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# OMUSHKEGO ISHKOTAYO TIPACHIMOWIN PL'PJ A'JU°

A publication of Five Nations Energy Inc. Volume 9 Issue No. 2



Message from CEO Lucie Edwards

Wacheeyeh!

Welcome to the 2011 fall edition of our newsletter, one of the ways to inform the communities of the current news and future events of Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI). I am pleased and grateful for being given the opportunity to work with the Board of Directors and Staff of FNEI, as I was recently hired as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). A big thank you to Mr. Derek Stephen, my predecessor, who held the reigns as the Interim CEO while the search for a new CEO was being done. We commend him for the hard work and dedication he provided for FNEI. We wish him luck on his future endeavours.

Prior to coming to FNEI, I was employed with Fort Albany First Nation as the Executive Director and I have held other management positions in the last 13 years that will assist me as I take on this new role. It certainly is an exciting time for FNEI and the three communities who own this dynamic organization as we work together to move on opportunities being presented to us through the recent developments

in the Ring of Fire region.

FNEI has come a long way since its inception and continues to be the only Aboriginal owned and operated energy transmission corporation in Ontario. The transmission line that runs through the Mushkegowuk territory is a testament of hard work and vision of those leaders who came before us. Although FNEI still faces challenges with the transmission lines because of the unique geography of the region, we have capable and hardworking staff that do the maintenance work and ensure the communities with reliable transmitted energy.

In the next couple of months, the Board of Directors will be doing strategic planning to take FNEI to another level, especially with all the opportunities being presented. It is a crucial time to look at our history, and take steps to the future that will benefit all. In addition to this, we will be doing more community visits to communicate the goals and aspirations of FNEI. I look forward to working with you in the coming months. Until next time...wacheeyeh.

Ms. Lucie Edwards, Chief Executive Officer

# Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin Fall 2011

The Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin is a free newsletter published to keep the Mushkegowuk Communities and the general public informed about the Five Nations Energy Inc. Transmission Line and other issues associated with energy use.

Five Nations Energy Inc. 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 visit www.fivenations.ca. Cree translation provided by Greg Spence. The entire contents ©2011 by FNEI.

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President

Dwight Sutherland Vice President James A. Wesley Secretary/Treasurer Ed Chilton Attawapiskat First Nation Fred P. Wesley Edward Koostachin Kashechewan First Nation Jessie Koosees Mary Williams Fort Albany First Nation Andrew Linklater J. Simeon Solomon

## **FNEI** Team

Chief Executive Officer Lucie Edwards Maintenance Supervisor Vladimir Govorov Journeyman Substation Electrician Danail Yakimov Substation Electrician Apprentice Robert Chookomoolin Administrative Assistant Rose Anna Campbell

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# - Fa11 2011 Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin

# President's Message

This is my first newsletter since I was appointed President of FNEI this past spring. I come to this position with a lot of enthusiasm for the many possibilities that I see for Five Nations Energy.

I see Fall as a time of transition - as the days get shorter and the leaves fall, we anticipate the arrival of Winter. FNEI is also in a time of transition. In addition to my appointment, we have recently hired Lucie Edwards as our new Chief Executive Officer. Lucie comes to us from the Fort Albany First Nation, where she was the Executive Director for three years, successfully strengthening the First Nation's position and restructuring the departments there to increase cost savings. Lucie brings to FNEI over twelve years of management experience, gained at Fort Albany, and at previous jobs at the Mushkegowuk Tribal Council, Peetabeck Health Services and the Misway Milopemahtesewin Community Health Centre. In addition to her impressive work experience, Lucie holds a Bachelor of Arts from Lakehead University. Please join me in welcoming Lucie to FNEI - I look forward to working with you for many years to come.

We also welcome Danail Yakimov to Five Nations Energy as our new Journeyperson / Substation Electrician. Danail joins us with a wealth of experience gained as an Industrial Electrician in northern Ontario and the Ukraine. Danail holds a Masters Degree in Electronics and will assist our Maintenance Supervisor in keeping our transmission system operating in top condition. It is great to have Danail on board!

