

# Five Nations Energy Inc.

Bringing power to Western James Bay

# 2019 OMUSHKEGO ISHKOTAYO TIPACHIMOWIN



### The Moose Cree Scrappers—Tykes Division

This hockey team, comprised of children from the Mushkegowuk Territory, some of them for the first time, participated in the Little Native Hockey League (Little NHL) tournament held in Mississauga, ON, on March 11-14, 2019! See article & picture on Page 14!







The Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin is a free newsletter published by Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI) to keep the Mushkegowuk Communities, and the general public, informed about the FNEI Transmission Line, and other issues associated with energy use. FNEI is a federally incorporated non-profit Corporation that owns and operates a 138kv electrical transmission line from Moosonee to Attawapiskat, ON. This line connects three remote Cree Communities to the main Ontario transmission grid, and covers a distance of 270 kms. For more information, please visit www.fivenations.ca. Cree translation is provided by Mr. Greg Spence.

 $PL^{\prime}$   $PL^{\prime}$ 

#### **FNEI Current Board of Directors:**

Attawapiskat Power Corporation

Mrs. Janie Wesley

Mr. Edward Koostachin

Fort Albany Power Corporation

Ms. Joslyn Nakogee

Mr. David R. Sutherland

Kashechewan Power Corporation

Mr. Henry Koosees

Mr. Tyson Wesley

**Moose Cree First Nation** 

Mr. Robert Echum

Taykwa Tagamou Nation

Mr. Derek Archibald

#### **FNEI Staff:**

Mr. Pat Chilton, Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Vladimir Govorov, Operations Manager

Mr. Anthony Iserhoff, Maintenance Supervisor/Substation Electrician

Mr. Rod Reimer, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Mike Metatawabin, Manager, External Development & Communications

Ms. Marlene Innes, Office Manager (as of Oct. 21/19)

Mr. Robert Chookomoolin, Substation Electrician

Mr. Stephen Firlotte, Substation Electrician

Mr. Michael Kataquapit, Apprentice Substation Electrician

Mr. Ryley Hardisty, Apprentice Substation Electrician

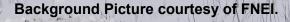
Ms. Rose Anna Campbell, Administrative Assistant (Retired Oct. 31/19)

Ms. April Scott, Secretary/Receptionist

#### **FNEI Officers:**

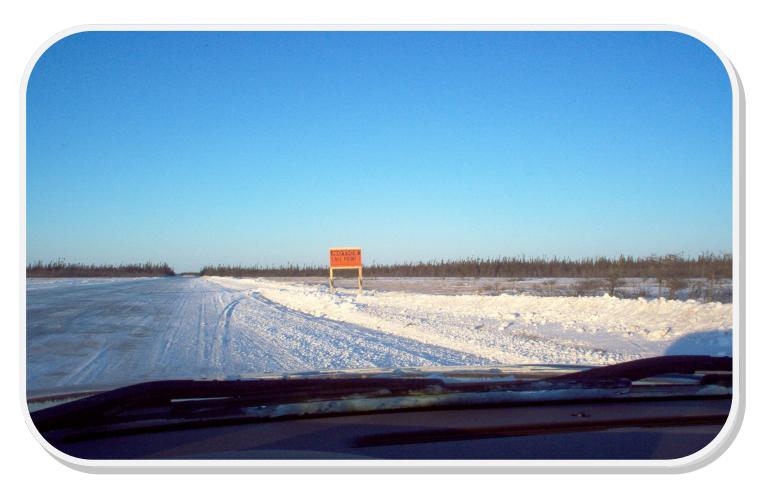
Mr. Edward Sutherland, Vice President/Interim President

Ms. Dorothy Kioke, Secretary/Treasurer



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A Blast from the Past on a very nice sunny day!

Am sure many who have traveled this winter road to the Communities remember this "Safety Call in Point" sign! (Picture courtesy of FNEI, and taken in January, 2007)



### TRIBUTE TO MR. DIRK MACLEOD

By Ms. Sally Braun, General Manager, WJBTN

#### Tribute to Mr. Dirk MacLeod

It is with deep sadness that the Staff and Directors of Five Nations Energy Inc. and Western James Bay Telecom Network learned of the sudden passing of our friend, advisor and colleague, Mr. Dirk MacLeod, in Fort Albany on July 23, 2019. We extend our deepest condolences to Dirk's spouse, Debbie, to his parents Ruth and Ian, to his sons, Sean and Alex, his grandchildren, his siblings and their families. Dirk was known for his love of family, his entrepreneurship and his passion for music. The night before he passed he was teaching someone how to perfect a Blue Rodeo guitar riff.

