

BINGWI NEYAASHI ANISHINAABEK (SAND POINT FIRST NATION) 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW



NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2019

THE RE-BUILDING OF BINGWI NEYAASHI ANISHINAABEK

Greetings to all members of Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek!

2019 has been a year of intense activity for BNA. Most importantly as a First Nation, we are re-building our land from scratch, the very land in fact that was stolen from us so many years ago. And starting in November of this year, for the first time since the displacement of our people, there is once again members living on BNA's land. Our new duplexes are now being occupied, and the community of Sand Point is once again beginning to flourish. This is a truly monumental moment for our First Nation, which has been so brutally treated by forces outside of our control. We have shown that hard work and determination will yield truly amazing results.

In order to support our new residents, we have been working hard to ensure that the core infrastructure of the community is in place for when our members begin to move back. Through our partnership with Steve Ward Contracting, BNA has been moving forward with its roads project, which will see over 5 km of our road straightened, widened and built up to last for many years. The opening of the Papasay aggregate pit to complete this Project has saved the community significant financial resources, and will eventually become a revenue generator for the First Nation. And 2020 will see the completion of the Roads Project, the commencement of bringing 3-phase power from the Sawmill into the community, the completion of the community's biomass project, and of course, the building of more housing units - both rent-to-own Band homes, as well as individual home-builds - all in BNA's Phase 1 Housing Area.

Meanwhile, the First Nation's internal finances and asset accumulation continues to increase. We renovated our 292 S. Court Street office in order to make it more hospitable for members. And this year also saw the purchase of a 2nd office building in Thunder Bay, 215 Van Norman Street, where BNA's Family Well-Being and EarlyOn Centres continue to be the pride of the community. And while we are re-building our land, we are also re-building our culture and traditions through the offering of numerous cultural programs for our Elders and youth. This will ensure that while we strive to build a new and modern community for the next seven generations, we will not forget about our past.



2020 will see a continuation of this progress, and we have no intention of stopping! One thing we will improve on next year is our communication. We will strive to begin sending out monthly newsletters to our members, ensuring that everyone will be well informed on our various programs and projects. BNA is your community, and we hope that you

join us in making it the best possible First Nation for you and your family. Our doors are always open to your suggestions. Miigwetch! - Chief and Council

BNA IN 2019: A YEAR OF CELEBRATION!

INDIGENOUS DAY CELEBRATIONS ON THE LAND

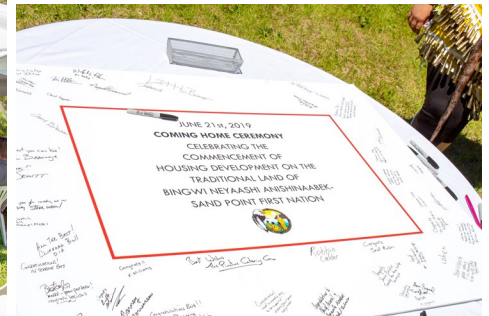


On National Indigenous Day this year, BNA held a large celebration on its reserve lands to celebrate the commencement of housing construction for the first time since



the displacement of the 20th century. Hundreds of members, partners and dignitaries travelled to the community for a day of speeches, a feast and a powwow. As well, tours were provided of the new duplexes in order to show the progress that has been made to date. While the event was truly wonderful, it was also an occasion to remember what its ancestors have endured through the destruction of the community. We must not forget the past, even while we celebrate the present and plan for the future. This is the only way that we can protect our land and our people going forward. In the words of our Chief:

“The people of Sand Point First Nation are strong and resilient. We have survived significant adversity at the hands of outside forces beyond our control, yet rather than wither away, we have arisen once again to reclaim what is rightfully ours”. - Chief Joe Ladouceur, June 21, 2019



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Hello, my name is Real Bouchard, and I am glad that the Chief and Council have given me the opportunity to work for Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek as the Director of Operations.

