It Takes a Community to Clean-Up a Remote Site

Training Initiatives and Economic Development during the Remediation of the Former Mid Canada Line Site 500

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It takes a Community to Clean up a Remote Site - Overview

1. MCL Site 500 – The Cleanup
2. Weenusk First Nation
3. Winisk to Peanwanuck – 1986 flood
4. ECO Canada Program
5. Intern Off Site Training
6. Intern On Site Training
7. Professional Development
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Mid Canada Line (MCL) Site 500

The Mid Canada Line
Sector Control Stations
(1) Dawson Creek BC
(2) Stoney Mountain AB
(3) Cranberry Portage MB
(4) Bird MB
(5) Winisk ON
(6) Great Whale River QC
(7) Knob Lake QC
(8) Hopedale Labrador NF

Site 500
MCL Site – Areas of Interest

- Barge Loading Area
- Camp and Beach Area
- Airstrip
- Hudson’s Bay
- Site 500

WESA
A Better Environment for Business

www.wesa.ca
MCL Site 500

- Site 500 is located inside, but is not a part of 'Polar Bear Provincial Park'. There are not any roads for hundred of km from the site and on-site logistics require careful planning and co-ordination.

- Heavy equipment was transported via the longest winter road in the world the “Wapusk Trail”. Transport by sea is not possible due to the late breakup of the ice in the spring.

- Due to the presence of black and polar bears, the main camp is located behind an electrified fence and bear monitors are employed from the local community of Peawanuck to ensure worker safety.
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Weenusk First Nation

• Cree First Nation
• Originally in WiniskReserve 90
• Weenusk relocated to Peawanuck (1986 flood)
• Peawanuck community composed of Cree, Oji-cree, Ojibwa and Métis peoples
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• CRTOC is Administered by the Not for Profit Environmental Careers Organisation (ECO)
• ECO was established by the Federal Government’s Sector Council Program in 1992 as part of Canada’s sector council initiative
• The Contaminates Remediation Training Organisation of Canada (CRTOC)
• The objective of the Caring for the Land Project is to promote the employment of Aboriginal residents of Canada in the contamination remediation industry.
• The CRTOC can fund up to 50% of program training costs and “on the job” training that will lead to employment in the contaminates remediation industry.
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• Training took place in Peawanuk, ON and was led by WESA personnel
• 15 Trainees (12 completed all three modules)
• 12 Full Days of Classroom and hands on Training
• 12 Trainees were offered employment with WESA for the Winisk site; 9 accepted
First Nations EI Training
Peawanuck ON

Classroom Components
1. Environmental Sampling Assistant
2. HAZWOPER course
3. Asbestos Worker Abatement

Field Components
On the job training
First Nations EI Training
In the Classroom

1 of 3: Environmental Sampling Assistant

- 11 modules: intro, contaminated site legislation, soil sampling, GIS, building materials, barrel sampling (LEL & VOC), multi-rae training, OH basics, groundwater sampling, surface water sampling, contaminated site assessments
- 5 days, including classroom and some field practice
First Nations EI Training
In the Classroom

2 of 3: HAZWOPER course

• 14 modules: legislation, hazards, monitoring equipment, respiratory protection, other PPE, spills, decontamination, lock-out/tag-out, confined spaces, excavation and trenching, working at heights, site planning and emergency preparedness, communications, health and safety plan
• 5 days (1 day for each module)
First Nations EI Training
In the Classroom

3 of 3: Asbestos Worker Abatement

- Complies with Program 253W, a program defined by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU)
- 2 days
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First Nations EI Training: In the Field
Site 500

- Barrel Sampling
- Materials Sampling
- Soil Sampling
First Nations EI Training: In the Field
Site 500

- Outline Training
- Survival Training
- Survey Training
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First Nations Intern: David Hunter

- Environmental Sampling Assistant
- Resident of Peawanuck, part of Weenusk First Nations;
- Employed by WESA during the 2010 and 2011 Field Programs;
- Trained in Environmental Sampling, HazWOper and Asbestos abatement;
- His highly motivated work-ethic, efficiency and positive disposition made him an asset to our field team.
First Nations Intern: Tyler Gunner

• Environmental Sampling Assistant
• Resident of Peawanuck, part of Weenusk First Nations;
• Employed by WESA during the 2011 Field Program; employed in the Sudbury Office
• Trained in Environmental Sampling, HazWOper and Asbestos abatement;
• His positive experiences at WESA working both in the field and in the lab intrigued him. He is currently switching career paths to focus on environmental sciences focusing on mining.
First Nations Intern: Marnie Hunter

- Environmental Sampling Assistant
- Resident of Peawanuck, part of Weenusk First Nations;
- Employed by WESA during the 2011 Field Program
- Trained in Environmental Sampling, HazWOper and Asbestos abatement;
- Experience gained working with WESA introduced her to the environmental sciences;
- Hopes to continue her schooling to focus on forestry or mining.
Continuous Improvement

- Clean up continues through 2012
- Training continues, building on 2011 classroom and field education
- Long-term professional relationships with many EIs and Peawanuck community members
- Full time work for EI at Site 500 and other sites