



# OMUSHKEGO ISHKOTAYO TIPACHIMOWIN

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## 2013 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

ATTAWAPISKAT, FORT ALBANY, AND KASHECHEWAN





## INTRODUCING THE NEW FNEI BOARD OF DIRECTORS/NEW OFFICERS

We welcome those Board of Directors who are new to the FNEI Board! Every two years, the Board of Directors are appointed by their respective Local Power Corporations (LPCs). The LPCs can also re-appoint their Representatives to our Board. The following were appointed to the FNEI Board of Directors in the latter part of 2012:

### **Attawapiskat Power Corporation:**

Mr. Fred P. Wesley & Mr. Ed Koostachin (Re-appointments)

### **Fort Albany Power Corporation:**

Mr. Andrew Solomon & Mr. Brent Edwards

### **Kashechewan Power Corporation:**

Ms. Kimberley Stephen & Mr. George Reuben

### **Moose Cree First Nation:**

Mr. Derek Chum

### **Taykwa Tagamou Nation:**

Mr. Roger Archibald

**Officers of the FNEI Board:** The Officer positions are posted out, and an interview process is completed. These positions are for a two year term. We welcome the following people whom were

selected to fill the Officer positions!:

**Mr. Mike Metatawabin** was selected in June, 2013, and comes with much experience in the President's role having been the President for FNEI from 2000 to 2011. Previous to this role, Mr. Metatawabin sat as an FNEI Director starting in 1998 and in the early development stages of the FNEI Transmission Line! With much knowledge gained from the early stages of the line development all the way through to the completion stage, Mr. Metatawabin certainly brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the FNEI Board!!

**Mr. Guy Ginter** was also selected in June, 2013, to fill the role as Vice President. Mr. Ginter has worked in the Electricity Industry for about ten years working with a Local Distribution Company in Northern Ontario, and certainly brings much expertise in that area for FNEI! Mr. Ginter has also gained experience working with First Nations' Communities, and is currently working for

Moose Cree First Nation as the Director for the Impact & Benefit (De Beers Canada) Agreement; and on behalf of the First Nations Communities. Certainly, his work experience working with First Nations' entities is a benefit that Mr. Ginter brings to the FNEI Board!!

**Mr. Derek Chum** takes on the role of Interim Secretary/Treasurer:

With the recent passing of our Secretary/Treasurer, late Mr. Ed Chilton, the Board of Directors selected an Interim Secretary/Treasurer to carry on the duties of Secretary/Treasurer, and, therefore, Mr. Derek Chum, who is also an FNEI Board of Director, was approved by the Board of Directors to take on this role on an interim basis. Mr. Chum is quite familiar with FNEI having provided legal advice, in the past, to FNEI, in a number of administrative matters. With Mr. Chum's immense legal expertise, and his experience working with First Nations, will only enhance the FNEI Board of Directors!!



Picture of the FNEI Board of Directors, Officers, our CEO, and other dignitaries, at the September 20, 2013, Grand Opening of FNEI's new office building.