Dirk MacLeod was the architect of the Western James Bay Telecom Network; the 270 km fibre optic internet backbone that monitors FNEI's transmission grid from Moosonee to Attawapiskat, serves our hospitals, schools, band offices and provides us with long distance, cell and 911 service in Attawapiskat, Kashechewan and Fort Albany. When there was a problem with the network, it was Dirk's beeper that went off in the middle of the night. He was the one standing guard so we could rest easy. Dirk was a driving force and the engineer behind the Fibre to the Home project which is being deployed in our communities now. He served as a Technical Advisor to WJBTN for the last decade and to Five Nations Energy Inc. for past almost two decades.

Prior to joining the FNEI and WJBTN team, Dirk Mac-Leod held various senior field operations and project management roles with some of Canada's leading telecommunications providers. His impressive IT background included extensive experience in network infrastructure design, fibre builds and project management involving long haul fibre optic and wireless based initiatives. Dirk MacLeod was a specialist in technology product evaluation and technology procurement. He held a host of industry and supplier certifications, including membership in the Canadian Telecommunications Consultants Association and the Project Management Institute.

Tributes have been coming in from the people on the James Bay Coast who knew Dirk and worked with him. These tributes come from individuals, from the power corporation workers and from various members of the Chief and Councils. We have received emails from Dirk's colleagues across the IT industry, such as staff

members at large corporations including Bell, Ontera, Fonex and Maskatel.

What is increasingly clear from reading the tributes is something that we have always known: that Dirk was a great guy who was very well respected for being a hard worker and a man who freely shared his extensive IT expertise with anyone who wanted to learn. Dirk could have worked anywhere, for any large corporation. We are so honoured that he chose to work with us. He once told me that he had worked in the past for a big corporation that made him feel like a number. He told them to take their job and shove it because he knew he could work for FNEI and WJBTN – two much smaller companies - that really appreciated him and needed someone like him on the team.

Dirk absolutely loved what he was doing right up to the day before he passed. He was in his element; providing project management supervision for all three communities while working hands on with the Fort Albany Power Corporation crew to get the Fibre to the Home distribution cable laid out in Fort Albany. He left us with his boots on, so to speak. Meegwetch Dirk – you are forever in our hearts!

Condolences can be posted at <a href="https://www.peacefultransition.ca/obituary/dirk-macleod/">https://www.peacefultransition.ca/obituary/dirk-macleod/</a>

Sympathy cards to Dirk's family can be mailed to FNEI and these will be forwarded to the family.

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### CREE TRANSLATION—TRIBUTE TO MR. DIRK MACLEOD

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IN MEMORIAM

### FNEI CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE 2019

By Mr. Pat Chilton, Chief Executive Officer

CEO Message:

Rose Anna Campbell retired on October 31, 2019. as the Administrative Assistant at Five Nations Energy Inc. We wish her the very best of health as she starts a new chapter in her life journey. We changed the role of Administrative Assistant to Office Manager. Marlene Innes was the successful candidate to fill the position, she started on October 21, 2019. Marlene comes to us with years of experience in supervisory roles as well as office administration. She previously worked as our Administrative Assistant in the early years of Five Nations Energy. We welcome her back, and wish her well.

Congratulations to Wataynikaneyap Power on the official announcement it achieved the financial close on October 29, 2019. With this announcement Wataynikaneyap Power will proceeded to issue notice to commence construction. Their construction project will be enormous – it will consist of 1,800 kilometers of transmission line at an overall cost of \$1.9 billion dollars and has a targeted completion by the end of 2023. It will connect 17 remote Northwestern Ontario First Nation communities and will provide clean and reliable electricity. The First Nations of Fort Albany, Kashechewan and Attawapiskat have enjoyed clean and reliable electricity for quite some time as Five Nations Energy has been existence for slightly over 22 years.

