



A Newsletter for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators!

# THE WATERDRUM

March 2021

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## Paul Strohack Operator of the Year, Clifford Mamakwa



Clifford Mamakwa featured article on page 8-9



Sponsored by: Indigenous Services Canada and First Nations Inuit Health Branch



*The meaning of the AWWAO logo as described by the artist:*

*Tree—represents Mother Earth*

*Sun—brings Life to our Environment*

*Eagle—watches over the Environment*

*Sky—ensures the Cycle of Water*

## ABOUT US

The Aboriginal Water & Wastewater Association of Ontario is an information source for water environment and Operator training and certification issues and technology. AWWAO's members include professionals from Ontario First Nations, Environmental Health Officers, Tribal Councils, Municipal Suppliers and some Government Agencies.

AWWAO is dedicated to the transfer of information and concepts regarding all areas of the water environment. As members of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), the Ontario Water Works Association (OWWA), the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the Water Environment Association of Ontario (WEAO), we provide an invaluable network for those involved in water and wastewater industry. AWWAO, through a partnering agreement with Keewaytinook Okimakanak and Health Canada co-operates and liaises with the above noted associations, and all provincial and federal government agencies. AWWAO has a volunteer seat on many of the various association's committees.

AWWAO offers its members the opportunity to:

- ◆ Be updated and informed about issues that affect the water environment.
- ◆ Interact with persons in various fields of water expertise.
- ◆ Promote concerns of the membership through a collective voice.
- ◆ Exchange information and ideas to other members, the public and Chiefs and Council.

To date, the AWWAO consistently rank the training and certification of Plant Operators as its top priority. The attainment of Certification is widely recognized as essential to performing a good job, at a high level, in the water and wastewater treatment plant operations, and an indicator of a responsible and contributing community member.

## MEMBERSHIP

\$200.00 Membership Fee for First Nations Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators per operator. This Membership entitles the Operator(s) to the AWWAO Newsletter, monthly bulletin, Annual Report and the Annual General Assembly and Training Conference cost reimbursement, if applicable.

\$400.00 Membership Fee for Non-Operator, Public Works Management, Administration and Management of a First Nation or Non-First Nation. This Membership entitles the Member to the AWWAO Newsletter, monthly bulletins, Annual Report and invitation to the Annual General Assembly and Training Conference.

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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First Nation/Business: \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## VISION

Our Vision is to be the Association that best understands and satisfies the training, education, certification and licensing needs of Operators of Ontario First Nations. Our dedication to supporting Operators touches not only health, but safety, spirit and empowerment ... most of all knowledge.

## OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To act as a voice and forum for First Nation Plant Operators in Ontario, publish a newsletter, promote communications and networking among Plant Operators and other persons interested in AWWAO's objectives;
- ◆ Promote the importance of a safe and potable water supply and the highest standard of wastewater operations;
- ◆ Promote the development and delivery of continuing education and training programs for Plant Operators and others involved in water and wastewater treatment;
- ◆ Promote the importance of technical training in maintaining and upgrading the Operator's knowledge of proper water and wastewater operation and maintenance requirements;
- ◆ Promote the importance of involving qualified Operator's in the design, construction or upgrading of water and wastewater treatment plants;
- ◆ Promote the importance of proper training, certification and licensing of Operators;
- ◆ Promote the importance of enhanced lab testing of potable water and monitoring of wastewater effluents; and
- ◆ Promote the importance of establishing an effective Operations & Maintenance Management Plan to ensure proper care is performed for the assets.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a member oriented, non-profit Association, providing province-wide and year-round high-quality services and an annual forum for the First Nations Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators, allowing for networking opportunities at the same time. We are committed to providing high quality information on the water and wastewater industry through the quarterly newsletter. We are dedicated to promoting, preserving and protecting the water, natural resources and environment through the education, training and networking of the Ontario First Nations Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators.

Aboriginal Water and Wastewater Association of Ontario's newsletter is published quarterly by the AWWAO at Box 20001, RPO, Riverview Postal Outlet  
Dryden, ON P8N 0A1  
Tel: (807) 216-8085  
E-mail: [info@awwao.org](mailto:info@awwao.org)

Advertising opportunities and/or submission or request of information, please contact the Association Coordinator.