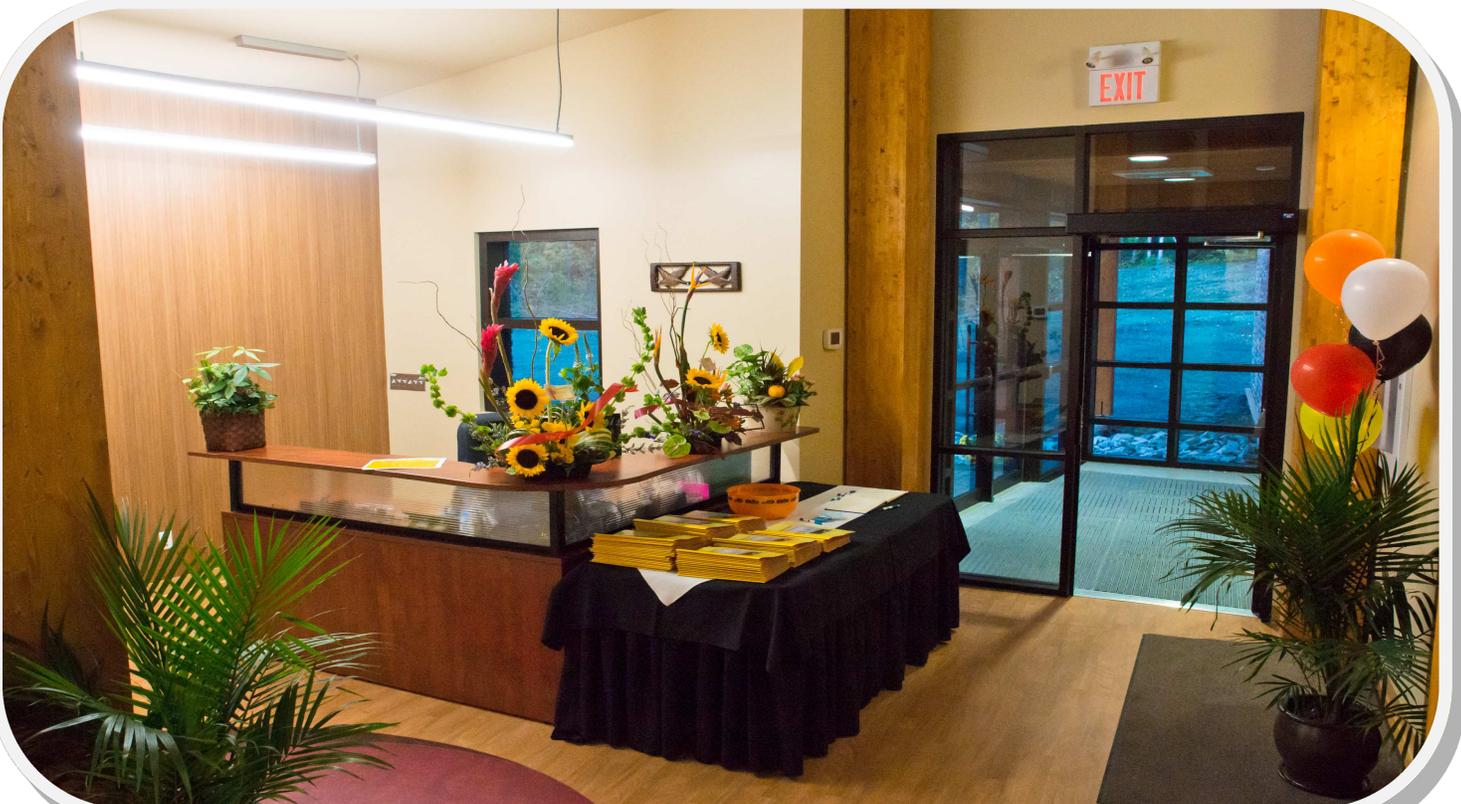


# PICTURES OF FNEI'S NEW OFFICE BUILDING



Picture of the front of the new office building.

Picture of the reception area (below) during the Grand Opening on September 20, 2013.



## President's Message

By Mr. Mike Metatawabin

### Greetings to all,

It's a little tough to try and come out charging sounding like all is well, especially with the most recent power outage we just experienced the week of November 18th. Although my residence is currently in Timmins, I do understand what it's like to go without power for hours on end or days at the community level. Prior to relocating to Timmins, our family, along with yours, endured many times and days coping with no electricity. As I recall, back in those days, everyone had all the essentials required for such emergencies. It was nothing to light up the woodstove and have the naphtha or kerosene lanterns lit up. There was no sense of urgency. Those were the days when our communities were still quite independent at home and within the community. However, our communities have evolved over time, even more so when reliable energy was introduced for the benefit of the communities. This reliability has been somewhat troublesome on far too many occasions. This is what we are dealing with today, outages which seem to hit us when there is inclement weather. Sometimes it is easy to have an explanation, and quite often those small glitches are easily resolved, but sometimes things take longer to restore.

Everyone needs to be commended for doing what they could to cope with the loss of power over an extended period of time. It is never easy to suddenly find yourself scrambling for flashlights or matches to light up the candles and woodstoves. We also need to appreciate some of the infrastructure we have in place that helps the communities handle these unpredictable outages when they occur. Unfortunately, not every community has a

diesel back-up system. This is especially problematic where the homes are built to be totally reliant on electricity. There are too many homes where people don't have access to support in times when the need is there. Mind you, and as each local distribution operator will tell you, maintaining these back-up systems comes with a hefty price tag. This is one of the main reasons that we are no longer on diesel generated electricity. The fuel to run the generators need to be on hand, replaced once it is used, and this will cost money once we overcome this particular outage. It is something to think about and perhaps some understanding will be accorded to the companies who come to the rescue when the main infrastructure fails to deliver. When this transmission company was established, not every community was able to continue to use the old diesel systems due to their age, location within the community, and the huge cost of refurbishment.

