

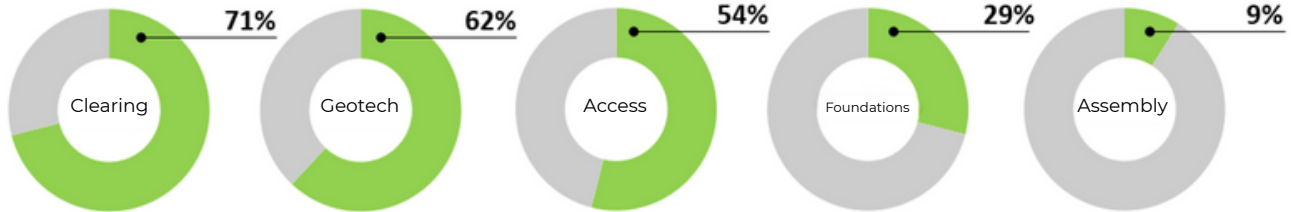
INSIDE THE WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Construction Updates

AUGUST 2025

Valard Construction is making good progress on Phase 1 of the Waasigan Transmission Line from Thunder Bay to Atikokan. Recent work has focused on clearing the right of way and starting tower foundations.

See below for Phase 1 completions as of August 31.



Upcoming Work and Ignace Laydown & Camp Status



Construction at Ignace Camp is nearly complete, with workers expected to begin staying on-site in mid-September. Phase 1 tower erection is scheduled to start in October. Phase 2 will run from Atikokan to Dryden, and Valard will prepare for this phase by moving materials, marking boundaries, and clearing the site this fall.

Assembly Program Start Up



The Tower Assembly Program is a major employment opportunity on the project. Valard hired eight crews, many of which are Indigenous employees. The work is overseen by supervisors Leeland Halleran and Phil Fontaine.

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Camp Blessing, Recruitment & Training

AUGUST 2025

Ignace Laydown & Camp Blessing



On August 22, Wabigoon Lake Objibway Nation Elder, Kathy McIvor visited Ignace Camp to bless the buildings before the camp opens. A second visit is planned for mid-September. The Elder will perform a separate ceremony for the camp's multicultural room.

SP105–106, Rigging & Bucket Rescue Training



The Transmission Line and Substations team participated in Fire Fighting, Rigging, and Bucket Rescue training. Rigging teaches how to safely lift and move heavy objects using ropes, chains, slings, and cranes, while Bucket Rescue trains workers to safely assist a co-worker who is stuck or injured in a work bucket. This training is part of our commitment to keeping everyone working on our projects safe.

Hiring Update

Valard shared CMO training program flyers with Indigenous communities for courses that were still accepting applicants. The information included application deadlines and course timelines. The available programs were AZ Truck Driver, DZ Truck Driver, Heavy Equipment Operator, and Heavy Duty Equipment Technician. Valard also worked with Participating Indigenous Communities (PIC) to find and refer candidates for open positions.

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Employee Support & Mentorship Circle (ESMC)

What is the ESMC?

The ESMC is an open and supportive space for all employees, with a special emphasis on Valard's Indigenous Employees. Its mission is to foster personal and professional growth through mentorship, shared experiences, and open dialogue.



Membership is voluntary and open to all employees. Informal meetings, held weekly over dinner, are led by a champion from the initial members. Formal meetings are also held monthly between Valard and CMO, with activities planned to introduce participants to Indigenous cultural practices and arts.

Honouring Truth and Reconciliation



The ESMC is recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by hosting an orange shirt beading and pin craft on September 10 and 17 in the Sapawe Camp dining room. Each session is led by a different member. The craft is from Amber's Leather Creations, a small Indigenous-owned business.



Valard is dedicated to strengthening partnerships with Indigenous Communities, local businesses, and Hydro One, ensuring that construction is conducted safely, responsibly, and with lasting positive impact.



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