

MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER



GWAYAKOCCHIGWIN

MAKING DECISIONS THE RIGHT WAY

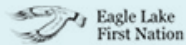
Agreement reached on the Waasigan

Transmission Line Project

**IN
THIS
ISSUE**

Signing Ceremony
About GLP
About Waasigan
Next Steps
Updated Map

Gwayakocchigewin LP is a First Nation partnership owned by:



Eagle Lake First Nation,



Fort William First Nation,



Lac La Croix First Nation,



Lac Seul First Nation,



Nigigoonsiminikaaning
First Nation,



Seine River First Nation,



Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, and



Ojibway Nation of Saugeen.



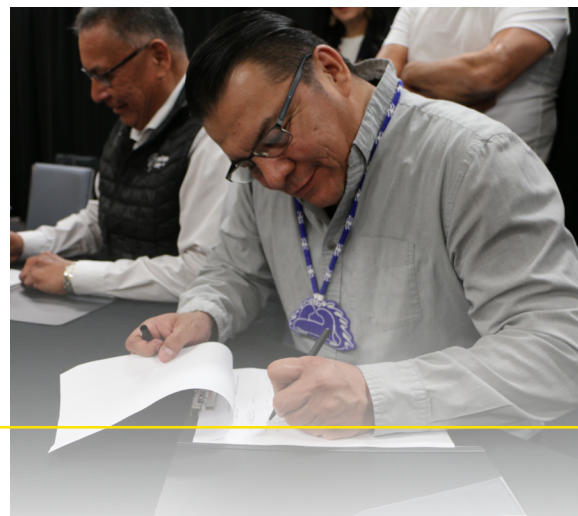
GLP & Hydro One enter into an agreement to advance the Waasigan Transmission Line project

On May 4th 2022, Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) and Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP) advanced their collaboration through the entering into an agreement on the Waasigan Transmission Line project.

The agreement provides the eight First Nations communities represented by the GLP with the opportunity to invest in an equity stake of the project. In total, nine First Nations in the region will have the opportunity to invest in a 50 per cent stake in the transmission line.

This industry-leading agreement will transform the way in which First Nations participate in critical infrastructure development. It will provide generational revenues for these First Nations communities and is a strong signal as to how Hydro One intends to move forward on new large scale transmission line projects.

Hydro One is committed to working together with Indigenous communities throughout the life cycle of the Waasigan Project.



SIGNING CEREMONY

Representatives from Hydro One, GLP Board, and GLP Community Chiefs assembled on May 4, 2022 on the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation for a signing ceremony.



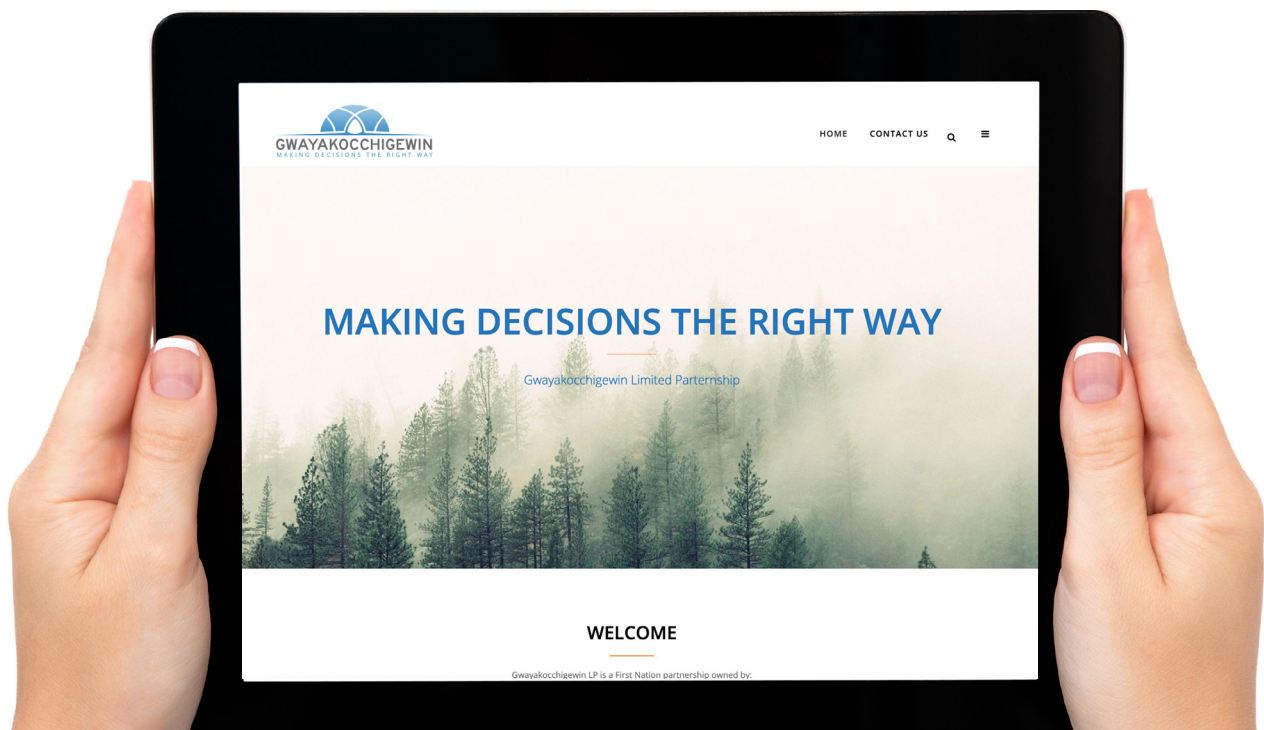
"We must seek out partnerships where we participate as equal partners to support our communities and our members. The terms of partnership signed with Hydro One today is a tremendous opportunity for everyone involved and demonstrates the right approach to Indigenous Participation on infrastructure development. First Nations working together and in a true partnership with Hydro One, we will help us secure a brighter future for our people."