As a transmission company, we do our part to prevent outages from happening by making sure all our systems are sound and operational. However, not everything is within our control, like the high winds and turbulent weather we have witnessed numerous times over the short time we have been in operation. Forces of nature are unavoidable and have to be accepted as a fact of life but when it comes to third party involvement, this can be very problematic. Before I get into details, we can also expect some problems from our own systems at the community level. The local distribution companies are constantly working to keep their systems up to date but again, this takes time and resources. You have to understand, we took over aging distribution systems and

we have to continue to invest in these systems as we continue to operate them as our own. Our transmission line is part of a larger grid that is owned and operated by other transmitters. The line southward from Moosonee is owned and operated by Hydro One. They have operated this line since it was constructed from Otter Rapids in the early 1970's. There is a second line which was constructed recently just before the De Beers Canada Victor Diamond Mine became operational. This line was built by De Beers Canada's contractor Valard Construction from Otter Rapids to Moosonee and then continues on to Kashechewan to supplement the limited capacity of the original lines that we are all still connected to. The construction of this new line was completed in 2008 however Hydro One refuses to take over ownership of this line as they say it wasn't built to their specifications and standards. As a result of this disagreement, this newly built line remains unused. This is why we have experienced the majority of our problems over these last few outages. The original line is old and nearing the end of its useful life and when an outage occurs it is hard to pin point the exact location of the problem. Much effort and formal complaints have been put forward to the respective parties but we are still faced with the same scenario. This matter must be dealt with and everyone involved from our end will be called upon to help finalize this transference ownership allowing this new line to be energized greatly enhancing the reliability of the electricity supply from Otter Rapids.

Our technical team is doing their best to keep the lines powered, but the unavailability of the new line from Otter Rapids due to this disagreement is making this





## Chief Executive Officer's Message

**Welcome to Another Edition of the Five Nations Energy Inc. Newsletter!**

Reflecting back on the last year for the organization, it has had some good, positive things happening and as well, some not as good. Firstly, we had some new additions on the Board of Directors and Officers of the Board, and some new staff members. These are highlighted in the following submissions. On the negative side, we lost a good colleague, Mr. Ed Chilton, who has been a driving force behind Five Nations Energy Inc. (FNEI), however, we can only move forward and use his legacy as a continuing reminder of where we need to move forward.

Some of the other things we have been working on are developing close working relationships with our stakeholders, more so, the LDCs in three of the Communities. We had to make a decision on continuing on with our conservation program as this was a pilot project for three years, and sadly, we will not be funding the program...historically, this was cost shared with the Ontario Power Authority on a fifty-fifty basis. On the brighter side, the Conservation Demand Management (CDM) strategy will be rolling out with the Communities to continue the work that was started. I am

**By Ms. Lucie Edwards**

sure there has been marketing exercises in each of the Communities to explain the program. We met with the Ministry of Energy a few months back and they may push for the CDM funding to continue beyond the 2014 deadline to ensure all LDCs meet their targets in the province. This is a worthwhile project as it will benefit up to a hundred homes per Community and the programs will work closely with the housing programs. You may want to consult with the program coordinators in each Community as they have been hired.

We were finally able to move into the new FNEI office building on Highway 655, as we needed more space to accommodate our growing needs in operations. The grand opening was held on September 20, 2013, and lots of people were on hand to celebrate this milestone. A big thank you to our leadership who came to celebrate with us!

In closing, as we move closer to the holidays, I want to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and joyous New Year!

Meetgwetch....

