

# New Partnerships: Planting the Seeds of Development

In 2011, Matawa members and leadership came together to decide what Matawa people wanted for their future and agreed that we wanted to be:

*"self-sufficient, self-governing peoples within a healthy, thriving culture, living in our homelands that shall sustain us for all time." Mamow-Wecheekapawetahteewiin (Unity Declaration), July 13, 2011.*



Again in 2017, the Matawa Chiefs' Council direction in resolution #01 02-11-17 was to: "incubate a project to assist our First Nations to build capacity for new capital for community development... and explore infrastructure bonds that can be structured to raise money"

Working toward this direction, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) were signed with PCL, EPCOR, OPG & Enterprise and the announcement was made in March 2020 at the Prospectors & Developers Association Conference in Toronto.

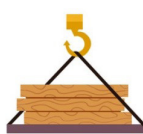
These MOUs allow Matawa to explore potential ways to move ahead with building community infrastructure... and ensure it meets the needs of the communities and region in a manner consistent with Matawa's vision. These partnerships are solid and they are intended to last 25-30 years.

PCL Construction, OPG (Ontario Power Generation) and EPCOR:

- Are the biggest and most established companies in their fields in Canada
- Have thousands of staff
- Have all the necessary equipment and know-how
- Have the capacity to train community members in their expertise
- Assist with creating certainty

This new business relationship brings short and long-term opportunities to address our community infrastructure needs on a large scale.

- Water & Sewer
- Housing & Buildings
- Hydro & Electricity
- Capacity building
- Financing
- Business Ownership



On September 11, 2020, the Matawa Chiefs passed resolution #05-11-09-2020: Regional Priorities & Jurisdiction Department 2019-2020 Report and Next Steps. As directed by the Chiefs, future work will include:

- Continuing with the activities presented
- Preparing materials for the Matawa Chiefs Council review and direction
- Conducting further research and collaboration required with other Matawa departments (including Financial Advisory Services, Education, Health, Social Services, and Matawa organizations such as Four Rivers and KKETS)
- Specific consideration given to an economic-financial strategy and a youth strategy - as identified by the communities