Tom Johnson President of Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership

Photo: Left to Right:
Chiefs: Clifford Bull, Will Windigo, Carrie Atatise-Norwegian, Clayton Wetelainen, John Kabatay. GLP President Tom Johnson, Hydro One - Jason Fitzsimmons, and Chief Peter Collins

Missing:
Chief Arnold Gardner & Chief Ron Machimity

Visit us at www.glp-fn.ca



Who is Gwayakocchigewin?

Our Mission

Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP) is a consortium of eight First Nations working together on the development of the Waasigan Transmission Line. Gwayakocchigewin means “making decisions the right way”. GLP’s goal is to achieve meaningful economic participation for its First Nations, while protecting the lands, waters, and cultural values potentially impacted by the Waasigan Project. Each member First Nation is represented by a:

Board Member

She/He leads the overall business and direction of GLP. At this stage in the project development, the Board of Director’s responsibilities are focused on assisting, supporting the legal negotiation of the Hydro One and GLP Term Sheet, Definitive Documentation and Economic Accommodation. They are also working very closely with the Protection Committee in the development, approval of the Environmental Assessment.

Protection Committee Member

She/He is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the First Nation’s participation in all components of the Environmental Assessment. This includes traditional knowledge and land use studies, archeology, value and rights impact Assessments, environmental, social and cultural mitigation measures, etc.

Community Engagement Coordinator

She/He is responsible for serving as a primary liaison between Hydro One, GLP and their First Nation. This includes information sharing and supporting the coordination of local community engagement related to the advancement of the Project, environmental assessment, training, employment and contracting initiatives.

Our Guiding Principles

GLP recognizes the importance of the following to its 8 partner First Nations:

- Ownership and control over development in their homelands
- Meaningful consultation and accommodation for impacted lands
- Sharing of benefits
- Employment, training, and business opportunities
- Environmental protection and monitoring
- Traditional knowledge, land use, and cultural awareness
- Trust and relationship building with Hydro One
- Reconciliation and the need to address “Other Matters” with Hydro One and the Crown



