

Connected



HYDRO ONE REMOTE COMMUNITIES | FALL 2024



Shaman telling Stories "Sharing stories about our people's way of life is a way to keep traditions and beliefs alive", Artist Jared Tait, member of Sachigo Lake First Nation.



Hydro One was again a proud sponsor of the "Wake the Giant" music festival, that celebrated its 5th year, held at the Thunder Bay Marina on Sept 14, 2024. This impressive event strives to create a more welcoming and inclusive city for Indigenous people, youth and their communities.



48 years of meter reading in Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug

Meter reading is essential in each of the 24 Hydro One Remote communities that we serve. Each month, a local meter reader records the energy use of each home and building in their community. Consistent and regular meter reads are necessary to ensure that customer bills are accurate.

When Fred Sainnawap began in 1975 he was 18 years old and there were only 24 meters in his community of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug ("KI"). 48 years later at age 66 and now a great-grandpa, Fred is still going, reading over 400 meters in the growing community.

Fred is dedicated to his job, using a snow machine and snowshoes in the winter wearing ski pants, skidoo boots, and his homemade moosehide hat. "I enjoy my work, and plan on continuing as long as possible". The worst part of the job? "Big dogs and windchill".

Just before Christmas 2023, KI, a partner of the 24 First Nation majority owned Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission



Fred Sainnawap reads a meter in his home community of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug.

Line Project (wataypower.ca), became connected to the provincial power grid. Now, no longer under Diesel Generating Station electrical "load" restrictions, the community can connect a virtually unlimited number of houses and buildings. With community distribution still served by Hydro One Remotes and the **same residential rates as before**, there will undoubtedly be many more new homes in the future for Fred to read.

Hydro One Remotes salutes all the dedicated local meter readers serving our customers in the far north!

Ontario Electricity Support Program

Did you know you could save up to \$113 a month on your electricity bill?

If eligible, you can save between \$52 to \$113 on each month. The Ontario Native Welfare Administrators Association (ONWAA) administers the program. To apply, call **1.844.885.3157** or visit OntarioElectricitySupport.ca.

You do not need to be on Ontario Works to qualify. If you have applied before, check your bill to ensure you are still receiving the credit. Credits last for two years, after which you need to re-apply.



What happens to my bill when my community is grid connected?

If your community is grid-connected, you likely won't notice any changes.

Your bill will look the same, with the same residential electricity price and the same phone numbers to call for power outages or billing and service inquiries.

Safety tips for your wood stove or fireplace



This time of year, it can be comforting to curl up beside a crackling fireplace, or gather family and friends around the warmth of a wood stove. Take the necessary steps now to ensure that wood stoves and fireplaces are operating properly and free of potential hazards.

Watch for the warning signs

Look for corrosion or rust on the outer shell of a metal chimney and watch for bulges or corrosion of the liner. Loose bricks, crumbling mortar, dark stains and white powder all indicate problems with a masonry chimney. It should be repaired immediately by a certified heating contractor or mason.

Check stove pipes and connections

Ensure that screws are located at every joint and that each connection has a tight, secure fit. Also, look for signs of dark staining

or white powder (also referred to as leeching) at every joint. Rust is a clear sign that it is time to replace the stove pipe.

Check walls for excessive heat


If the wall above your fireplace or wood stove gets very hot, it could be a sign of improper chimney installation and a potential fire hazard.

Protect walls and floors from heat and sparks

Keep combustible objects away from your wood stove or fireplace and always use a properly fitted screen to cover the fireplace opening. Floors and walls should be protected with non-combustible shields.

Visit **Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. – Energy Saving Tips** (HydroOneRemotes.ca) for more energy savings tips.

Getting in touch

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If you have any questions, comments or would like to inquire about our programs, please contact:

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ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ HydroOneRemotes.ca/energy-saving-tips
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