Along with these welcome arrivals - we have also had to say some sad farewells. We recently lost John Sucee, our past Operations Manager, to a prolonged illness. John was a valued member of the Five Nations team and we want to express our sincere gratitude for his contributions to our success. Our condolences go out to his family in their loss.

We also say farewell to former Chief

Arthur Scott, who was one of the initial founding members of FNEI. Arthur was the Chief of Fort Albany First Nation at the time, and his support was much appreciated back in FNEI's early days. Again, we send our condolences to his family.

In addition to all of our staffing changes, FNEI recently received approval for our Rates Order from the Ontario Energy Board. This is an important milestone, and gives us the funds we need to continue to operate in a safe and reliable manner, while continuing to improve our system.

In addition to the increased workload related to the rates application, the Board of Directors has formed a subcommittee that is looking at potential business ventures for FNEI. We are looking at a number of possible opportunities, including those related to the mining potential in the Ring of Fire, which is approximately 100 kms as the crow flies from the Victor mine site. I hope to report back to you on these ventures in a future newsletter.

In addition to new business ventures, I believe it is imperative to increase the participation of the communities in the company, and particularly including the Chiefs in our decision making. I will be making more effort to ensure their input is included. That said, I strongly believe that we need to separate business and politics. FNEI needs to focus more on its core business of delivering electricity to its customers in an affordable, reliable, and sustainable way, with the communities retaining ownership and control at both the local distribution and transmission level. To do that, we need to look at the businesses and determine if further efficiencies are possible. This may include the potential of merging the three LDCs in Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, and Kashechewan into one regional company.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you. I look forward to hearing your thoughts during the months to come.

Dwight Sutherland

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# Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin Fa11 2011 Message from Interim CEO **Derek Stephen**

Wachay to everyone!!!

It has been an exciting year during my term as Interim Chief Executive Officer of Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI). A very important milestone was reached in December 2010, when FNEI and De Beers Canada completed the transfer of ownership of the M9K transmission line from Moosonee to Attawapiskat; as well as the new Substation in Kashechewan. These are now new assets for FNEI!

Secondly, we launched the FNEI Conservation Project to assist the Communities in dealing with high electricity and heating costs. The Ontario Power

# FNEL Congratulates the Recipients of the FNEL Scholarship Award!

Kara Shisheesh: Kara graduated from Vezina Secondary School in Attawapiskat First Nation. She was then selected by Vezina Secondary School for the 2011 FNEI Scholarship! Kara is entering her first year in the Heavy Equipment Techniques program at Northern College, Porcupine Campus.

James Archibald: James graduated from the first year of a two year Heavy Equipment Training course from Northern College, Porcupine Campus. He has entered his second year of this program. James was selected by the Taykwa Tagamou Education Authority for the FNEI Scholarship!

Amanda Friday: Amanda Friday graduated from Francine J. Wesley

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Authority and FNEI are providing funds for this important project. This Conservation program's goals are to educate and provide energy saving products for the homes in the Communities to become more energy efficient. To make a difference, organizations and governments will have to work together to provide energyefficient homes and energy concious consumers. This will benefit all members.

I have enjoyed my time at FNEI and I thank the Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to work and collaborate with the Communities and hope that they all continue to enjoy the electricity we have in place.

I wish everyone all the best! Derek Stephen

Secondary School and was selected by Hishkoonikun Education Authority as the recipient for the 2011 FNEI Scholarship! Amanda is entering her first year in the Electrical Techniques program at Canadore College.

Trevor Cheechoo: Trevor graduated and is entering his second year in the Electronics Engineering program at Confederation College. Trevor was selected by Moose Cree Education Authority for the FNEI Scholarship!

