic Golf Fundraiser – Postponed
- Student Scholarship Awards – Apply by July 12, 2019
- OFNTSC Environment Team Updates
- Upcoming Training Activities
- Upcoming Events
- Client Satisfaction Survey

TechNations 2019 and Student Classic Golf Fundraiser Postponed

Due to funding limitations the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) will be postponing its 2019 *TechNations* conference and Golf Tournament Fundraiser to a future date in 2020.

Registrants who have already paid their registration for the conference, will be receiving a full refund for this year, and we hope you will be able to attend in 2020.

Please contact Corrie Hill at chill@ofntsc.org, if you have any questions regarding your refund.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

OFNTSC is now accepting applications for our Student Scholarship Awards!

First Nations post-secondary students in Ontario who are currently studying in the fields of science, engineering or technology are eligible to apply.

Each year we give out four student scholarship awards valued at \$2,500 each, and starting this year, we will be honouring the memory of our dear friend and colleague with the Robert Olivier Memorial Award, valued at \$5,000!

Students must apply by **Friday, July 12, 2019.**





Environment Team Update

Municipality Waste Association's Spring Workshop

OFNTSC's Environment Team met with Dr. Dianne Saxe, ex-Environmental Commissioner of Ontario at the Municipality Waste Association's 2019 Spring Workshop, May 27-30, in Huntsville. Dr. Saxe expressed interest in learning about First Nation endeavours in waste reduction and management.

Discussions at the workshop revolved around initiatives and efforts on minimizing waste and diversion efforts, creating the waste reduction culture, innovative recycling and processing practices and case studies. Dr. Saxe, in her keynote address, discussed the nexus between climate change and waste management and called for continued actions and collective voices.

OFNTSC organized a tour to the Dwight Transfer Station and the TRI R Landfill, Recycling and Reuse Centre, Burk's Fall for the Waste Coordinators from 9 Tribal Councils and two large First Nations.

Solid Waste Training Discussions

From June 11 – 13, OFNTSC's Environment Team met with the First Nations Technical Services Advisory Group Inc., Mi'kmawey Green Communities Program, and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq for roundtable discussions on Solid Waste Training across the regions, community-based solid waste management strategy, and a proposition for a regional advisory committee.

The group also visited the Alexander First Nation Waste Transfer Station and met with two dedicated operators, Reselle and Christy.





Community Energy Planning Workshop

OFNTSC's Environment Team and Independent Energy Systems Operator (IESO) organized the first Community Energy Planning Workshop for the IESO's Community Energy Champions from June 10-12, 2019 in Thunder Bay.

Participants from Fort Severn FN, Independent First Nations Alliance Tribal Council, Kasabonika FN, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek FN, Nibinamik FN, Sachigo Lake FN, Seine River FN, Wabigoon Lake FN, and Wunnumin Lake learned about the community energy plan concept, the planning process, collecting baselines, energy efficiency and conservation. Hydro One Network and Hydro One Remotes provided an understanding on electricity bills and cost saving programs.

The group visited a fully operational microgrid facility in Gull Bay First Nation and a hands-on energy audit was conducted at the Band Office and the Elder's Residence.



Upcoming Courses & Workshops

FN PIEVC Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit Training Workshop

OFNTSC, in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada, Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources, Stantec, and RSI & Engineers Canada, has developed a **First Nations Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit**.

This Toolkit uses industry recognized climate risk assessment principles to assess and fully document the vulnerability and impacts of First Nations infrastructure to current and future climate in a life-cycle asset management context.

This two-and-a-half-day workshop will provide First Nations with a better understanding of infrastructure challenges in the face of extreme weather and future climate events.

Upcoming PIEVC Workshops

Dates TBD, Kenora

September 17 – September 19, 2019, in Sioux Lookout

Who is it for? This workshop is open to First Nations infrastructure planners, managers, decision-makers and anyone who wants to gain a better understanding of the current and future impacts climate change will have on First Nations infrastructure.

Why should you take this training? This workshop will demonstrate the climate risks assessment steps of the Toolkit through hands-on, small group exercises and will show how to define an infrastructure inventory & components, identify climate parameters and undertake a risk assessment using real life case study applications. Participants will also learn about asset management principles, and how climate risks can be incorporated

in the life-cycle analysis of infrastructure. All copies of presentations, resource material and toolkit will be provided free of charge to all First Nation delegates.

For more information or to register, please visit the Events page on our website, or contact Elmer Lickers, Senior O&M Advisor: elickers@ofntsc.org, 416 651 1443 ext. 223.

Space is limited for each session. Please register early to reserve your space. This workshop was made possible by support from INAC – First Nations Adapt Program.

Client Satisfaction Survey

Ensuring that the First Nations communities we serve are happy and satisfied with our services is of the utmost priority to us.

If you or your community has ever received services from the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation, we'd love to hear from you! Please visit our website, ofntsc.org, and complete our Client Satisfaction Survey!



Did you know that OFNTSC's head office is located in the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation? This office houses our Finance and Emergency Planning Departments. If you're ever in the area be sure to stop by and say hello. We're in the New Credit Commercial Plaza at 78 First Line Road.