



# Matawa

## FIRST NATIONS



**Matawa First Nations Management (*Matawa*) is an ISO 9001 registered non-profit Indigenous Tribal Council. Tribal Councils are Indigenous institutions established throughout Canada as, “a grouping of bands with common interests who voluntarily join together to provide advisory and/or program services to member bands.” Matawa was established in 1988.**

**The word “Matawa” is an abbreviation of the Cree word “Mammamattawa” meaning “a place of many rivers coming together” — a name the Chiefs and Elders decided was fitting of the organization to recognize that rivers have been, and continue to act as our lifeline and existence. Matawa is governed by a Board of Directors made up of members of its First Nations.**

### OUR PURPOSE

Matawa provides advisory services/ programs to nine member Ojibway and Cree First Nations (eight First Nations in James Bay Treaty No. 9 and one First Nation in Robinson-Superior Treaty). We are committed to quality assurance and are responsive to our communities' needs.

### OUR VISION

Matawa First Nations will be prosperous and enriched First Nations both individually and collectively. By creating enhanced social and economic opportunities for everyone, the Matawa First Nations will reach their maximum potential and have confidence in the future.

### OUR MISSION

We are committed to supporting each other and focusing our collective efforts on core strategic priorities. By working together as a regional community, we will use our combined knowledge and resources in order to champion the social and economic vitality of our First Nations and invest in community and people building.

### OUR VALUES

#### **Matawa First Nations Work Together.**

We have opportunities to grow and reach our maximum potential as a regional group. The diversity within our regional communities is valued and a source of local and regional pride. We are proactively involved in the economic, social, cultural and political development of the Matawa territory.

#### **Matawa First Nations are Dynamic and Sustainable Communities.**

We integrate modern social and economic development practices with our traditional culture and heritage. We build capacity and economic wealth for present and future generations and are well positioned to succeed in the national economy.

#### **Matawa First Nations Uphold Quality of Life.**

We invest and protect our quality of life – socially, economically, culturally and environmentally and ensure that the Matawa First Nations are prosperous and healthy communities in which to live, work and raise a family.





# Advisory Services

## CHIEFS COUNCIL

Coordinating the Matawa Chiefs Council made up of Matawa First Nations Chiefs to work together on common issues and provide direction and/or broad decision making to the Matawa Chief Executive Officer and Matawa Board of Directors. Providing logistical, technical, policy and political advice to the Matawa First Nations individually and collectively. Liaising with external organizations to provide support and lobbying for identified Matawa priorities. Providing support to Program Managers within Matawa First Nation Management.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Providing communications and advisory support to Matawa First Nations, Matawa Chiefs Council, Matawa First Nations Management departments, services and corporations. Providing media monitoring and support, informational materials and promotion, branding implementation and visual identity, social media updates and monitoring, radio broadcasting, recording, PA systems and translation.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Developing, promoting and supporting a diverse private sector and entrepreneurial culture within the Matawa First Nations. Coordinating a Matawa Economic Development Committee along with other Working Groups required to move projects forward. Fostering economic growth and success through economic and business development. Assisting Matawa First Nations develop infrastructure, businesses and human capital to grow local economies. Providing project incubation, project management, business management, general management for regional initiatives in various sectors including mining, forestry, tourism and energy. Working with First Nations community development corporations to build capacity and develop projects and business opportunities to become self-sufficient.

## EDUCATION

Providing support and advisory services to community schools in Matawa First Nations and local Education Authorities. Liaising with Indigenous organizations, governments and education institutions at all levels. Continuing capacity to develop second level services to schools in Matawa, including providing IT support. Administering a post-secondary program for five Matawa First Nations. Liaising with the Matawa Education Authority in operating an alternative secondary school and student accommodation centre in the city of Thunder Bay for Matawa First Nations students.

## FINANCIAL ADVISORY

Helping enhance member First Nations' management, administration and quality of life by delivering governance, management and financial advisory services. Coordinating a Matawa First Nations Band Managers Committee. Working with First Nations Band Managers, Finance and/or other community-based Program Managers, along with various administrative staff, to address financial and personnel management and capacity development.

## FOUR RIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Delivering leading-edge environmental and capacity building programming to Matawa First Nations. Focusing on developing innovative solutions that keep clients vision and values at the forefront. Providing services in the areas of: Environmental, Mapping & Geomatics, Training and Communications. Providing award-winning services to all communities and organizations looking for holistic, long-term oriented solutions to meet their unique needs through subsidiary corporation Four Rivers Inc.

## HEALTH & SOCIAL MENO BIIMADESWIN

Providing advisory, advocacy and technical support in all areas of health and social wellbeing. Overseeing the management and administration of regional funded projects, coordinating specific community-based programs. Providing assistance in crisis management, intervention and promotion/awareness on wellness and healthy lifestyles and mental wellness supports and services. Working in partnership and collaboration with several groups, organizations, agencies and institutions who are affiliated with Matawa First Nations. Coordinating the on-going development of Matawa Health and Social Cooperative to address gaps in health care delivery and crisis management and to provide increased and accessible health and wellness services at both the community and regional levels.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Ensuring corporate information technology is accessible and equipped with current hardware and software. Managing, monitoring, and maintaining technology to ensure proper and secure access. Assisting with overall management of corporate information technology and computer systems.

## MEMBERSHIP

Managing internal and external events required for Indian registration including issuance of Certificate of Indian Status for specific Matawa First Nations. Providing an accurate and updated Indian Registry.

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Complying with the requirements of ISO 9001 and the certificate of registration, the Quality Management System guarantees quality assurance throughout the organization and in services provided to Matawa First Nations. It promotes organizational efficiency, accountability and transparency and is implemented according to the purpose, vision, mission, values and objectives. The system is monitored and continually enhanced.

## REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

Providing support and assistance to Matawa First Nations Chiefs, Matawa First Nations, Regional Framework Agreement (RFA) negotiation teams, RFA community teams, RFA transfer payment joint workplan team, RFA jurisdiction working group, and other RFA working groups with respect to the implementation of the 2014 Regional Framework Agreement, a community-driven process of negotiation related to the mineral and other related developments in the area known as the Ring of Fire. Providing support and assistance to Matawa First Nations in the areas of project management, logistics and coordination, information and financial support, capacity building and communications.

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY

Assisting Matawa First Nations in the development and maintenance of community infrastructure, including environmental components and the capital approvals process. Responding to Matawa First Nations requests for services in the areas of project planning, development and reporting; operation and maintenance of water and wastewater infrastructure; coordination of water and wastewater operator training; environmental remediation project support; housing inspection and programming; fire safety and protection; and ACRS and ICMS reporting.



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