Mason Kataquapit: Mason is in his 2nd year of the Power Technician-Truck and Coach program at Cambrian College in Sudbury. Mason was selected by the Mundo Peetabeck Academy.

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# **Introducing Danail Yakimov**

After an interview process, FNEI hired Danail Yakimov "Dany" on May 9, 2011 as a Journeyman/Substation Electrician. This role includes training the apprentice who works for FNEI.

He moved from Bulgaria in Europe to Canada quite a few years ago. He worked for Electrical contractors in Toronto and Timmins and has electrical experience in residential, commercial, and industrial fields - substations, MCCs (Motor Control Centers) and high voltage equipment; along with a proficiency in reading and analyzing electrical plans, schematic diagrams and electrical code specifications.

While in the Communities doing his duties, he is enjoying meeting and working with the employees from the LDCs and the local people. He is very interested in learning more about Aboriginal culture and history.

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John Sucee, former Operations Manager of Five Nations Energy Inc. passed away on September 8, 2011.



John Sucee with Ed Chilton יני רי ה׳ כ די רי∩י

for a new maintenance manager. In October 2007, John was appointed the Operations Manager responsible for all Operations and Maintenance plus any station modifications or additions needed to provide reliable service to the three communities as well as the Victor Mine.

One memorable day

three owners, Fort Albany Power Corporation, Kashechewan Power Corporation and Attawapiskat Power Corporation.

In November 2008, John received news that he was suffering from an aggressive form of cancer. He continued to do what he enjoyed – maintaining the stations and worked until late spring 2009, but finally his illness prevented him from carrying out his duties. Even while hospitalized numerous times, he was checking the FNEI stations through the new fiberoptic links to the sites. His work ethic and maybe even stubbornness to not give

On Thursday Sept 8, FNEI lost a dedicated manager and friend in John Sucee. John came to FNEI in late fall 2006, after Cecil MacDonald met him in an interview. While John was not successful in that interview, John had an obvious talent for maintenance – so John was contracted to join FNEI to assist in keeping the services on and workers safe.

In early 2007, he took on the role of overseeing the DeBeers modifications at the Kashechewan and Fort Albany transformer station sites – making sure that FNEI specifications were being met. At the same time he assisted in the work FNEI was carrying out in the addition of back up transformers and added switchgear at Fort Albany and Attawapiskat stations.

He enjoyed this work – and even relished his first helicopter ride in May 2007 as he worked at both Kashechewan and Fort Albany stations during break-up. The two major projects required frequent inspections and verifications for all of 2007, and at the same time, FNEI still needed John to tackle many maintenance challenges at all three sites.

After FNEI lost General Manager Cecil Macdonald in July 2007, it began a search was in January 2008, when FNEI had a major problem with a switch at the Attawapiskat transformer. Fortunately, the community could be supplied by the new spare energized just days before but the failed

John Sucee (right) getting set for another helicopter ride.  $\cdot b^{\circ} + \gamma + \rho c^{\circ} \rho^{\circ} \nabla \cdot \Delta = \langle 0 \rangle + \gamma' + \rho c \sigma^{\circ} \rho^{\circ}$ 

switch was a serious concern. Temperatures in January were typical James Bay cold, and the work on this switch was in very tight quarters, so no gloves could be worn. John spent hours outside working without gloves to repair the failed part, and his only comment was, "I like working outside – even in winter!"

John had the idea of reminding the communities that they are the owners of the stations and created the large metal signs on the station control buildings displaying the FNEI logo and the logo of its up enabled him to enjoy a much longer time with his family. Typical John, he had his 61st birthday party in his Timmins hospital room on September 3rd 2011. You would expect that this would be a sad time – but he told everyone to enjoy this moment, and we all did.

Thanks John, from all of us.