On May 9, 2019, the Kashechewan First Nation signed an agreement with Canada and Ontario to relocate their community to Site 5, which is approximately 35 kilometers up the Albany River. As the current transmission line and sub-stations are owned by Five Nations Energy, it will be our responsibility to construct extension to the new site.

The 98 kilometers of transmission line that runs from Attawapiskat to the Victor Mine is owned by De Beers Canada. Approximately 4 or 5 years ago, De Beers approached Five Nations Energy in acquiring the transmission line. As of this fall, FNEI has not finalized any agreement with De Beers. Should no agreement be reached De Beers will have to remove the transmission line as part of the mine closure plans.

Apart from the erosion issue on the north side of the Albany River near Kashechewan, we have not been confronted with any other major issues. Five Nations Energy continues to provide safe and reliable electrical services to our First Nations.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Chilton
Chief Executive Officer

### CREE TRANSLATION ON FNEI CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE 2019

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### FNEI OPERATIONS MANAGER'S UPDATE

#### 2019 Operations Department Updates:

Five Nations Energy Inc. staff continues working on the lines and substation equipment to make sure the power stays on. Sometimes, we have to do planned outages for maintenance and testing. The 2018 Fall and 2019 up to date was very busy without any chances to slow down. There're still several projects on the go to be completed this year.

Since last summer, we have been dealing with the erosion site near Kashechewan, and during the winter, we have done significant work to stabilize and reinforce the shoreline under the transmission lines. Geotechnical site inspection this summer indicates <u>stable conditions</u> of the material placed. Another detailed site survey should be performed by the end of October this year. Both communities of Fort Albany and Kashechewan played a main role in the implementation of this project! FNEI appreciates great help from every individual involved and their families!





### FNEI OPERATIONS MANAGER'S UPDATE-2019

This is the first year, since FNEI operations started performing right of way (ROW) brushing, supervision was done by the Linesman from Fort Albany – Douglas Nakogee, He and the Attawapiskat crew with a few other people from Kashechewan and Fort Albany did a great job. New equipment also helped to almost double the production compared to the previous years.



Attawapiskat crew (below) during the training for project preparation.  $\Drive{C} \Drive{C} \Dr$ 



## FNEI OPERATIONS MANAGER'S UPDATE-2019

A leaning pole was reported on the section from Moosonee to Kashechewan at the end of the winter, and the helicopter line patrol had confirmed the problem and FNEI organized repairs completed by Fort Albany Power Corporation crew.



Before and after





We learned something new from this project and have implemented a better way to move the hydraulic unit through the swamp once it is dropped by helicopter. Now it can move itself, with the hydraulic drive.

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Mike Kataquapit (right) picking up new unit, assembled by "Timmins Rent All".  $L\Delta$  '  $bC \cdot bV'$   $\nabla D \cap a$  '  $D \circ P = A \cdot C \cdot \Delta \sigma \sigma \circ b = P \cdot L \cdot \Delta a \cdot P \cdot A \cdot \Delta \sigma \circ A \cdot \Delta \sigma \circ$ 

With lots of effort of fixing and maintaining the lines, we should remember about another important and very sensitive component of any transmission system, it is substations and all the systems associated with controls and monitoring. Our Protection and control group refurbished 2 panels and replaced several protective relays which involved new wiring, programming and testing.

On September 15, 2019, FNEI, with great support from PowerTel, substantially completed the "Bus isolation project". New configuration should minimise outages related to station maintenance.





PowerTel crew (above) installing new disconnect switch for bus section.  $< D \le U^T \quad b \le C P \quad b \quad A \le C P \cap C P \quad A \le C P$ 

# FNEI OPERATIONS MANAGER'S UPDATE-2019



New cell added to the existing switchgear, to improve Attawapiskat distribution system configuration and increase reliability. (*last one on the left*)

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The road near the substation in Attawapiskat was redirected to move away from the station for better safety and also create joined storage area with Attawapiskat.

In the last few years, we have replaced station stone at Kashechewan and Fort Albany substations. This year, stone was prepared for the Attawapiskat substation. The clear stone is part of the step and touch voltage control system. After years of being near the dusty road, it is getting filled with soil and losing insulating properties, also becoming a problem for vegetation control.

With all the projects we have completed, it would be impossible to get them done without community support in equipment, labour, accommodations and materials. FNEI is looking forward to work with the communities in the years ahead!