I am a member of the Pays Plat First Nation, and have been working with First Nation organizations and government agencies all my career. I have provided a link to my LinkedIn profile if you want to check me out. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/real-bouchard-91063173/>

My wife Paula works with Anishinabek Employment and Training Services (AETS) and my children are Olivia (27), currently a welder at Huskey Farm equipment in Cambridge, Ontario and Riel Jr. (32) who is currently a Mechanical Engineering student, his partner Dani recently had our first Grandchild (Oliver 6 months).

I want to wish you and everyone at Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



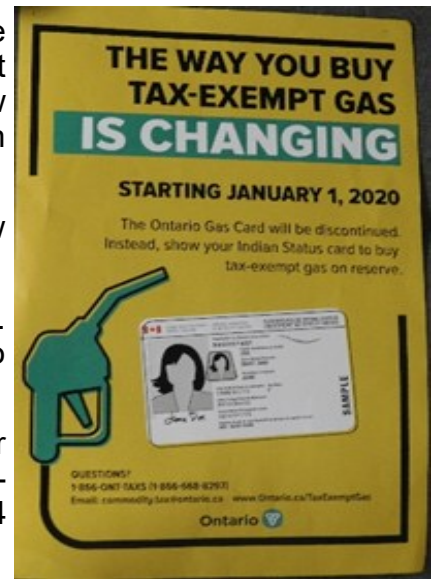
BNA GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

BNA experienced a growth spurt in our Membership in 2019 due to the passing of Bill S-3. If your mother, grandmother or great grandmother lost their Indian Status due to the marriage of a non-status person, you are now entitled to Indian Registration. Descendants of individuals that lost Indian Status due to enfranchisement are also entitled.

As of January 1, 2020, gas cards will be obsolete. Your Status Card will now be used for gasoline purchases on-Reserve.

Once again in 2019, funding was secured to hire 2 students for the summer. One was hired to work on the land, and new this year a student was hired to work at the BNA Satellite Office in Thunder Bay.

Tracy is still making the pink laminate Status Cards. If you require a card or need assistance with Registration for Indian Status, please call the BNA office and make an appointment with Tracy. She can be reached at 623-2724 ext. 211, or by email at tjibson@bnafn.ca.



I want to wish all BNA Members and Staff and Very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2020.

COMMUNITY ENERGY COORDINATOR



My name is Ayshaliisa McNally and I am the Community Energy Coordinator with Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek. I am a certified Community Energy Champion, Fire Smart Champion and the

Climate Change point person for BNA. I am excited to be a part of the BNA team and grateful for the opportunity to work on renewable energy projects such as solar panels and farms, and other sustainable project possibilities for the community. Some of the projects I have been working on thus far are writing proposals for economic development and sustainability projects, and working with the BNA team members to ensure projects are energy efficient for the First Nation. Beginning in early 2020, I will continue to work with our team on projects of importance, and I will also be starting the Community Energy Plan, as well as energy audits for members. I will continue to develop capacity and build knowledge about the community through our engagement sessions. The main goal is to share environmental and energy related knowledge to ensure BNA continues to be energy efficient and sustainable for Seven Generations.



Miigwetch!

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY PLANNER

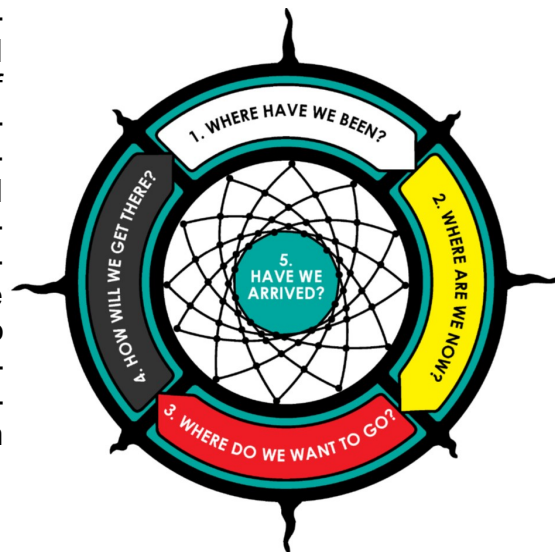
Comprehensive Community Planning helps us answer the following five questions while working together as a community:

1. Where have we been?
2. Where are we now?
3. Where do we want to go?
4. How do we get there?
5. Have we arrived?



The Comprehensive Community Planning process has begun. Your Co-ordinator is Robin Ranger, and he has already met many of our community members and looks forward to meeting and working with everyone in the new year!

Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)
Co-ordinator:
Robin Ranger
Telephone:
807 623 2724
rranger@bnafn.ca



BNA FAMILY WELL BEING PROGRAM

Program Vision: *To create a safe space for families that promotes connection to culture, healing and well being in all areas of the life cycle.*

Family Well Being Program Highlights: This past year we have had members and their family participate in family programs over 2000 times! Our team strives to provide programming, workshops and activities that help to support overall well-being and cultural retention. On behalf of the Family team we would like to give a big "Miigwetch" to everyone for participating in our program. We are looking forward to the new year and all the programs/events to come. Thank you - Camille Borysewicz



Programs in 2019:

Monthly Seniors/Elders group
B.N.A Youth Group
Family Outings
Teddy Bear's Picnic
Father's Day at Marina Park
Father's Day Bowling
Mother's Day DIY studio
Healing with Mother Earth
Youth and Family Camps
Volunteer Pool Swim Program
Willow Springs Art Program
Halloween Haunted House Party
Mukluk making
Trivia Nights
Drum Socials
FASD Powwow
Ziigwan Community Kitchen
Music Lessons
BNA Mukwas Race
Community Crafting
Drumming
Drum Making
Ojibwe Language Classes
Regalia



TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES PROJECT

Hi everyone, my name is Lindsey Gladu. With the new year comes new opportunities for Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek. We are very excited for the new Traditional Activities Project and what that brings for our members. Our hopes with this new project are to get our members out to BNA to rebuild that connection we once had with the land. We are planning a few land based activities in the upcoming months so keep your eyes open for future mail-outs or announcements on the BNA website and The Family Well Being Facebook page. Lindsey Gladu and Arthur Gladu will be contacting membership in the next month with a quick survey to help guide this project, and we will have a small gift for those who participate in our interviews.



Miigwetch!

BNA EarlyOn CENTRE

Karen Williams and Jill Riley work at BNA's EarlyOn Centre. 2019 was a very busy and fun year for our Centre. We provided a variety of land base activities and cultural teachings, including venturing out into the community for outdoor programming to Boulevard Lake and the Marina. In 2020, Toddler Hand Drumming Making and Baby Moccasin making are two workshops we will be offering to our families. Language and Hand Drumming with continue as well. We look forward to the new year ahead and providing more fun programming with our growing Centre.



BNA HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE WORKER

Boozhoo! My name is Christine Wood. Since being employed as the Home and Community Care Worker, I have enjoyed meeting and assisting many members with their health concerns and being able to provide solutions and positive health outcomes.

Exciting news from the land, the Health Clinic is nearing completion! I look forward to providing health services to members of Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek in the New Year. Services and scheduling have yet to be determined.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Boozhoo, my name is Ashley Stevenson.

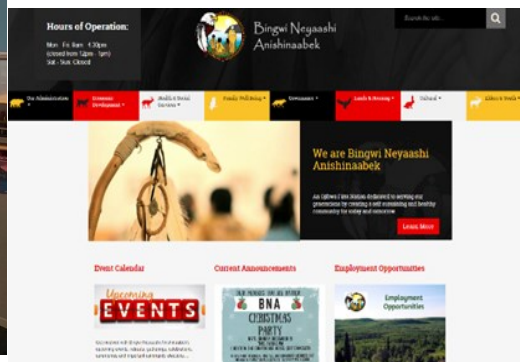
I am the new Administrative Assistant. I am excited to be the first face smiling back at you when you come in to Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek's main office.

Miigwetch and Merry Christmas!



WWW.BNAFN.CA

Hello, my name is Natalie Hutchinson, BNA's Executive Assistant, and I maintain the BNA website. You can access employment and training opportunities, events, and what's new with BNA. I will continue to ensure the website is current so that the membership is always in the loop of what is going on with the First Nation.