## AGM

# AGM

Annual General Meeting

We've been adapting to the "new normal" in all sorts of ways over the year. And one thing we had to figure out pretty quickly: how do we hold our AGM in this new online world? Our AGM was scheduled for February 24, 2021, and we'd been looking forward to catching up with our operators.

We knew we really wanted to bring our operators together, so we brainstormed, did our research, and worked out how to hold our AGM online instead. And we're pleased to say we pulled it off! We were thrilled that 60 operators virtually showed up to support us.

On this note, AWWAO would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support over the past 12 months. We value all contributions to AWWAO and memberships make up the lifeblood of our organization. Attending the AGM allowed you to exercise your vote and ask questions to make the most informed decisions regarding your organization.

In 2020-21 AWWAO has welcomed new members, both regular and associate memberships to the association.

Total Regular Membership: 162

Total Associate Membership: 5

At the AGM we had several draw prize winners. Congratulations!!



*Bill Moore from Shibogoma First Nation won a prize.*





## *Canada and Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte announce funding to improve access to safe drinking water for the community*

From: [Indigenous Services Canada](#)

### **News release**

December 17, 2020 — Ottawa, traditional Algonquin Territory, Ontario — Indigenous Services Canada

While most Canadians have access to clean and reliable drinking water, many First Nations communities still face pressing water issues. The Government of Canada has made a commitment to clean drinking water for First Nations on reserves, and we will continue to support and work in partnership with First Nations on long-term and sustainable solutions so that communities will continue to have access to safe drinking water for generations to come.

Today, the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) and the Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Indigenous Services, announced funding to support the last phase of the community's multi-phase project to improve access to safe drinking water for the community. Together, the Government of Canada and the First Nation are contributing a total \$18.2 million for this project. This project will ultimately lift five long-term drinking water advisories in the community.

MBQ awarded the construction contract to Gordon Barr Limited, which is set to begin work the week of December 21, 2020. The project includes extending the water mains from both the community's and Deseronto's water treatment plant, which will connect 86 existing homes and several of the community's semi-public buildings.

Construction is expected to be complete by fall 2021, due to delays created by COVID-19 and will support the lifting of five long-term drinking water advisories.

We remain steadfast in our work to end all long-term drinking water advisories. The more-than-\$3.5 billion committed to water and wastewater since 2016 has funded more than 600 water and wastewater projects. Infrastructure has been repaired, expanded, or replaced, training has been strengthened across the country, and additional funding for operations and maintenance is being allocated to communities.

### **Quotes**

"We will continue to work in partnership with the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and support their work towards lifting long-term water advisories and building sustainable water infrastructure. Together, we are working to expand water service to ensure residents have access to safe and clean drinking water for generations to come, and to address the five long-term drinking water advisories."

The Honourable Marc Miller  
Minister of Indigenous Services

"Access to safe drinking water is precious and necessary for sustaining life. So, I'm very glad to hear that the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) are poised to lift the five long-term drinking water advisories which have been in place in their community. It's good to know that the federal government and First Nation contributions of \$18.2 million will ensure that this essential infrastructure can carry clean, nourishing water to even more people in our region."

Neil R. Ellis  
Member of Parliament for the Bay of Quinte

## Continued

"On behalf of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) and the Tyendinaga Mohawk Council (TMC), I very much appreciate and welcome the funding contribution from the federal government authorizing the work for the phase 3 water distribution project to proceed. The approved funding will facilitate the installation of approximately 8 kilometers of 300mm watermain distribution and related appurtenances to service five areas in the community, decommission an antiquated pump house servicing homes in the Airport Road area, and lift five long-term drinking water advisories that have been long outstanding in our community. In addition, by completing the Phase 3 project it will allow MBQ to move forward with our watermain phasing project, adding an additional 20 kilometers of future watermain distribution allowing the extension of water services to other un-serviced parts of the community. The funding support from the federal government allows us to undertake an accelerated potable water distribution servicing program to ensure our community has access to a safe, potable and reliable water supply."

Chief R. Donald Maracle  
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte First Nation

### Quick facts

- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte is located approximately 10 kilometres east of Belleville and west of Deseronto, with year-round road access.
- ISC and the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte have worked together on a multi-phased approach to expand water service to the community and address the five long-term drinking water advisories.
- Under phase 1, ISC provided funding to construct a new water treatment system that provides potable water to 863 homes.
- For phase 2, which is nearing completion, ISC invested funding to install approximately 7.5 kilometres of water main to the Shannonville area and to construct an elevated water storage tower.
- ISC also supported the Deseronto Water Treatment Plant Upgrade project to increase the community's capacity for more connections to clean drinking water and address the growing needs of the community.
- Phase 3 builds on work from phases 1, 2 and the Deseronto Project for a combined total departmental investment of approximately \$58.6 million.