October 2019 Operations Manager Vladimir Govorov

Cree Translation of Operations Manager's Update-2019 -for Pages 8-9 Starts below:

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## **CREE TRANSLATION-FNEI OPERATIONS MANAGER'S UPDATE-2019**

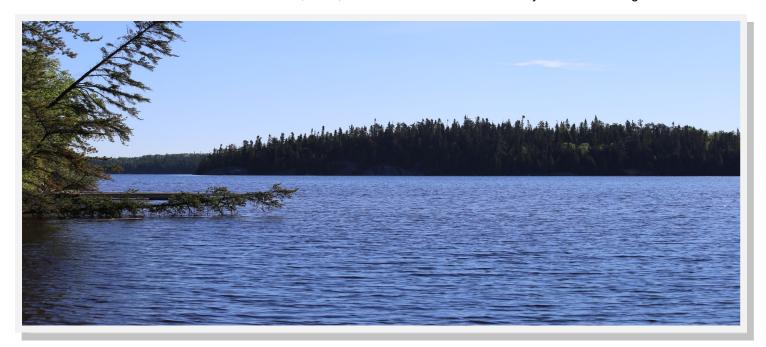
#### **Continued from Page 11**

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### PICTURES OF FNEI STAFF RETREAT

The FNEI staff went on their retreat on June 20, 2019, and below is the lake where they did some fishing.





Everyone gathering to cast off on this beautiful sunny day!



### FNEI COMMUNITY DONATIONS & ITS CREE TRANSLATIONS

#### Little NHL (Little Native Hockey League, 2019:

There are many community events, and one very popular event is hockey! As you see on the front page of this newsletter, the Moose Cree Scappers-Tykes Division were fortunate to travel to Mississauga, ON, to be part of an overall event called the Little Native Hockey League (Little NHL) tournament! According to Ms. Pamela Innes, Manager of the Moose Cree Scrappers-Tykes Division, it was the first time some of these children attended this tournament! As she states, this is "Moose Cree's very own up and coming

hockey stars." Ms. Innes also indicated that this tournament is all about teamwork and comradery rather than a competition, as they do not have scorekeepers or referees. The teams of children just show up for various games and they all have fun doing that!! Bravo to all!

Picture below, courtesy of Ms. Pamela Innes, Manager/Trainer of the Moose Cree Scrappers-Tykes Division.

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### FNEI COMMUNITY DONATIONS & ITS CREE TRANSLATIONS

Grade 12 Students from Francine J. Wesley Secondary School, Kashechewan, ON, Graduation Trip to Toronto, ON:

These deserving students who graduated from Grade 12, had been fundraising throughout their school year, were rewarded with an experience that some may not have ever seen before, and that is an exciting trip to Toronto to celebrate their accomplishments!! According to Ms. Tai Chang, this is a "once—in-a-lifetime opportunity for all students." On behalf of the FNEI Board of Directors, we wish each and every one of those students the very best with their future goals!!

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#### Fort Albany, Peetabeck Pow Wow 2019:

For their annual Pow Wow, the Pow Wow Committee Members for Kesay Pesim 2019 held their Pow Wow gathering on February 8-10, 2019, in Fort Albany. According to the organizers, this has become a popular event drawing in families and friends from the James Bay coast, to reconnect with each other, while creating new relationships! We wish the Pow Wow Committee the very best with next year's Pow Wow!

#### **Northern College Pow Wow 2019:**

Each year, the Native Student Assembly at Northern College of Applied Arts & Technology, organizes a Pow Wow. This year, their theme of the Pow Wow was "*Bring our Children Home*". According to the organizers, this event brings together many people to raise awareness and educate them on the history of Indigenous Peoples, and it also equips the students with organizational skills, creation of social networks, and helping to increase their traditional knowledge!!

We wish all students at Northern College the very best with their educational goals!!

# FNEI CONGRATULATES THE 2018-2019 FNEI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Every year, FNEI provides a scholarship award to students who are eligible under our scholarship program. The Education Authorities of each of the five Communities-Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Moose Cree, and Taykwa Tagamou Nation, select a student each to receive FNEI's Scholarship Award. In addition, because some students originating from those Communities also attend the Northern Lights Secondary School in Moosonee, ON, one

scholarship is also awarded to a student from that school!