Lucie Edwards, CEO

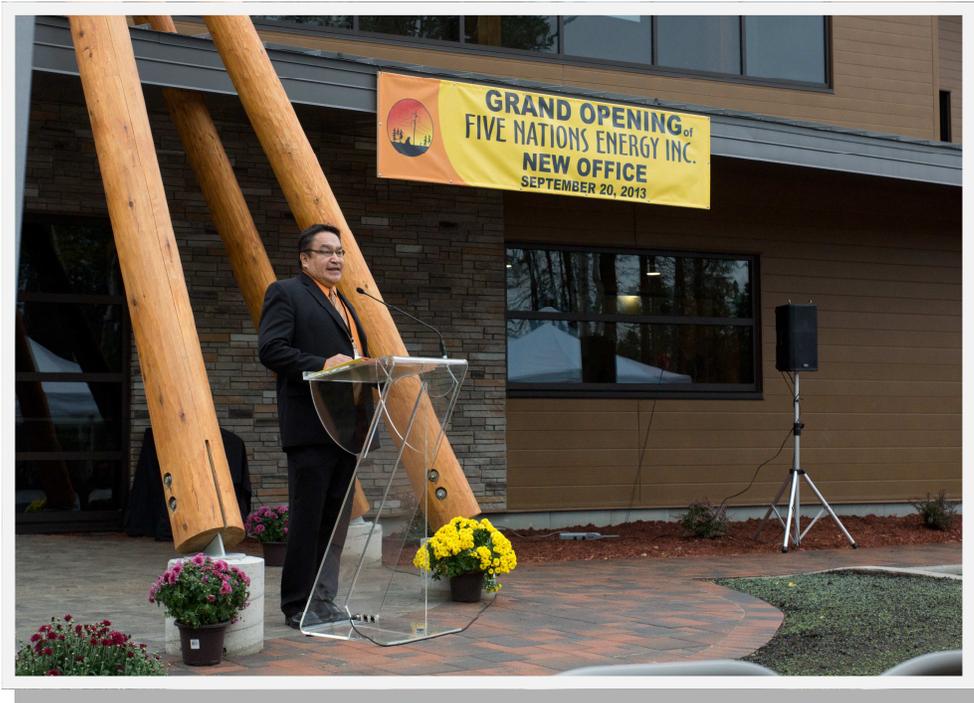
**Cree Translation of the Chief Executive Officer's Message on Page 10**



**Ms. Lucie Edwards, FNEI CEO, delivering her welcoming remarks at the September 20, 2013, Grand Opening of FNEI's New Office!**



# Pictures on Grand Opening of FNEI'S New Office Building!



To the left is the FNEI President, Mr. Mike Metatawabin, delivering his welcoming message to the guests!!



The guests looking on and listening intently to our Grand Chief of Mushkegowuk Territory, Dr. Stan Louttit, Mushkegowuk Council, as he delivers his welcoming remarks at the Grand Opening!!

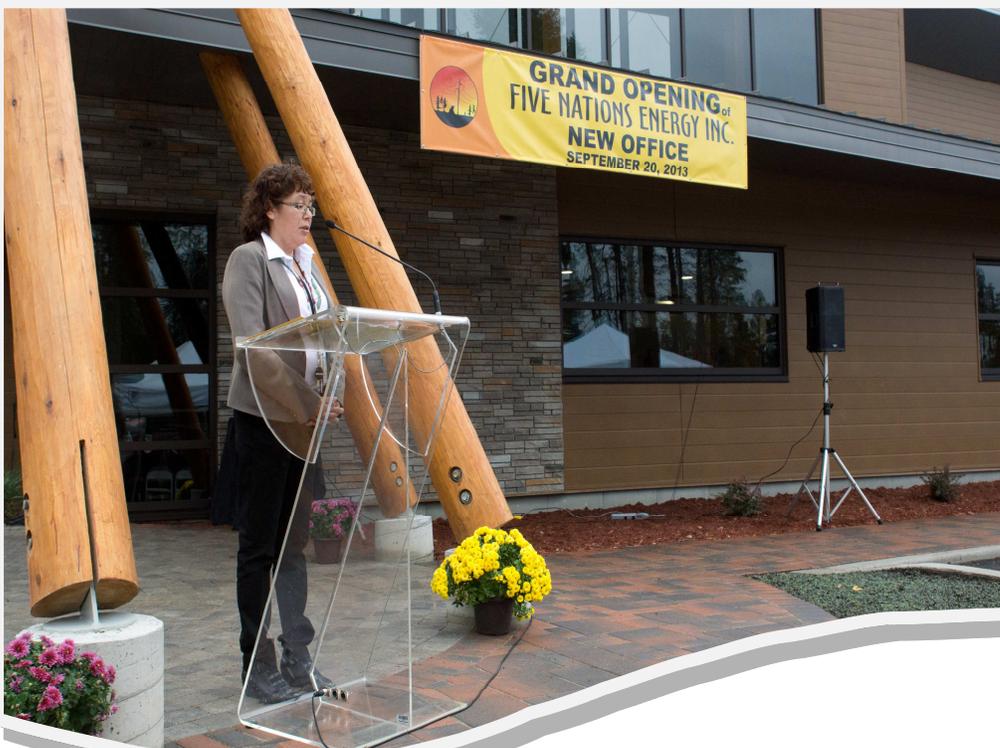
# Pictures of Grand Opening of FNEI's New Office Building!