ISC and the First Nation are cost-sharing the phase 3 project with ISC contributing \$16.8 million and the First Nation contributing \$1.4 million, for a total estimated project cost of \$18.2 million.



## *Ben Brant*



Congratulations Ben Brant, the 2020 Southern Water Operator of the Year!!

Ben Brant was nominated for Southern Operator of Year as he is an exceptional Class II Water Treatment Plant Operator for Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) First Nation.

In 2015, Ben physically helped build the water treatment plant during the construction phase. He is extremely knowledgeable and proficient in the plant procedures as well as the building itself. He takes pride in MBQ's Water Plant in both the plant processes and the plant appearance. You can always find him cleaning and tidying up somewhere in the plant once all the maintenance work is completed each month.

When he's not working, Ben enjoys sports and physical activity; he participates in the local hockey and baseball teams, and he also enjoys golfing. Ben most enjoys hanging out with his friends and family. He additionally participates in Jujitsu with his brother when not on COVID lockdown.

Ben consistently goes above and beyond to ensure the community has access to safe, reliable, and clean drinking water. He takes little time off work to ensure the water plant and distribution system operates smoothly. He is always available to lend a hand and provide assistance even when he isn't on call. The Tyendinaga Mohawk Community is lucky to have Ben; he can always be relied on when needed.

Ben shows dedication, hard work, and commitment to MBQ; he has set a high benchmark for other water plant operators to compare. Ben represents MBQ and AWWAO for his outstanding talents, achievements, and commitment to the water industry.



Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) have a Class III Water Treatment Plant which utilizes Evoqua Membrane filtration, UV, and chlorination. MBQ were the AWWAO 2020 Water Taste Challenge winners.





## Drinking Water Training Available for First Nation Communities

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre (WCWC), in partnership with Keewaytinook Okimakanak/Northern Chiefs Council, is pleased to offer two courses to support drinking water improvements in First Nations communities.

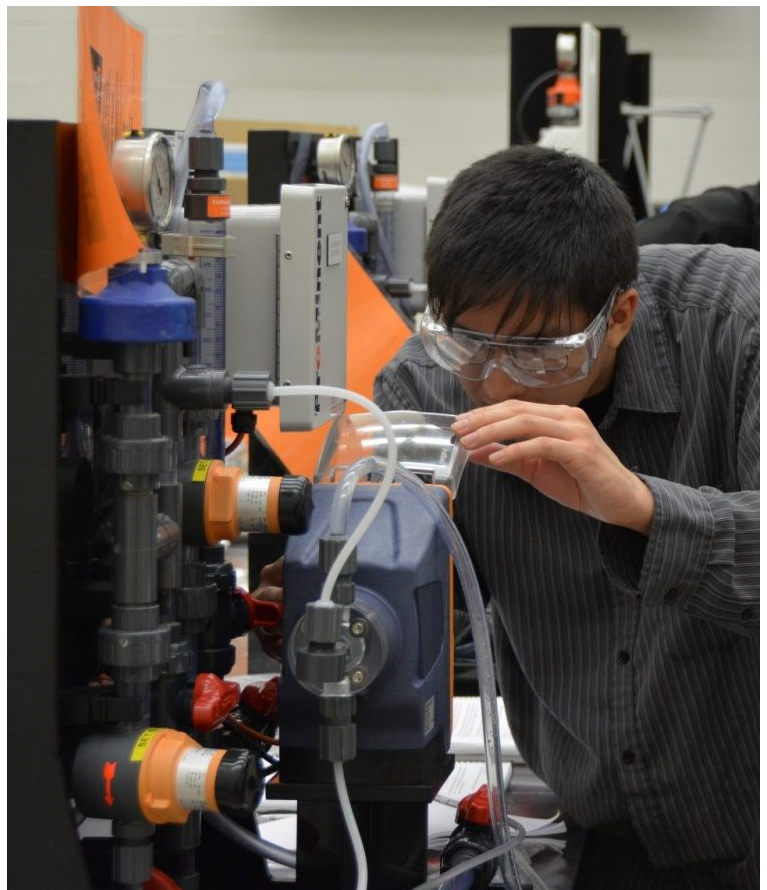
*Entry-Level Course for Drinking Water Operators for First Nations* was designed to meet the needs of operators of First Nations drinking water systems. Each course delivery is a two-week initiative with one week of supervised self-study and one week of practical hands-on training. This course is designed for current operators and anyone who is interested in becoming a drinking water operator. Two sessions are planned this spring: April 26-30 and May 10-14, 2021 in Dryden; and May 31-June 4 and June 21-25, 2021 in Walkerton.

