## Narrative BIO – January 25, 2019 کم۲ا∆م ۴۲' 25, 2019

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David Paul Achneepineskum is the Chief Executive Officer for Matawa First Nations, a Tribal Council group of nine First Nations located within the Treaty Number Nine Territory. David Paul has been working for his First Nations Peoples since 1971 where he started as Councillor then as the Band Manager for his home community of Marten Falls. Since 1975, David Paul has worked in various management and executive capacities for organizations such as Constance Lake First Nation, Chiefs of Ontario, Rainy River First Nation and Nishnawbe Aski Nation. David Paul has spent more than 45 years working for his Peoples.

David Paul comes from one of the original families of Marten Falls, the "Achneepineskums". His father and his grandfather gathering and hunting territory are within the Gichi Siipii and Kenogami River basins where he and his siblings were born and raised on the land. His mother was from the Cree Nation who originated from the English River Post known as Mammattawa. David Paul attended residential schools during his primary education and went on to graduate from Geraldton Composite High School in 1970.

Looking forward to many more, David Paul has celebrated a warm, loving marriage to his wife Margaret for 35 years. They have made Thunder Bay their home and expect to spend their retirement years in their home in the woods.

David Paul can be reached at the Matawa First Nations office where he devotes many hours working for his people. His dream is that someday his Peoples will be self-sufficient and independent like they were more than a hundred years ago.