SEPTEMBER 20, 2013



Here is Mrs. Elsie Chilton, Mother of Late Mr. Ed Chilton, as the Elder for our Grand Opening, providing the Opening Prayer!!

Standing next to Elsie on the left is Mr. Greg Spence, Master of Ceremonies for this event!!



FNEI's CEO, Ms. Lucie Edwards, providing her opening remarks to the crowd that attended the Grand Opening! Bravo!! Lucie!!

# Pictures of Grand Opening of FNEI'S New Office Building!



Outside shots of some of the people who attended FNEI's Grand Opening!



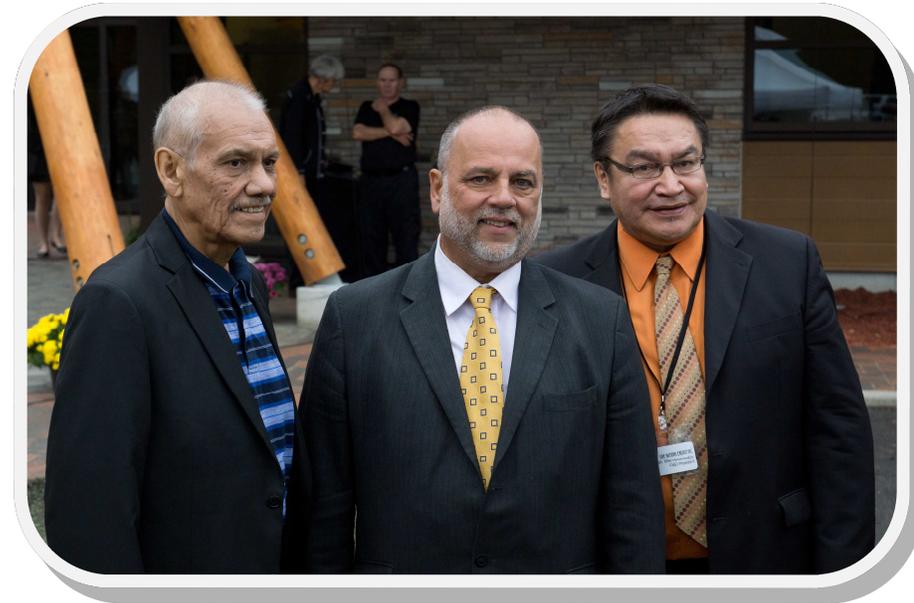
# Grand Opening of FNEI's New Office Building!



A panoramic picture of the crowd that gathered for FNEI's Grand Opening. We thank all those people who came to see our new office building!



Here are some flocks of geese gracefully flying over our Grand Opening Ceremony!! A welcoming site for all!!!



Here you see smiling faces from *left to right*: Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit, Mushkegowuk Council, Mr. Gilles Bisson, MPP for Timmins-James Bay, Mr. Mike Metatawabin, FNEI President.



# FNEI Conservation Program

By Ms. Carly Armstrong, FNEI Conservation Team Member

## FNEI Conservation Program Update

If you've been following the FNEI Conservation Program on our Facebook page, then you'll know that the last year has been a busy one for us! From working with our friends, Elephant Thoughts, to deliver another round of Energy Conservation programming in the schools, to researching and installing high efficiency bathroom fans in your community, we have been working hard to make your homes more energy efficient, comfortable and affordable.

Once again, we worked with Elephant Thoughts to deliver fun and educational programming in Kashechewan, Fort Albany, and Attawapiskat. Students were involved in classroom workshops that built on the previous years' of programming and as with last year, the energy conservation programs ended with a huge celebration at the Energy Conservation Fairs. It was great to see students, teachers, and families, sharing energy conservation education with one another. As a special addition to the program this year, students had the opportunity to use new media to develop projects with Elephant Thoughts. Students wrote poetry, took photos, and developed projects that shared their thoughts and feelings on energy conservation. We will be sharing these projects on our Facebook page in the com-

ing months, so be sure to check in with us online to see what the students in your community accomplished!

The last year has seen a lot of action. We have worked closely with band councils and housing managers to work toward housing policies that support our work. One example, is the Fort Albany Housing Conference that took place. The conference was the first of its kind on the Western James Bay coast and provided a wonderful opportunity to bring together experts and community members in discussion about housing issues and solutions in Fort Albany. We are excited to be a part of building quality, sustainable and energy efficient, homes in Fort Albany and the other communities where we operate the conservation program.