***Managing Drinking Water Systems in First Nations Communities* is being offered in a live, virtual format to provide opportunities for interaction between the instructor and participants. This course is designed as an introduction to management practices related to the drinking water systems in First Nations communities. It provides an overview of drinking water systems, explores components of effective drinking water system management and provides resources and practical tools for consideration in developing or making improvements to current practices. This course is designed for First Nations Chiefs, Council and management who have operational responsibility for drinking water systems. The next session will be held on March 3 and 4, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

For more information, or to register for training, please visit [wcwc.ca/first-nations-zone/](https://wcwc.ca/first-nations-zone/) or contact WCWC at 866-515-0550 or [training@wcwc.ca](mailto:training@wcwc.ca).

WCWC is an agency of the Government of Ontario, established in 2004, to coordinate and provide education, training and information to drinking water system owners, operators and operating authorities, and the public, to help safeguard drinking water. Through partnerships, WCWC also provides training for the 134 First Nations communities in Ontario.

WCWC also works regularly with AWWAO training operators at its annual AGM and training conference. This year it was virtual and WCWC offered the *Mandatory Certificate Renewal Course (2021 – 2023)* on February 23 and 25, 2021. WCWC also offered the courses, *Managing Drinking Water Systems in First Nations Communities* and *New Watermain Commissioning* in cooperation with AWWAO at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Symposium, held virtually on February 17 and 18, 2021.



## *Operator of the Year Clifford Mamakwa*

I want to thank God, my family, my co-workers (Ronnie, Ryan and Keith) also my employer: Wunnumin Lake First Nation for all their support, Bill Moore (Shibogama Tribal council) for the nomination and AWWAO for choosing me as a recipient for this award. I was surprised and literally caught off guard when the announcement was made, I didn't even know I was nominated.

I share this achievement with my co-workers. We work as a team. We have new operators that are starting out and I just get excited seeing them coming into their own. And that is my hope, is to put the new operators under our wing and pass the knowledge down to them so that we can keep the water safe.

Meeqwetch and let's keep the water safe.

Clifford Mamakwa Class III Water Treatment, Wunnumin Lake First Nation



*Left to right: Clifford Mamakwa, Ryan Sturgeon (trainee) and Keith Martin*



## Cont'd



Aboriginal Water and Wastewater of Ontario recognizes that there are First Nations Operators in Ontario who go above and beyond doing a good job; they provide an example for others of many facets of being an Operator, particularly in supporting the other activities of other Operators. They make an extra effort to support their fellow Operators, and teach others what they have learned through many years of working in the field. Often, they encourage others to become

more involved including training opportunities. They go out of their way to help everyone in the water and wastewater field. They volunteer to help others, they serve on committees, and all while doing the things that are necessary to be considered "good at their job."

Each year we give the chance for our members and their respective communities to nominate a water or wastewater operator who has provided outstanding service in their community. Votes are cast by our Board Of Directors and one winner from the south and one winner from the north is chosen.

On February 24, 2021 Jonathon Riberdy, AWWAO director announced that Clifford Mamakwa from Wunnumin Lake First Nation was chosen to be the Paul Strohack Operator of the Year 2021 for the North. Unfortunately, we do have a Southern Operator of the Year because we did not receive nominations.

Congratulations Clifford!



**Wunnumin Lake First Nation.** Wunnumin Lake is a small native remote community located about 500 km north of Thunder Bay. Our community is only accessible by air most of the year but however our community can be accessible on a winter road during the best parts of January and February every winter. From in time immemorial and after so many generations of **Wunnumin** people continue to live here to this day.



## *How to observe World Water Day*

### ◆ **Clean up your local water source**

Grab some friends and form your own water clean up crew. This may seem like a small and insignificant step, but litter and garbage are very hazardous to wildlife. Also, the small rivers and streams near you likely feed into a larger body of water. If you don't pick up that discarded six pack ring, it could find its way into the ocean and become very bad news for a fish or seagull.

