

FALL 2021

TERRITORIAL PLANNING UNIT NEWSLETTER

GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3

Zhaagimaa Waabo



A word from the TPU Department

After the hot and dry summer we had we are excited by the smell and feel of rain again! Over the summer, the TPU has been busy, We've been traveling throughout the Territory setting up pop up tents for climate change and energy surveys, policy and regulatory initiatives and speaking with elders and knowledge keepers about Manito Aki Inakonigaawin and the Nibi Declaration.

Our CBM program has been out with youth and communities to do water testing, while our Emergency Department has been hard at work throughout one of the toughest fire seasons we have seen. Needless to say, after the hot and dry summer we had, we are excited to see the rain and the cooler temperatures rolling in for fall!

As students head back to school, we want to wish them good luck! We are looking forward to continuing to be able to meet in person and return to what we would call normal.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us for anything and if you are interested in any of our open positions we are always accepting resumes to our growing team!



Territorial Planning Unit Employment Opportunities:

Treaty #3 Youth Forestry Interns (2)
Virtual Trapping Program Coordinator
Mineral Sector Specialist

Grand Council Treaty #3 Territorial Planning Unit

Phone: 807-548-4214 Email: tpu@treaty3.ca

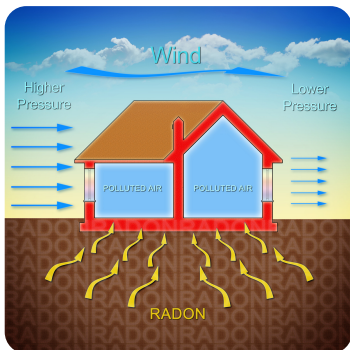
Website: Gct3.ca/land/ Facebook: Grand Council Treaty #3 - Territorial Planning Unit

CLIMATE CHANGE

Take Action on Radon Treaty #3

The Take Action On Radon Treaty #3 project begins this October. Radon is a radioactive gas that seeps from the ground into your home and has the potential to cause lung cancer. With Climate Change, levels of radon are expected to increase with insulation and ventilation in homes changing. The 3 year project will involve radon testing, and radon mitigation training each year until 2025. Activities each year will be limited to equipment and training spots available. Communities can sign up by emailing Climate Specialist Geneva Kejick at **Geneva.kejick@treaty3.ca** or by calling **(204) 430-1994**.

Set up radon testing in your community today!



Fourth Annual Climate Summit

The Fourth Annual Youth Climate Summit is set for **October 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st** at Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation. This year's theme for the Climate Summit will be focused on Climate Change and health. Sign up youth from your community today by contacting **Geneva.kejick@treaty3.ca** or by calling **(204) 430-1994**.

COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING

CBM PROJECTS

This Summer the TPU held six community engagement sessions for its Community Based Monitoring (CBM) program. Engagement session participants discussed community environmental concerns, learned about water quality monitoring and fish habitat monitoring practices, and identified priority monitoring locations for water quality and fish habitat on their traditional waters. The TPU will work with each participating community to help build environmental monitoring capacity for community youth through hands on training and the collection of baseline monitoring data with them. If your community is interested in having your community participate in the CBM program, please contact Chris Herc at **chris.herc@treaty3.ca**

The TPU helped host CABIN training from August 4th-6th. We had participants from four communities attend. The trainees learned how to collect and monitor for benthic macro invertebrates using the CABIN protocol, how to collect baseline stream morphology data, and how to collect baseline water quality data. By the end of training all participants were certified in CABIN Protocol field data collection.



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MANITO AKI INAKONIGAAWIN

Pathways Forward Project

The Manito Aki Inakonigaawin and Nibi Declaration Pathways Forward Project is almost at the end of phase 3, which includes interviews with elders and knowledge keepers. In the interviews, the elders discuss what Manito Aki Inakonigaawin and the Nibi Declaration mean to them and where they see both written documents going next. Following these discussions, the team has been developing a “living report” that outlines the elders and knowledge keeper recommendations.

In the fall, we hope to get all the interviewees back together to discuss this in a larger group, then will be present the document back Leadership. The report will show pathways forward for both MAI and the Nibi declaration and the continued assertion of Anishinaabe Jurisdiction.

These interviews will be ongoing, as it's so important to continue to talk about these sacred laws. If you are interested in taking part in the interviews or want to know more information, please contact Hailey Krolyk at [**hailey.krolyk@treaty3.ca**](mailto:hailey.krolyk@treaty3.ca)



MAI Documentary

In partnership with Niiwin Wendaanimok (4 Winds), GCT#3 is working towards the creation of a Manito Aki Inakonigaawin documentary. On June 26th, 2021 at Couchiching First Nation, a ceremony was held to commence the start of the process. Stay tuned for more updates as the project moves ahead!