This year, through generous funding from the Belleville Rotary Club, we have had the opportunity to purchase and pilot two exciting products. A solar wall, which captures the heat from the sun and brings it into the house and shatter proof window coverings. The solar wall took some experimenting, but it is now running smoothly in the home it has been installed on. There are many considerations in choosing the placement for a solar wall and not all houses are facing the appropriate direction or have the right wall space to accommodate a solar panel. However, we are excited about the potential this

renewable energy source may have in some houses in your community. The shatterproof window seal ensures that if something is thrown at a window, even if the window is hit, it will not shatter or crack. Avoiding shattering or cracking means that cold air from outside will not get into the house—huge energy savings!

We are looking forward to another great year of energy conservation in your community! Please "like" the FNEI Conservation Program on Facebook to stay tuned to the program, for a chance to win great prizes and for lots of energy saving tips!



**Funny Picture from a Child who did up this funny face using fruit during the Fort Albany Energy Conference earlier this year!!**







# FNEI Maintenance & Operations Update

By Mr. Vladimir Govorov

## 2013 FNEI Operations Update

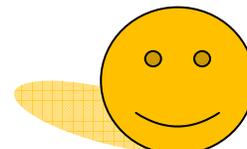
This year was very busy for all FNEI staff starting from the right of way brush cutting in January and finishing with Protection and control tests in December.

At the same time, FNEI employees are achieving new levels of professional development. Our apprentices, Robert (Bobby) Chookomolin and Anthony (Tony) Iserhoff, are progressing really well and getting involved in more complex tasks every day to become a Journeyman. Bobby completed all training levels for Substation Electrician and will continue working on perfecting his skills with the substations' maintenance, and obtaining the 309A construction and maintenance licence. Tony successfully completed training in the first level for 309A this fall.

One of the challenges this winter was to have right of way brush cutting done on budget and on time. We have purchased two brush cutting machines for the project and hired people from the three Communities for the project. The project went really well, we had a great team to go, though, variable challenges on the way. It is our plan to continue for another few seasons to clean right of way brush on all our lines.



Part of the line brush cutting crew, picture taken at the end of the season several kilometers North from Kashechewan, February 26, 2013.



# FNEI Maintenance & Operations Update

Continued from Page 20

To reduce chance of unplanned outages related to the station equipment in cold winter days, we have to do planned power shut down for testing and repairs. On June 20-22, 2013, we performed maintenance on the High Voltage equipment, and Attawapiskat and Victor Mine were running on the generators for the three days. Here are a few pictures from this job:



**Bobby cleaning Circuit switcher contacts.**



**Tony, Bobby, and John from Attawapiskat Power Corporation, testing circuit switcher, June 21, 2013.**

FNEI will require three – four day outages every year to maintain the equipment, based on the current system configuration. There is a plan in place for upgrades on the system allowing bypass flexibility for ability to minimize the down time. Most of the routine maintenance do not require power outages, which includes Transformer oil sampling, battery test and maintenance, pressure control in reactors and transformers and many more.

This season, we have completed few new construction projects: Installed and commissioned new feeder in Kashechewan, the one was close to the maximum load limit last winter. Now we split the load and added some flexibility for maintenance purpose.



**Danail Yakimov, on the left, with Bobby Chookomoolin, on the right, connecting the new feeder to the grid. (Danail is our Journeyperson Substation Electrician)**



**In this picture, Danail is testing the new feeder voltage regulators.**

Continued from Page 21

## FNEI Maintenance & Operations Update



New Garage for FNEI in Fort Albany

To protect vehicles from weather and be able to use it any time it is required in emergency situation FNEI built new garage in Fort Albany beside the FAPC garage. There was great support from the Local community and the Band office to resolve issues with necessary tools and materials.



One of the thunderstorms lightning strikes spliced the pole tope on the line going from Moosonee to Kashechewan. The sky wire also carrying internet for all three communities was ripped off the pole and landed on the crossarm it is temporary held by ground wire in safe position. The repairs is planned for the winter road season when the area is accessible for the bucket truck.

As usual FNEI staff put lots of effort to prepare for another winter season, we want to make sure that people in communities have reliable power in their homes.

Sincerely

Vladimir Govorov C.E.T.  
Operations Manager



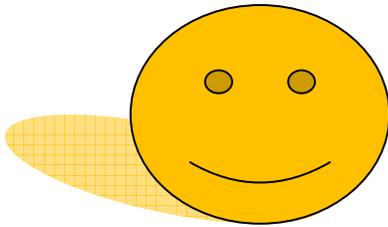
## FNEI CONGRATULATES THE 2012-2013 SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS!