### ◆ **Try to reduce your water footprint**

It may not seem like you use a lot of water in your daily life, but you'd be surprised how much water it takes to perform household tasks. The average American shower uses about 17 gallons of water, while a single toilet flush uses a staggering 7 gallons. If you're interested in decreasing your daily water usage, there are many products – such as low flow toilets and shower heads – that can help you do just that.

### ◆ **Organize an event to raise awareness**

If you want to see a grand and immediate impact, you could organize a charity event. All over the world, communities hold events for World Water Day. You could focus on simply raising awareness about any number of the water related issues we face, or you could even collect donations for areas with extreme need.

## *Why World Water Day is important*

### ◆ **It affects millions of people**

An estimated 780 million people live without clean, accessible drinking water. Drinking contaminated water can lead to a host of life threatening diseases. This may seem like a third world problem, but Flint, Michigan showed us that water problems even plague the United States.

### ◆ **Water pollution affects wildlife**

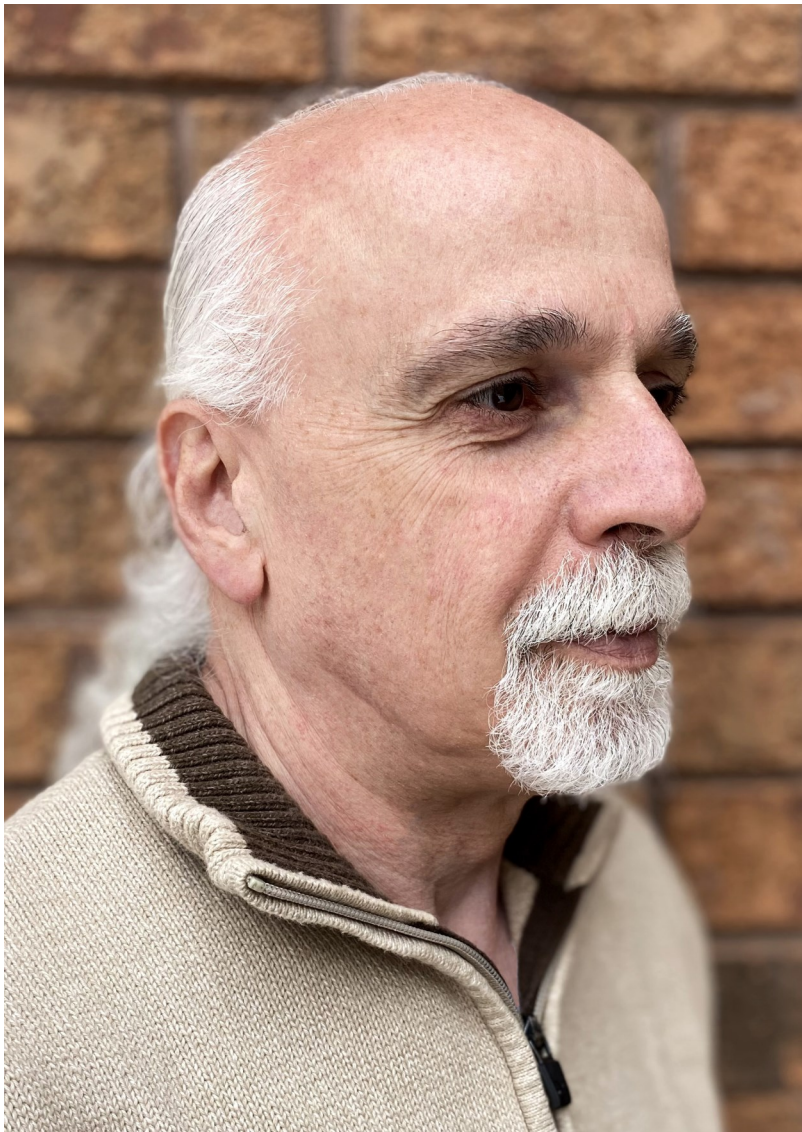
It's not only humans that require access to clean water. Every year, countless animals die as a result of water pollution. Pollution can occur in many ways, from physical litter to wastewater and chemicals runoff, which causes the water to become toxic to the animals that depend on it for drinking and habitation

### ◆ **Water relates to many other environmental issues**

World Water Day has a yearly theme, such as "Nature for Water," which is dedicated to finding natural solutions to our water crises. Many of the environmental problems we are coping with are intertwined — climate change and ecosystem degradation are related to, and sometimes direct causes, of water pollution, floods, and droughts.