Happy Holidays and have a wonderful New Year!

Between July 2016 and October 31, 2019

more than **483,000** products, services and supports were approved under **Jordan's Principle**

- speech therapy
- educational supports
- medical equipment
- mental health services and more

Lastly, one important and under-utilized program is Jordan's Principle. Its purpose is to provide access to funding for **First Nations children under the age of 18 years old** for health, social, and educational services. Assistance with the application process is available, please contact Christine at 623-2724. Please visit the website for more information www.canada.ca/jordans-principle



BNA LANDS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING ON BNA'S LANDS



For many years now, we have been hearing from our members about how much they are looking forward to live in the community. In a 2017 member housing survey that was conducted, 29% of respondents answered that they planned to move back to BNA in 1-2 years, while 32% responded saying they would move back to the community in 3-5 years. At the start of this year there was no permanent housing at BNA's community, however Chief and Council had housing as a priority in order to address the demand which had been identified by the membership.

This year, through diligent efforts, exciting progress was made in regard to housing in BNA. BNA initiated the construction of two CMHC Band-owned duplexes to provide rental housing to members. A two bedroom duplex has been constructed, hooked up to servicing, and BNA's first tenant has moved in. Construction of BNA's 3-bedroom duplex will be complete and ready for occupancy by the end of this year.

Both units are furnished with a washer and dryer, a fridge and stove, and a woodstove to off-set heating costs for renters. As well, each unit has its own independent septic field and a water supply which has been shown through water testing to have good groundwater quality. We hope that by providing these rental units as a housing option to the membership, we can once again have members living on the land year-round as a first step in re-developing our beautiful community.



2020: MORE HOMES TO BE CONSTRUCTED!

BNA is looking to keep this positive housing momentum going in 2020 with two different avenues to support this. The first is the construction of additional CMHC-funded housing, for which BNA has applied to CMHC in order to secure additional funding for 2020. If BNA is successful, then construction of these will begin in the spring, with their occupancy being possible by the end of next year. These units will have water supplied by wells which we have already verified to have good quality groundwater. As well, they will have a septic field which will be installed in an appropriate location.

The second avenue that members can pursue is through the construction of their own homes in the community. BNA has received interest from members who wish to build in 2020. They are currently progress-



ing through the application process and if successful, will be able to start constructing their homes in the spring of 2020. Through these two avenues, BNA is looking to provide members with different ways in which they can move back to the community next year and beyond. We are also looking into the Matrimonial Real Property (MRP) issue, and trying to find permanent solutions for our members married to non-members, and providing our members with security on their on-reserve investments.

Interested members for both avenues above should contact Brian Petrie at the BNA office for more details:

bpetrie@bnafn.ca

BNA LANDS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Cont)

THE BNA ACCESS ROAD AND PIT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The 2019 Road Access Project was the largest Roads Project undertaken by the community since 2016. The Project included the widening of the Copper Thunderbird road corridor to 20 meters, and included ditching, culvert and water crossing installations, and the building of a new road loop from Phase 1 Housing over to the cemetery road in order to provide a secondary access point for new residents.

As a second part of this roads project, the Papasay Aggregate Pit located 3 km north of BNA was finally opened, with material being screened and stockpiled for future use. 2020 will see the completion of this project, with significant material being transported from the Papasay pit to the BNA road network, increasing the base of the road substantially,



with proper crowning for future water diversion. The entire Project is expected to be completed by late spring 2020, with remaining material stockpiled for future use and for sale to outside projects. Through many meetings and efforts, BNA was able to ensure that over half of the costs for this Project came from funding through Indigenous Services Canada. This is due to the strong relationship that BNA has developed with the federal government over the past few years, and by showing that BNA will put its skin in the game in order to show our commitment to the community's development. With new residents now moving to the land, BNA can no longer be ignored by the government, or be told that it is undeserving of funding due to a lack of on-reserve population. Our housing program will finally put an end to this funding discrimination, with new maintenance dollars forthcoming.