About the Waasigan Transmission Line

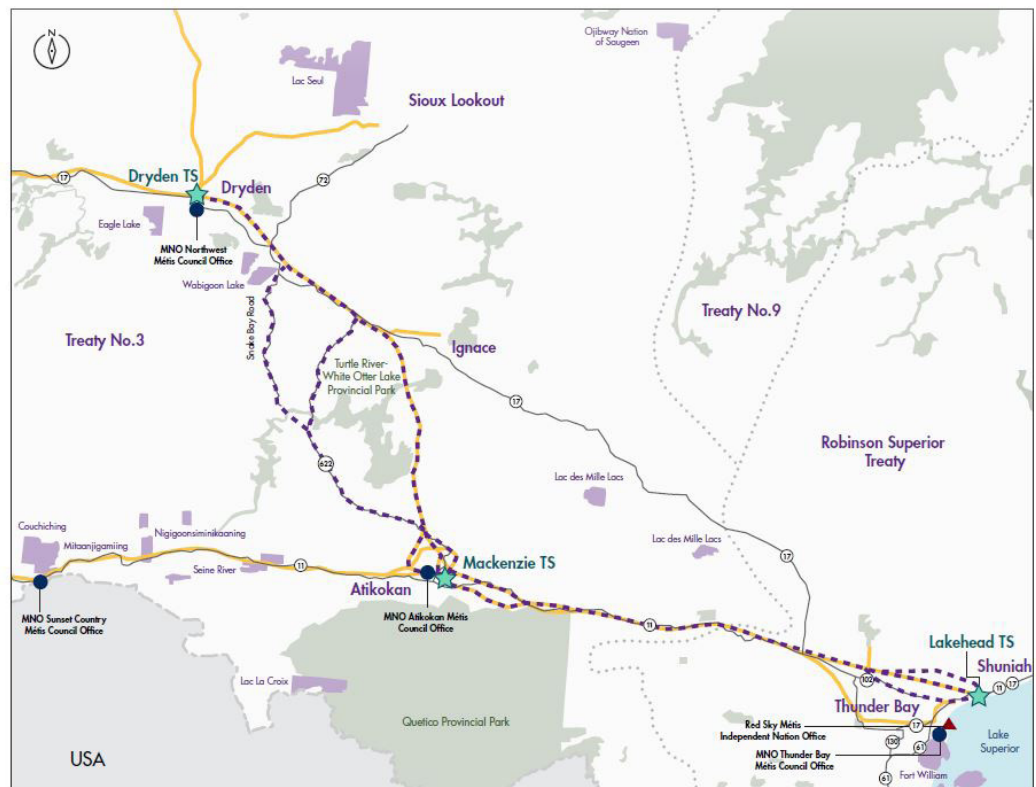
Waasigan Transmission Line will bolster capacity in northwest Ontario by adding 350 megawatts of capacity to the region with a new double-circuit 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Lakehead Transmission Station (TS) in the Municipality of Shuniah and Mackenzie TS in the Town of Atikokan, and a new single-circuit 230 kV transmission line between Mackenzie TS and Dryden TS in the City of Dryden. Completion of the line is contingent on Indigenous consultation, stakeholder consultation and regulatory approvals. Hydro One is aiming to start construction by 2025. To learn more about the project, visit: HydroOne.com/Waasigan.



WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE

Map Legend

- ★ Existing Transformer Station (TS)
- Alternative Routes
- Existing Transmission Line
- Highway
- International Border
- ▲ Red Sky Métis Independent Nation Office
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Council Office
- Treaty Boundary
- First Nation Reserve
- Provincial Park



Our Next Steps

GLP will now continue our work to implement our plan to ensure the communities we represent be involved in the project services which include:

Hiring

GLP is conducting this CEO recruitment on behalf of GLP's new Project Services Company, Chi Mino Ozhitowin which is still being organized.

Job Description

The CEO is results driven, accomplished business professional and leader who possesses a high level of broad business and management skills and is effective at generating outcomes and results for the organization. The CEO will be responsible for developing and implementing the overall strategy for Chi Mino Ozhitowin. The CEO will need to understand his/her role in leading the company based on the vision and expectations of the 8 First Nations, while working collaboratively and building relationships with Hydro One, the construction contractor, subcontractors, training partners, and other Indigenous communities/partners. The CEO will report to the Board of Directors of Chi Mino Ozhitowin. The CEO must be prepared to work and travel outside normal business hours.

Since Chi Mino Ozhitowin is an organization that will provide services in First Nations communities, the ideal applicant will possess a demonstrated knowledge of First Nations history, protocols, language, and culture.

Interested?

Please contact:

Ginny Michano
Implementation Officer – Support
gmichano@northvista.ca

Business readiness

One of our goals is to maximize Indigenous Participation during development, construction, and operations of the Project

We're completing an inventory of businesses from GLP First Nations, and will begin the process helping them get ready for subcontracting opportunities

Employment & Training

There will be many opportunities for employment on the Project, ranging from general labour to skilled labour and management positions. While construction is several years away, we will begin the process of identifying interested individuals, and addressing any training or work readiness requirements.

Cultural Awareness

Hydro One and its contractors will be provided cultural awareness training in order to understand and respect our people, lands, and protocols. We will be developing a cultural awareness program for the Waasigan Project

Environmental Monitoring

GLP is delivering an Indigenous environmental monitoring orientation May 5th / 6th. Participants will learn more about proposed environmental fields studies, traditional knowledge & land use, and future project activities that will require monitoring by the GLP First Nations. If you are interested in learning more about indigenous environmental monitoring, please contact:

Ginny Michano
Implementation Officer – Support
gmichano@northvista.ca

Contractor selection

Hydro One has initiated a process to select the EPC (Engineering, Procurement, Construction) Contractor for the Project. The shortlisted candidates are Forbes Bros Ltd. and Valard Construction LP. GLP communities will be engaged on this process and have the opportunity to provide input, prior to selection of the preferred contractor this summer.





Get in touch

Gwayakocchigewin LP

90 Anemki Drive (Suite 200)
Thunder Bay, ON, P7J1L3
Phone: (807) 627-7420

Patrick Boileau

Implementation Officer – Lead
(807) 627-7420
pboileau@northvista.ca

Ginny Michano

Implementation Officer – Support
(807) 632-4341
gmichano@northvista.ca