## *Instructor of the Year, Hany G. Jadaa*



Thank you so much for this honor; I am truly humbled and honestly speechless; don't know what I did to deserve this. As I always say – I was just doing my job helping with the little bit that I know; my reward is the hope that others pass it on to their colleagues and future generations. So thank you, thank you, thank you to all who granted me this honor.

I am an Environmental Engineer and Scientist; started working as a water treatment plant operator for a few years, then moved to working in a commercial laboratory as an organics analyst. I then joined the consulting engineering industry for many years before starting my own company back in 1993. My expertise is in plant operations, both water and wastewater, having completed numerous plant designs, internal audits, troubleshooting and optimization projects for both the municipal and the industrial sectors. The last 25 years of my career have been mostly dedicated towards educating and training plant operators and managers alike about our water/wastewater industry and helping them achieve various certification levels so they in turn can help improve their plant operations and save our environment for the next generations. Outside of work I am also a professional musician, a photographer, and a martial artist who enjoys teaching and training others in all of the above.

Hany G. Jadaa; C.Chem., M.Sc. Eng.  
Director/Senior Technical Advisor  
LEXICON Environmental Consulting Services Inc.

AWWAO would like to congratulate Hany G. Jadaa on receiving the Gary Oja, Instructor of the Year Award. This award stands alone proudly witnessing your hard work and dedication as a trainer.





## *Mohawk of Akwesasne- Winner of De-Ice Line Thawer*

On behalf of John Lazore and the rest of the operators from Akwesasne we would like to thank AWWAO for there awesome prize that John won a new Steamer! We can finally get rid of the little tank we were using before! Thanks again!



*Tom Oakes, Keith Mitchell and Craig Cree*





## Cont'd

I encourage all first nations operators to sign up for training with AWWAO! All the courses they offer, prepare us for emergencies like this water main break, there is no such thing as too much training! Thanks again for all AWWAO does to help first nation operators!





## *Alderville First Nation- Winner of De-Ice Line Thawer*

Hello, my Name is Jackie Saunders and I work as the Water Treatment Operator for Alderville First Nation, located in southern Ontario on the southern shores of Rice Lake. Alderville has decentralized water treatment systems, meaning that there are many buildings with small scale Point-Of-Entry (POE) water treatment.

It is wonderful to participate in the AWWAO Training Conference this year. It provides a valuable way to take courses alongside many other water operators across the province. Even though all the courses are virtual or distanced learning this year, the small training sessions where we all peer through our screens at each other help remind us that we are not alone. There are many other water operators, managers, engineers, and academics all working on similar problems.

We feel very fortunate that through participation and membership with the AWWAO we were able to win a machine to help de-ice frozen water lines. Freezing lines is something that has certainly been an issue before, and the prize will aid Alderville in making sure we can quickly deal with it when it happens again. It will also secure the ability to maintain water lines in any future water infrastructure projects.

Thank you and good luck in the coming year!  
Jackie Saunders



*From left to right: Jackie Saunders (Water Technician), Dave Mowat-Chief of Alderville FN and Clint Cameron (Capital Assets Manager)*



## Assembly of First Nations 4th Annual Water Symposium February 17-18, 2021



The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual AFN Symposium was held virtually on February 17, 18, 2021. The theme of the event was “Protecting Water During Uncertain Times”. The symposium hosted virtual plenary sessions, workshops and dialogues opportunities to hear a wide range of views on long-term goals, objectives and strategies for First Nations water and wastewater future post- 2021.

Their objectives were to discuss the ongoing impacts of the pandemic highlighting the uncertainty facing First Nations with respect to water including Canada’s acknowledgment that their commitment to end all long-term drinking water advisories by March 2021 will not be met. Also, to conduct a national dialogue on looming water legislation, questions around sustainable funding, and the implications of a new national water agency among other current issues.