# ーーーー Fall 2011 Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin マ P^PインC′ ・しっ イイ



John (left) barbequing safely with a hard hat! ・し<sup>3</sup> ▽ L<sup>c</sup>bU・V′ b L<sup>c</sup>b・⊲♂ ▷C<sup>c</sup>CN<sup>3</sup> ▽ P<sup>c</sup>b<sup>3</sup> ▽b Γ<sup>c</sup>·bd<sup>4</sup>

° רישר( דישר אראשיטער) איראי אשע דישר אראשיטער, איראשיטער אראשיטער אראשיטער איראשיטער אראשיטער איראשיטער א σ^(' ∇ >'d<~ ('∇bc dσP ∧'L 2007 b ∧>σσ' ∇ d<N'd<~ bPc° d'( 9J('do) ~c ∧(Vd' >Fσ^P'ΔbFd' 7.b<sup>-</sup> ∇ L('Cσσ', dσP σ~ P('∇ d<N'.Δc '('∇σ('bod<' cPc9 P(' ccb('c-dP ~c P('∇ d<N'LbP)

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John had signs like this installed in each community. ・し゜ P <P∩ ჲ ⅃<゜ ▷▷ ⊃・⊲ ・ΔCL9・Δ ჲ (′ン ΔC・ム σ<sup>、</sup>

#### ×<sup>د</sup>∆∙مל⊃∽

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# Omushkego lshkotayo Tipachimowin Fall 2011 **FNEI** Community Donations Creefest

Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI) is one of the sponsors of Creefest. This year, Creefest 2011 was held in Moosonee, ON. This is an event that has gained recognition and popularity throughout the years inside and outside our region, attracting many participants and visitors.

The Elders in the Mushkegowuk Territory had requested that Creefest be created for the Communities, Youth, Elders, and Families, to be able to celebrate their culture and traditions through this venue. Many people enjoyed the traditional foods that were prepared by the Elders.

The Youth in the region also had made a special request that a traditional and cultural component be included in the



Creefest program, through a high school survey that was completed by Youth Coordinators from the Friendship Centre in Moosonee. The highlights of this special request included tamarack bird making, making of regalia, Pow Wow dance demonstration, and the significance of sweet grass in ceremonies.

Hats off to the Creefest Organizers

for another successful event!

# Winter Sports

Each year, FNEI is asked to contribute towards various sports organizations in the Communities. In the past year, FNEI provided funds towards costs for hockey teams to participate in various hockey tournaments throughout the hockey season such as the Mushkegowuk Challenge Cup and the Little NHL. These are popular tournaments with the hockey teams in the Communities. Hockey is a major sport in the Communities enjoyed by many Youth. Playing hockey also provides a form of healthy exercise for the Youth in our region. Hats off to the Youth!!

# Community School Trips

Each year, some schools in the Communities do fund-raising to be able to provide school trips for their students. Again, this year, FNEI provided funds towards costs for school trips. One of the

teachers noted that the students had varied career interests that ranged from mining, heavy equipment, energy production, to culinary, visual and cultural arts. These students were able to tour various colleges to see first hand what the colleges have to offer in terms of their students' career choices. Another teacher from another school noted

that for many of the students, it will be their first trip to a big city, and this opens their eyes and minds that there are career opportunities beyond their Community. This teacher also incorporates the subjects of Geography, History, Science, and an English curriculum, during the school trip.

# Support to Women's Sports Teams

We have provided funds towards tournament costs for a hockey team made up of young women, and this team has been playing hockey and attending tournaments for the past three years. The broomball women's team, on the other hand, is new this year. One of the motivating factors to start a broomball team was women's overall health. The women's team has been practicing their skills and will participate in a broomball tournament this fall, and we wish them the very best in the tournament!

# **Timmins Native Friendship Centre** BBQ

Each year, the Friendship Centre organizes a "Back to School BBQ" to raise funds towards purchasing backpacks for children and youth in Timmins. FNEI provided funds again this year towards the Back to School BBQ. Many children received back packs again this year filled with school supplies. The Friendship Centre assists families at risk to ensure the children are equipped with the supplies required to start a school year. The Friendship Centre is once again very pleased that FNEI, and other supporters, were able to provide funds towards this important initiative and to bring a smile to the children's faces!