POWERING THE COMMUNITY: 2020 TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Among BNA's top infrastructure development goals for 2020 is the completion of our transmission line project. Currently, BNA has 3-phase power at the Sawmill so that Papasay can operate its equipment. The plan is to bring the transmission line along the newly-renovated Copper Thunderbird Road right-of-way and into the Phase 1 Housing Area. This will ensure that the necessary power will be available for BNA's new developments, including its Government Office and Phases 2 and 3 Housing.

BNA's leadership and staff understand that electric heat is very expensive, and certainly needs to be mitigated wherever possible. That is why the new housing units come equipped with a wood stove and air circulation to lower the need for electric heat. Likewise, the BNA biomass project may lead to future biomass heating options for the rest of the community's infrastructure. We will be looking at these various options going forward.



BNA LANDS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Cont)

THE SAWMILL BIOMASS HEATING PROJECT

Despite great progress being made to establish and market the Sawmill, one critical piece of infrastructure related to our cold climate has been lacking since we commenced operations: The Sawmill building has remained unheated. This has created difficult conditions for workers, and has slowed production. However, through Natural Resources Canada, BNA has secured the funding required to install a biomass system for the Sawmill. This system will chip the wood waste from the Sawmill into a hopper, and a biomass boiler will use the wood chips to heat the Sawmill facility. The concrete pad for the system has recently been poured, and the system will be operational by the end of February 2020.

Benefits to this system include: providing heat to our workers, utilizing our wood waste as fuel, producing waste wood for other bio-heat opportunities in the community, and producing wood chips which could be sold throughout the region. This Project has launched BNA into the biomass and bio-heat sector. If successful, this system could be replicated to BNA's other community buildings, such as the Government office or planned Roundhouse building. Eventually, we may look at communal heating systems for BNA's houses, and other ways in which we can utilize biomass technology to find new, green, innovative ways to heat our community buildings.



BNA MEDICAL CLINIC

When BNA's current Chief and Council came into power there was no permanent medical clinic on BNA's land. Design work for the clinic was completed last spring and the construction of it commenced in the spring of 2019. To date, BNA has made great progress and the construction of the clinic building, which will be completed before the end of this December. The building has power to it, and the next step in getting this project completed will be installation of a septic field, and connecting it to the water well on-site.

In the new year, it is anticipated that this clinic will be staffed on a part-time basis. This will ensure basic medical services for the new community residents, and potentially neighbours like AZA First Nation who are also without medical services. We feel that this clinic will improve the lives of many people.



INDUSTRIAL PARK UPGRADE

In addition to the Road access project, BNA has an opportunity to fully develop Lot A of its Industrial Park, the location of the Sawmill, Clinic and soon to be community store. Currently, only about half of Lot A is being utilized - the remaining half requires significant work, including the placement of significant aggregate material to bring up the base of the Lot. As part of this Project, the initial part of the Copper Thunderbird Road network from the Hwy to the Sawmill entrance will also be upgraded.



The long-term goal is to have lots available in the Industrial Park for rental and leasing by outside 3rd parties, bringing in rental dollars for the First Nation. Leasing arrangements can then be made with these outside 3rd parties, and passed through BNA's Land Code.

BNA LANDS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Cont)

BNA ASSET MANAGEMENT

BNA has assets which require capital to maintain them in order to reach their full life expectancy. These assets include - but are not limited to - the government office, duplexes, satellite office, and the FWB Centre. BNA has received funding to create an Asset Management Plan to help manage its

assets. This Plan is a very important strategic business tool used to provide the information required for effective planning, priority setting and decision making related to assets.

A sound asset management plan is also important

to allow BNA's leadership and management to ensure that proper maintenance is completed and services are not interrupted, while at the same time ensuring that the cost to BNA for this is minimized.



COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE

Right now, the vast majority of fruits and vegetables eaten within communities are brought in, with limited food grown by community members in small garden plots. In an effort to enhance BNA's capabilities and infrastructure, BNA is currently seeking funding to establish a community greenhouse and outdoor gardening area. The outdoor gardening area would be comprised of various raised garden beds.