The Symposium topics included:

- The impact of the pandemic and the importance of water to First Nations health
- Repeal of the *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act* and what it means for First Nations;
- Addressing water quality issues and long and short-term drinking water advisories;
- Climate change impacts on water quality and quantity;
- Health aspects of water and quality of life;
- Solid waste, water and wastewater treatment innovative technology;
- Sustainable Water Management, Watershed and Source Water Protection;
- New approaches to training; and
- Medium and long-term trends in water issues and water governance.

AWWAO was asked to participate in this symposium by offering the following courses:

Managing Drinking Water Systems in First Nations Communities & New Watermain Commissioning. (Walkerton Clean Water Centre.

Maintaining Chlorine Residuals and Water Conservation: Cut Your Losses (World Water Operator Training Company Inc.).

We had 43 participants that successfully completed a course and received a certificate. Thank you for attending this event.



## *AFNWA -An Overview*

The Atlantic First Nations Water Authority (AFNWA) represents progress, innovation, and a long-term solution for water and wastewater problems that affect Atlantic First Nations communities. Once operational, this pan-Atlantic Utility will provide a common standard for water & wastewater services along with improved management and increased resources to deal with long standing water challenges faced by Atlantic First Nations.

Among Atlantic First Nations there is a desire to establish a technically strong First Nations owned and operated organization with the capability to own and operate their water and wastewater facilities, and to deliver capital projects over the long term. Currently, fifteen (15) communities have confirmed their ongoing commitment to the AFNWA and have signed Band Council Resolutions (BCRs) indicating their desire to formally participate in the AFNWA. These communities are located within Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and represent 61% of the total Atlantic First Nations by population.

The Chiefs, Councils and technical staff have concluded that a Full Service Decentralized (FSD) structure is most consistent with their concept of ownership and values. The analysis found within the recently developed AFNWA Business Case independently supports their conclusion that an FSD structure represents the option which best meets the evaluation criteria. The FSD model comprises a 'hub & spoke' operations structure that centralize expertise and operational knowledge in geographically compatible locations close to communities and their local operators.

The FSD structure recognizes First Nations traditional territory and Atlantic Canada's geographic challenges by optimizing service delivery with communities being no more than a 2.5-hour drive away from a service hub. The AFNWA business case provides an appropriately sized management and operational baseline to deliver the required services to communities with the flexibility to scale-up to accommodate communities who wish to join later. Seven (7) other Atlantic First Nation communities have expressed interest in participating in the AFNWA and their inclusion will be accommodated efficiently by providing additional operators to work within the established organizational structure.

Maintaining the status quo does not meet the success factors identified in the Business Case and perpetuates the issues of the past. Providing long term Government of Canada funding will allow the AFNWA to become an organization where First Nations own, operate, and upgrade their own water and wastewater facilities. To that end, The AFNWA and Indigenous Services Canada [ISC] have signed a Framework Agreement to facilitate the transfer of water and wastewater services in member communities. The Framework Agreement signifies a commitment from the Government of Canada to provide sustainable funding for the AFNWA as it transitions to full operations in Spring 2022. Most importantly, the Framework Agreement outlines the negotiation process and the roles and responsibilities for all parties to transfer responsibility for the control and management of water and wastewater services to First Nations. This agreement advances a new First Nations-led service delivery model and represents a step towards self-determination and greater control of resources. In other words, First Nations will be making decision regarding their water and wastewater infrastructure, not the federal government.



*James M. MacKinnon, MPA  
Interim Chief Operating Officer*

## Keith Bressette

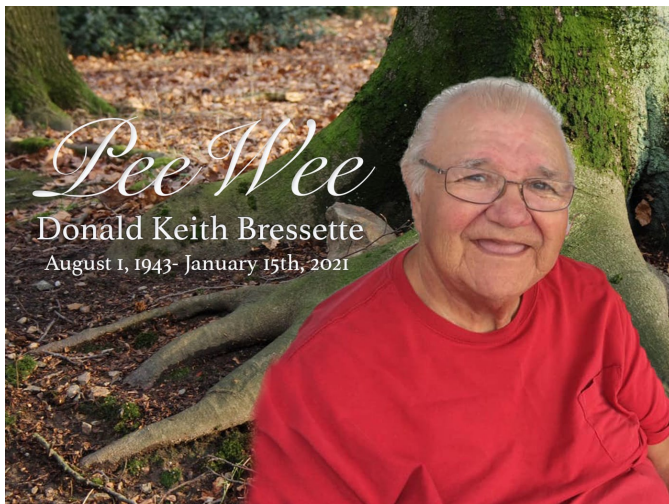
January 16, 2021.