### Kyle Reimer:

Kyle was selected by the Attawapiskat Education Authority in Attawapiskat, ON, as the recipient for the FNEI Scholarship Award!! Kyle is currently enrolled in the second year of a three year Welding Engineering Technology-Inspection Program at Conestoga College in Kitchener, ON. We wish Kyle the very best with his studies, and his future endeavours!! Way to go, Kyle!! To the right, you see Kyle proudly accepting the FNEI Scholarship Award from Vladimir Govorov, Operations Manager of FNEI!!



Kyle Reimer accepting the FNEI Scholarship Award from Vladimir Govorov, FNEI Operations Manager!

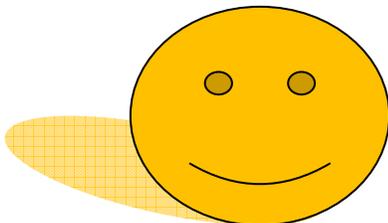


### Isaac Sackaney:

Isaac was selected by Taykwa Tagamou Education, from Taykwa Tagamou Nation, to be this year's recipient for the FNEI Scholarship Award!! Isaac started in the Electrical Engineering Program at New River Community College in Dublin, Virginia, and his goal was to gain his Associate's Degree in Electrical Engineering!! Isaac is now in his final year of the Associates Degree in Electrical Engineering and will graduate in the spring of 2014!! We wish Isaac the very best with his studies, and his future endeavours!! Way to go, Isaac!! Here to the right you see Isaac Sackaney proudly holding up the FNEI Scholarship Award he received from FNEI!!



Isaac Sackaney holding up the FNEI Scholarship Award he received from FNEI!!



# FNEI CONGRATULATES THE 2012-2013 SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS!

## David Lazarus:

David was selected by the Moose Cree Education Authority in Moose Factory, ON, as the recipient for the FNEI Scholarship Award!! David graduated from the Pre-Trades Technology Program at Cambrian College in Sudbury, ON. David has continued his studies in the Electrical Engineering Technician Program at Algonquin College in Ottawa, ON! We also wish David the very best with his studies, and his future endeavours!! Way to go, David!! On the right, you see David is proudly holding up his FNEI Scholarship Award provided by FNEI!!



David Lazarus holding up the FNEI Scholarship Award he received from FNEI!!

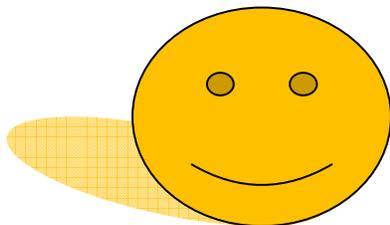


## Jamie Sutherland:

Jamie Sutherland was selected by Mundo Peetabeck Education Authority in Fort Albany as the recipient of the FNEI Scholarship Award!! Jamie was enrolled in the Electrical Engineering Technician Program at Northern College in South Porcupine, ON, and has graduated with an honours Diploma!! Way to go, Jamie!! We wish Jamie the very best with his future endeavours!! Here you see Jamie in the picture to the right proudly holding up the FNEI Scholarship Award provided by FNEI!!



Jamie Sutherland holding up his FNEI Scholarship Award he received from FNEI!!





## FNEI COMMUNITY DONATIONS

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mushkegowuk Challenge Cup 2013:

Each year since the past six years, the Mushkegowuk Council has organized and hosted the Mushkegowuk Challenge Cup to bring together Communities for a hockey tournament. According to the report provided by Mushkegowuk Council, it states, "it offers greater opportunities for all communities and businesses to foster relationships, to build bridges and support healthier lifestyles".

Hockey teams from Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Taykwa Tagamou Nation, Moose Factory, Moosonee, Waskaganish, Chisabi, Wemindji, and Constance Lake, participated in this event! Again, from the report, it states that, "There were a total of 48 teams that traveled to Timmins, Ontario, to participate in the hockey tournament - a total of 750 hockey players and an estimated 2000 plus spectators". They can all be proud that this event is very successful!! We wish all the hockey players the very best for another hockey season!!