The greenhouse would supply seedlings for the outdoor gardening area in the spring, and then be used to grow vegetables which require hot temperatures. BNA will partner with both Roots to Harvest and Collective Future Consulting in order to provide training and capacity building to its members that

are interested in participating in the sustainable food market. This will allow members to grow and preserve their own fresh, locally grown food.



BNA WASTE MANAGEMENT

Currently, the Greenstone region is running out of waste disposal options. Many landfills in the region are either nearing capacity or closing. BNA is currently participating on a Waste Steering Committee, which is looking at waste disposal options related to a new landfill. This Committee includes several parties, including BNA and the other First Nations located within the region. BNAs participation is aimed at ensuring that environmentally friendly waste disposal options are employed within BNA's territory, including recycling, which is not

currently offered in Greenstone. The EA for this new site will be launched likely in the new year.



LAND CODE AMENDMENTS

As currently structured, the BNA Land Code has become a cumbersome process which has greatly reduced the ability of Chief and Council to make effective decisions regarding land-related matters. The proposed amendments to the Land Code are focused on improving the Land Code's functionality which will result in benefits to all members of BNA. BNA has drafted proposed amendments to its Land Code with the support of legal council as well as the BNA Lands Committee.

Once the new Land Code is finalized, the amended Code would then need to be ratified by the BNA membership in the same fashion as was the original Land Code back in 2014. This will be brought to the membership at a meeting early in the New Year.



BNA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE PAPASAY SAWMILL IN 2019 AND BEYOND

In the summer of 2017, the Papasay Sawmill commenced operations. We are proud to say that 2 years later, despite numerous obstacles, the Sawmill continues to operate. Currently the facility employs the Sawmill Manager, Art Gladu, as well as 2 workers - John McGuire from BNA, and Adam Hardy from BZA. The facility has numerous contracts that it has fulfilled, including with Resolute Forest Products, as well as Vallard Construction for lumber requirements on the east-west tie line. Despite our continued success in getting external contracts, the problem with our facility continues to be a lack of consistent production with our available equipment, meaning we are unable to meet large-scale orders when they arise.



The plan going forward is two-fold: for starters, Papasay will complete its Sawmill Business Plan early in the new year. Then, we will use this Business Plan to submit large-scale funding proposals to FedNor, NOHFC and other federal and provincial funders

where we will try and acquire the necessary equipment that will meet our goal of increased production. At the same time, we will seek to acquire the necessary value-added Sawmill equipment, including a planer-moulder and dry kiln chamber, that will allow Papasay to diversify its Sawmill line, and move into the niche, value-added market for specialty products.



The Sawmill is one of BNA's core economic development drivers, and ensuring its success will mean long-term employment for our members, and revenue generation for the development of our First Nation. And with the right equipment, BNA may soon be in the position to be able to provide the lumber requirements for the numerous homes and community buildings that are being planned for the land. Stay tuned in 2020!

PAPASAY BEE-CLEAN: NEW PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In early 2019, Chief Ladouceur met with the Chief of Aamjiwnaang First Nation near Sarnia with respect to a possible opportunity related to the Suncor refinery located very near to their community. What was lacking on Suncor's end was an Indigenous janitorial company that was capable of taking on large-scale contracts at their facility. Papasay Bee-Clean could indeed provide the mechanism and vehicle for this potential contract through a 3-way partnership.



Following a series of meetings, it was agreed that Aamjiwnaang First Nation would work with Papasay Bee-Clean on this contract, and in fact, will then look to expand their partnership to other opportunities in the Sarnia region. Economic Development partnerships involving multiple First Nation partners is becoming a more regular occurrence in Canada. Papasay is proud to say that it is always at the forefront of looking to work with other First Nations on projects of mutual benefit, no matter where these opportunities may occur. We will continue to work to look for new, innovative partnership opportunities wherever they may arise.



BNA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Cont.)