I received sad news on this morning of the 16th of the passing of my old friend and AWWAO Board of Directors colleague Donald Keith Bressette AKA "The Governor". Keith was one of the original AWWAO Grandfathers that started AWWAO. Keith served as AWWAO Secretary/Treasurer at the beginning of time for AWWAO. I enjoyed my time serving with him on AWWAO BOD. Keith Representing Kettle / Stony Point First Nation Water Treatment Plant.

I also have great memories of "The Gov" in my early years as a gill net fisherman. The Gov would come down daily during fishing season and make his rounds here on Walpole Island. The Gov always would have a smile on his face and was always happy to greet you with his smile and hand shake. Keith will be sadly missed by everyone he touched throughout his life.

Baamaapii my Niikaan... until we meet again!

Aho  
Stacey Kicknosway



Donald Keith Bressette, known to his friends as PeeWee, was ushered home into the loving care of his Saviour on Friday, January 15, 2021, at the age of 77.

Keith caught the attention of Claudine Bressette with his bright blue eyes, they shared their lives for over 52 years and raised their family of Denise (Richard) Shepherd, and Suzanne (Todd) Bressette-Epprecht. Leaving an incredible legacy of faith and family, Keith was able to watch his family grow with the addition of his Grandchildren, Christopher (Sheree), Anthoney, and Skye (Brandon), and Great Grandchild Sophia Keidine. Keith is predeceased by his much-loved son David Bressette (2017).

Lovingly missed by his siblings, Carole (John) Pelletier, Arlene (Elmer) Bressette-Dwyer, Elise (David) Henry, Michelle (Matthew) Vaessen, his brothers and sisters-in-law, his many nieces and nephews, special friends Pastors Donley and Loretta Jenkins, and his beloved fur babies, Fiona and Winston. Keith is predeceased by his parents, David & Eunice Bressette.

The kindness of Keith was evident to all he encountered. With his love of faith, family, and fellowship, the family bond was very strong, and his grandchildren brought great joy as he watched them grow. Keith had a strong work ethic, love of fishing, and for many years was a council member for the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, he served as the head usher at his places of worship where he served in ministry with excellence and loved the interaction with youth at his job as a school bus driver and his ministry as church bus driver over the years.

Founded in his faith and the reality of his forever home, Keith's family takes comfort in the knowledge that he is now in the presence of his Saviour Jesus Christ. In the twinkling of an eye, from this life to the next.





## Lionel Jeffrey Horton

AWWAO would like to express our sincere sympathy and let you know that our thoughts are with you.



### OBITUARY

21 AUGUST, 1975 – 21 FEBRUARY, 2021

Giiwedingaabaw (Standing in the North) Caribou Clan of Rainy River First Nations

Lionel's family announces his sudden passing on February 21, 2021. He was born on August 21, 1975 in Emo, Ontario. Lionel is predeceased by his grandparents James and Imelda Horton, Lucyna Dimmock and Ernest Dimmock, father Delbert Horton and mother Susan Horton. He is survived by his children Kirsten Horton, Mikinaak Kelly, Payton Horton (Woden Bateman) and Atlas-Lauryn Copenace Horton, mother Laura Horton, sister; Tracy Oshie-Horton, brother Jeremy Horton, his long-time partner Rachel Copenace and many beloved aunts, uncles and cousins. As a child Lionel enjoyed playing hockey, baseball and golfing with his Dad. He enjoyed many summers camping on the lake with his family as well as fishing and swimming and in later years he would take his children boating and fishing. Many people will also remember that he was mischievous and liked to take part in pranks. Throughout his life he was led by curiosity and tested boundaries which led to experiences that we still tell stories about. Lionel was always very handy and liked to work with his hands and in the outdoors. He spent several years working as a Water Treatment Operator which he enjoyed and he was well suited to the technical and academic challenges. He worked in the mining industry at the New Gold mine and at Detour mine in Cochrane. Around home he was a handyman and he would do his own maintenance on his cars. Lionel was very proud of all of his children and loved them immensely. He took great pleasure in cooking and caring for them and he made terrific apple pies which all of his family enjoyed. Being a father was an important part of his life that he treasured. We will miss Lionel and the joy and laughter that he could bring. We have so many memories that are cherished and will be in our thoughts each day as with the love that we have for him.