### Big River Summerfest in Moose Factory, ON:

This past summer, Wasiabin Entertainment Group from Moose Factory, ON, held and co-ordinated the Big River Summerfest in Moose Factory which met with much fanfare! Mr. Stan Kapashesit, President of Wasiabin Entertainment Group, stated that it "featured many talented musicians from Northern Ontario and Main Headliners such as Ms. Susan Aglukark, the Sam Roberts Band, Midnight Shine, and Black Stone, provided the headline entertainment". "There were also tributes shows to CCR and Johnny Cash" states Mr. Kapashesit. He also wants to thank all the people who attend-

ed this "inaugural" event, and everyone enjoyed themselves! He also wants to thank the sponsors of this event which include Five Nations Energy Inc., Amiskodim, Aircreebec, Paytahpun Fuels, Moosonee Transportation Limited, Innlink, Moose Cree First Nation, MoCreebec, Cree Village, Ontario Northland, and the Ontario Arts Council! We wish Wasiabin Entertainment Group the very best in future events!

### Junior Girl's Hockey Team Created in Attawapiskat:

According to Mr. David Nakogee of Attawapiskat First Nation, he is passionate about hockey, and wanted to transfer his skills and knowledge to the Youth! David, as a trained hockey coach, is coaching a Junior Girl's hockey team in Attawapiskat, with girls ranging in age from 11-13. The Junior Girl's hockey team has participated in the Mushkegowuk Challenge Cup tournament earlier this year. We encourage and wish the very best to David and his all girl's hockey team and may they continue in this sport to keep nurturing their hockey skills!! Bravo to the Junior Girl's Hockey Team in Attawapiskat!!

### Mini-Pow Wow to Celebrate the Cree Language Program at St. Andrew's School in Kashechewan:

This past year, the St. Andrew's School in Kashechewan hosted a mini-Pow Wow in celebration of their traditional dancing program, and their annual full day cultural program. According to the organizers, the students and staff at the school look forward to holding their mini Pow Wow each year, and this event involves the whole Community. Elders are considered an important part of the event, and are, therefore, honoured for their wisdom and knowledge. According to the organizers,

the students who are in the traditional dancing program make their own regalia and practice their dancing skills twice a week! Bravo to the students at St. Andrew's School!!



Pictures courtesy of Wasiabin Entertainment Group in Moose Factory of Susan Aglukark, above, and Marilyn McLeod, below, singing at the Big River Summerfest in Moose Factory!





## MORE PICTURES OF FNEI'S GRAND OPENING



Guests sitting down for lunch after the Grand Opening Ceremony!



The hallway in the new office building leading to the front door at the end of the hallway.

# PICTURES OF FNEI GRAND OPENING SEPTEMBER 20, 2013



Here you see our CEO, Lucie Edwards, poised herself to cut the ribbon!!

An array of smiling faces from the leadership looking on are *from the left, back row:*

Chief Norman Hardisty, Moose Cree First Nation, and *further to the right in back row:* Andrew Solomon, FNEI Director

*Front row:* Skylene Metatawabin, President of Fort Albany Power Corporation, Guy Ginter, FNEI Vice President, Chief Rex Knapaysweet, Fort Albany First Nation, Kimberley Stephen, FNEI Director, Ed Koostachin, FNEI Director, Brent Edwards, FNEI Director, Derek Chum, FNEI Director, Roger Archibald, FNEI Director, Mayor Tom Laughren of Timmins, Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit, Mushkegowuk Council, MPP Gilles Bisson, Mike Metatawabin, FNEI President, Chief Derek Stephen, Kashechewan First Nation, Deputy Grand Chief Leo Friday, Mushkegowuk Council, George Reuben, FNEI Director, and Deputy Grand Chief Les Louttit, Nishnawbe-Aski Nation.



All smiles from the leadership from left to right:

Mayor Mr. Tom Laughren, City of Timmins, MPP for Timmins-James Bay, Mr. Gilles Bisson, Grand Chief Dr. Stan Louttit, Mushkegowuk Council, Mr. Mike Metatawabin, FNEI President, and Deputy Grand Chief Mr. Les Louttit, Nishnawbe-Aski Nation.

# PICTURES OF FNEI GRAND OPENING SEPTEMBER 20, 2013



To the left is Ms. Lucie Edwards, FNEI CEO, with the FNEI Board of Directors and other leadership.



Mr. Mike Metatawabin, FNEI President, on the left, presenting an award to Mr. Greg Spence, who was the Master of Ceremonies for the Grand Opening, with Ms. Lucie Edwards, on the right. We thank Mr. Greg Spence for being our Master of Ceremonies!