The FNEI Scholarship Award provides further recognition to the deserving students who work very hard at their studies to accomplish their career goals!! We, at FNEI, are only too glad to have this Scholarship program in place for these students!!

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#### Mr. Kevin Chilton:

This school year, 2018-2019, Northern Lights Secondary School in Moosonee, has selected Kevin, a Moose Cree First Nation Member, who graduated from this school, to receive FNEI's Scholarship Award! According to Mr. Carman Tozer, Indigenous Lead/Student Success Teacher/Guidance Counselor, Kevin will be entering into a one year Trades Fundamentals Program at Canadore College in North Bay, ON. Mr. Tozer further indicated that this program will assist Kevin in deciding which program he will take as his future educational goal!! We wish Kevin the very best with his continuing education!!

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we wish Kevin much success on his educational journey & aspirations!! Way to go, Kevin!!

#### יטיח יאיף



Mr. Mike Metatawabin, Manager of External Development & Communications for FNEI, (left) presenting the FNEI Scholarship Award to Kevin!!

### FNEI CONGRATULATES THE 2018-2019 FNEI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### Mr. William Chum:

The Moose Cree Education Authority has selected William, a Moose Cree First Nation Member, as this year's FNEI Scholarship Recipient! William graduated from the Trades Fundamentals program at Canadore College in North Bay, ON, and will be entering the Mechanical Engineering Technician program at the North Bay campus for the 2019-2020 academic year!! He is quite confident with his choice of program and hopes to join a company that is innovative and progressive in this industry. He credits his upbringing focusing also on his aboriginal culture which was an important aspect to him while growing up! William is also a graduate from the Nbisiing Secondary School in North Bay, ON, which is a First Nation's high school, and received an award for the "most improved student"!!

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we wish William much success on his educational journey and aspirations!! Way to go, William!

Cree Translation Below on William Chum, FNEI Scholarship Recipient:

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William Chum, above, proudly holding up the FNEI Scholarship Award he received from FNEI and deservedly

ON BEHALF OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WE CONGRATULATE THE FNEI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!!

### SAFETY AT ALL TIMES AROUND TRANSMISSION LINES & SUBSTATIONS!

### Safety Tips for Children: (and everyone else)

Stay away from areas with signs that say, DANGER, and, DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE. Do not go or play near these areas. You could get hurt very seriously or it could result in death!

Be Careful when climbing trees and make sure there are no transmission lines near the tree or lines running through the limbs of the tree.

Never try to touch an overhead wire and stay far away from an overhead wire that has been knocked to the ground. The electricity can travel through the ground for many feet and could seriously injure you or even kill you.

**Do not play** around or attempt to damage electrical equipment. It may kill or severely injure you. The damaged equipment is even more dangerous and may mean a long power outage for everyone in your Community, and expensive repairs.

Do not play with kites, balloons, model airplanes, near the power lines. Play far away from these overhead lines & substations.

When there is a lightning storm, go inside your home or vehicle immediately. Lightning may be fun to watch, but it is extremely dangerous and should only be watched from inside your home or vehicle.

Always unplug items by unplugging from the outlet carefully, do not pull on the cord as this could damage the cord and make it unsafe to use.

Never play around water with electrical appliances. Water makes electricity more dangerous, and can kill you.

Always be sure that the switch is turned off before you attempt to change a light bulb. If the light bulb is broken, have an adult help you. Never put your finger into a light socket, or poke anything into an electrical outlet.

If you see transmission lines knocked down, or see someone who is being shocked by electricity, <u>DO NOT TOUCH</u> the person. Immediately go for help from an adult and call the Police. Touching someone who has been shocked may shock you as well. Wait until the electricity has been turned off before getting close to the injured person.

# <u>REMEMBER:</u> ELECTRICITY IS DANGEROUS AND CAN ALSO CAUSE DEATH. PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SAFETY TIPS AT ALL TIMES TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE.

Note that Hydro One Networks and Hospital for Sick Children have produced a website, and their link is: <a href="http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/EN/JustForKids/Life/ElectricalSafety/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/EN/JustForKids/Life/ElectricalSafety/Pages/default.aspx</a>

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http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/EN/JustForKids/Life/ElectricalSafety/Pages/default.aspx

This is a photo of FNEI's Transmission Line at Sunset!

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