FNEI encourages community groups within the Mushkegowuk region to seek donations. If you feel that your organization should be considered, please contact the FNEI office for the donation rules and an application form. FNEI will routinely collect the applications and will contact only those organizations under consideration.

To reach the FNEI office, please call: 705-268-0056 or visit us at http:// www.fivenations.ca for more information.

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( $\langle \rangle \rangle \rangle$ ,  $\langle \rangle \rangle$ ,  $\langle \rangle \rangle \cap D \cap L \cup \nabla P L \eta$ , <PNa·L' Pr L'6U·<o· $\triangleleft$ o· $\sim$ ' Fa  $\nabla$  $P \cdot \nabla P^{P} = \Delta P \cdot \nabla \cdot \nabla \cdot \nabla$ L·⊲Ր∧ርՐ` ~~৮• የՐ  $\Delta C^{+} \sigma^{+} \Delta \Delta \Delta \sigma^{+} \sigma^{+} \Delta \sigma^{+} \Delta \sigma^{+} \sigma^{+} \Delta \sigma^{+} \sigma^$ حمه مع− [م ۵ ۸>مور موره.  $\square$  L'6U·V· $\triangle \sigma \sigma^{\circ}$  P· $\nabla$ ᠙ᡥ᠘᠆ᡆ᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕᠆᠕ Γοβσιδαια, δος Γιας αρ- β ᠕ᢣᠴ᠌᠌ᢂ᠆ᡩ᠆ᡩ᠂ᡏ᠅᠆ᡔᠣᠵ᠆ᡩ d<LC·Vor\* d,C DONLLD·VPLq,</pre>  $\cdot \Delta \Gamma \nabla \cdot d'$  b  $\cdot \Delta \Gamma \backsim \sigma ) \sigma \Gamma$  b የቦ ⊲≻Γσ-Γ≻⊳ ባ~ቦር∙∆⊾ אירי⊽σ-ርף` ▽ ⊲∩ ዮՐርՐ` ⊲σႨႫ° ๒ ∧>ႫႫ` ᠈ᢗᢂ᠂ᡩᢁᠴ᠘᠂ᡃ᠘ᡔᡆ᠋᠋ᡐ᠈ᢗ DULLD.VPLQ, Le AP.P σσ,9٦.Δ,Ος, ۵, γς,ρωγ.γ ∿ا۲۵۳ ۵ ۹ ۹۵۵ ک ۵۰۳۶ ک ✓P <P∩LLL, ~~~~ 8 </p> ⊲σገσ° ⊳Ր ๒ ₽^ሀσር∙bσσ` ๒ ∆ᡗ JUCL, −UC Lb <V·J≏L JUC, 200 P. 300 P. 300

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Robert Chookoomoolin and Danail Yakimov testing transformer bushings. ・「∧「′ 」」」」ー、 っ^С (っ゛ ヶP・L' ▽ ┗・۹ՐCՐ` ▽ ▷Ր <」 っ」d<「σっ、 ▷Гσ^P・Δ ム˘d∪σ°×

# - Fa11 2011 Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin

# **Operations Update**

The winter is coming and it is time for another update on the operations and maintenance activities of FNEI.

Beginning with staff updates we have a new member on our team: Danail Yakimov who is filling the Substation Electrician Position. Our apprentice, Robert Chokoomoolin is continuing his training to become a certified substation electrician as well as achieving his 309A construction and maintenance certification. Robert successfully finished Level one – Substation electrician training and is currently attending an eight week course

at Northern College for his 309A.

Our main goal in the operations department is to keep the lights on in the communities. FNEI works hard to minimize the required outage time related to equipment failures and planned maintenance. This summer we invested over \$100,000 in very specialized testing equipment and are in the process of getting familiar with it. With our own equipment, we are able to utilise our maintenance time at the substations more efficiently, to gain experience, and to enhance our ability to respond faster in emergency situations. And it is cheaper than contracting.