FORESTRY: LNFM AND THE BATTLE OVER CARIBOU REGULATIONS



Lake Nipigon Forest Management Inc. (LNFM) has continued to successfully manage the Lake Nipigon Forest, ensuring that proper compliance and planning is taking place on the land. Likewise, Four Nations Forestry, a subsidiary company owned by the four Lake Nipigon First Nation's Ec Dev corporations, has continued to employ members from the communities, and undertaking silviculture work.

However, an issue that has continued to dominate the Forest Management Planning process has been the management of caribou through the forced creation of artificial caribou mosaics on the land. If these new policies were to stand, it could be detrimental to the forestry industry, as well as to Papasay's future Sawmill potential. Not to mention the potential damage to the moose population. Therefore, the First Nations stood united, and walked away from the Forest Management Planning table until such time that this issue was resolved. Several high-level meetings and press conferences have taken place between First Nation leadership and provincial government officials, and word is that progress on this issue is being made. BNA and its neighbours continue to hope for a resolution to this issue, and expect an announcement from the provincial government in the new year. We will inform the membership when we hear more on this.



NIPIGON LNG PROJECT

A company called "Midstream" has purchased property near Polly Lake, and are planning on developing a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant at the site. The plan is to tap the existing TransCanada gas line, liquify the gas, and truck it to north shore municipalities that are lacking the natural gas pipeline infrastructure. BNA and its neighbours have been speaking with this company, and do expect that they will come to the community to discuss this project with the membership. Likewise, BNA does expect that it will benefit from this project through revenue generation, contracts and employment opportunities. An agreement is being worked on between Nipigon LNG, BNA and its neighbours.



GREENSTONE GOLD

Last month, the First Nations of AZA, Ginoogaming and Aroland finally signed their mining agreement with Greenstone Gold Mines for the development of the Hardrock Project in Geraldton. The Project will likely move quickly now, with the potential for the massive infrastructure work commencing in the summer of 2020. BNA will have several opportunities related to this Project, including employment and contracting. And we will be a part of this Project through an agreement once it moves to Brookbank in the coming next few years.



EAST-WEST TIE LINE

After years of delay, the East West Tie line is finally moving forward. The project will see a 450km, 230kV transmission line constructed from Shuniah to Wawa. Construction has commenced, and the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2021. Valard Construction is leading the construction, and has approached the Sawmill for material. While BNA is not a route community, it still has opportunities for employment and contracting associated with this large-scale Project.



BNA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Cont.)

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BNA STORE FOR RESIDENTS



BNA is looking at developing a small store in its Industrial Park, near the Sawmill and Clinic. This will allow for BNA's new residents to drive a short distance down the road to get their essentials, as well as provide an opportunity for additional revenue generation from those residing in the region - from BZA or Beardmore - who will be able to take advantage of the Hwy access. A new store will also provide employment for new residents.

We are currently looking at different options for a new store, including size, location in the Industrial Park, different products that we can offer for sale, as well as the costing of such an initiative. With the overwhelming costs at many of the smaller stores in the region, BNA has a unique opportunity to offer cost-competitive products at our store, and to ensure that our residents are properly served.



ANISHINABEK EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES (AETS)

AETS continued to offer holistic training programs to members of BNA and its neighbours. And this year, BNA hosted the on-the-ground Sawmill training at its Papasay facility, giving the trainees a unique experience of working in a small, local Sawmill.

Through its SPF program, AETS is continuing to offer Drivers License training to any members that wish to get their license. Please remember that interested members must contact AETS early in the new year, as this opportunity will soon be coming to an end.

In 2020, AETS will be offering a new suite of training opportunities. Please visit www.aets.org, and visit them in-person in the basement of the Waverly Library (285 Red River Road). The AETS Staff will assist you and point you in the right direction.



NOKIIWIN TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

At their AGM in 2019, the Chiefs of the Nokiwin First Nations agreed to work together to pursue joint economic development opportunities. The Economic Development Officers from the 5 First Nations have been looking at opportunities for investment and business development, including in areas of property acquisition, hotel and conference centres, and other areas where employment and revenue generation could result.



NOKIIWIN
TRIBAL COUNCIL

There are numerous opportunities for business development both within Thunder Bay and in the surrounding region. This process may be a start of working together for joint prosperity.