Since the last newsletter we have had a few significant projects along with regular routine maintenance.

At the Kashechewan substation several porcelain insulators skirts were damaged, which could cause expanding cracks and possible column collapse during regular equipment operation. The two damaged columns were replaced with the new ones. Subcontractors were hired to assist in order to reduce the length of the power outage. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and we had to work in the cold rain to complete the job in time. This was the first time we were able to use our new testing equipment to make sure that the equipment was in good operating condition after the repair.

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A short planned outage was used to take some insulators for testing from the K5A (Kashechewan to Attawapiskat) 132kV line. This job was performed by the Kashechewan and Fort Albany line crew under the supervision of Jim Quinn. All jobs were well organized and completed as planned.

One of the big upcoming projects will be vegetation control (brushing) under the transmission line to maintain safety and reliability.

All summer we were busy with routine maintenance at the substations. Local students were employed to assist in grass removal. We also focused on preventative maintenance including general inspections, small repairs and upgrades. Every piece of equipment, no matter how small, requires regular attention and has to be checked on schedule before





Fort Albany and Kashechewan workers

performing maintenance work.

Gary Taylor from PowerTel replacing equipment in Kashechewan. ۹∟ し」 <・▷「U」 b<sup>c</sup>くσ ∇ Γ<sup>a</sup>dΓ<Ρ∩ם<sup>\</sup> <Γ(・△σσ<sup>°</sup> ۹∫Γ・⊲」 ۹∫Γ・⊲」 ∧σ<sup>°</sup> <(・⊲∧<sup>°</sup>) ▷Γσ<sup>°</sup>P・△ᢣ∧σ<sup>°</sup>

> some something happens. We all know it is much easier and cheaper to prevent damage then to repair after.

> Over all this was a very productive summer and fall; a lot of maintenance tasks have been completed and we are ready to meet winter. Our ability to keep the lights on this winter will still depend a lot on Mother Nature, but we hope to pass it without many surprises.

# Omushkego Ishkotayo Tipachimowin Fall 2011 FNEI Conservation Program is Helping Communities Plan for Winter

The FNEI Conservation Program wants to help you save energy and make your home more energy efficient for the winter. In October, we will be traveling to Attawapiskat, Kashechewan and Fort Albany to distribute free packages of shrink wrap film energy savings products that can be easily installed on the interior of windows to help reduce drafts, stop window condensation (which can lead to mold and wood rot) and better insulate against those cold winter winds.

Watch for a post card notice in your mailbox about our shrink-wrap give away and be sure to visit us at the Northern Store on the designated day to get your box of shrink-wrap. We will provide a demonstration on how to install the shrink-wrap film and answer questions.

During September you may have noticed a large red object and a big fan in

a neighbour's doorway and people walking about the house with tape measures and clipboards. Rick Brant, a certified energy auditor from Tyendinaga First Nation was working with two local apprentices conducting energy audits on 10 homes in each community. The large fan measures the amount and location of the home's air leakage. Rick will be determining what kind of energy retrofit work can be done on the homes in the near future to help them not only be more energy efficient but also healthier (with improved ventilation), durable, and comfortable. More energy audits and retrofit work will be done on other homes through the coming years.

Coming up in November all homes will receive a notice to bring their strings of inefficient old incandescent Christmas lights to the Northern Store and exchange them for a free string of very efficient LED Christmas Lights. LED Christmas lights use 95% less energy than incandescent Christmas lights. Now you can enjoy the beauty of outdoor holiday lights at a fraction of the cost. Use an outdoor timer to ensure they only stay on for a few hours each night for additional energy savings.

Lastly, watch for the 2012 FNEI Conservation Program calendar in your mailbox in November. All of the energy saving pictures and tips are contributions from community members.

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