Manito Aki Inakonigaawin Toolkit

The Manito Aki Inakonigaawin Toolkit combines all the written work completed with Manito Aki Inakonigaawin within GCT #3. Its goal is to share the key principles that guide us in decision-making in the Treaty #3 Territory. The toolkit is designed for the Nation and Treaty #3 communities to further our understandings of our responsibilities to the land and provide guidance for government, communities, leadership and proponents upon entering the Treaty #3 Territory. For more information, please contact Hailey Krolyk at [**hailey.krolyk@treaty3.ca**](mailto:hailey.krolyk@treaty3.ca)

MANITO AKI INAKONIGAAWIN

Quotes from Treaty #3 Elders:

"Everything on earth has to be respected, must be respected. There's animals, and there's trees, there's birds. Everything that's growing - How did they get here? How did we get here? That's how I understand Manito Aki Inakonigaawin. It means to respect all the resources and Mother Earth. In our prayers, we thank the Mother Earth. That's what we thank when we do ceremonies when we do prayers. Offering tobacco to Mother Earth, and when there's thunderstorm nearby, I'll go and offer tobacco. It's all about respect. I guess more or less as a watch over us and don't overdo it kind of thing."

-Isobel White, (Naotkamegwaning First Nation)



Meet the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin Intern!

Boozhoo!

My name is Shy Cobiness, and I am the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin Intern within the Territorial Planning Unit. I am currently enrolled at the University of Manitoba doing my Bachelor of Arts degree - I am majoring in Political Studies with a minor in Native Studies. I am First Nations, and am a band member of Niisachewan Anishinaabe Nation. My passions and interests reside in Indigenous Law and I would love to study in that field in my graduate studies. Primarily, the project I have been assisting on are the Pathways Forward for Manito Aki Inakonigaawin and the Nibi Declaration which includes conducting interviews with Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the Treaty #3 territory. I am so grateful for this opportunity to be working at Grand Council Treaty #3 in the Territorial Planning Unit as I feel that this experience will greatly enhance my knowledge for my future career goals.



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Waasigan Transmission Line

The Waasigan Transmission Line project in our territory will be an important development for all our communities. Currently, negotiations for the development of this transmission line from Thunder Bay to Atikokan and then up to Dryden are ongoing in terms of our communities' role in the project, which is paramount to any progression of the transmission line development. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has future plans to expand the line from Dryden to the Manitoba border (phase 3). The planning for this transmission line has helped all of us to understand the larger context in which the electrical market operates, which will be changing significantly in the future. As IESO continues to support communities with its Indigenous Energy Support Programs, our communities are developing their own strategies to ensure their energy needs are being met for the future. To assist our communities with the understanding of how this transmission line will impact our communities, as well as help us prepare for a Treaty #3 wide energy strategy, the TPU has prepared a Waasigan Landscape Report. As the TPU continues to connect with communities, and interest develops in the project, inquiries can be directed to Michelle Shephard, Regulatory Specialist at **(204) 88-4848** or **Michelle.Shephard@treaty3.ca**.



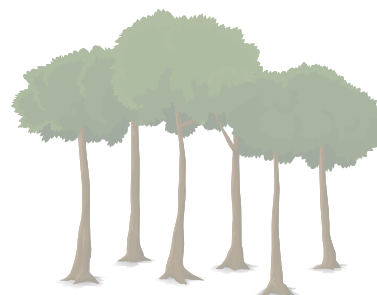
Forest Biomass Action Plan

Currently, forestry related developments also include a Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) driven Forest Biomass Action Plan. They are looking for feedback from communities in terms of the interests and concerns related to economic development, as well as environmental concerns. The TPU would be pleased to collect feedback and forward it to Ministry contacts. Comments, inquiries and concerns can be directed to Michelle Shephard, Regulatory Specialist at **(204) 898-4848** or **Michelle.Shephard@treaty3.ca**.



GCT#3 Forest Sector Strategy and Forestry Toolkits

To address the continued need to support Anishinaabe Forestry practices, Treaty #3 is undertaking the process of a forest sector strategy. This process will develop toolkits for the Nation in order to assert jurisdiction and move economic and environmental priorities forward in the forestry sector. GCT3 is currently working on funding proposals with our partnered organizations and look forward to commencing this project this fall.



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Treaty #3 Energy Survey

For the past two months, the TPU Energy program has been conducting an Energy survey to the surrounding Treaty #3 communities, online and in-person, to gather information on identifying current energy patterns and behavior to assist with the development of a Treaty #3 Energy Plan. The goal of the Energy Program will be to increase Treaty #3 energy capacity and jurisdiction through education and capacity building engagement sessions and workshops led by the GCT3 Energy Coordinator. There are three areas of focus to meet this goal: **(1)** Community energy audits over the next 3 years; **(2)** Building organizational and community energy capacity to teach about energy efficiency; **(3)** and creating new energy projects and partnerships in finding and securing new energy funding opportunities within Treaty #3. Once the surveys are complete, three regional engagement sessions will be conducted to educate participants on sustainable energy practices for a home environment, energy conservation, and gather further feedback to create an initial framework addressing community needs. This framework will then help shape future TPU energy project focuses. In addition, and in partnership with the Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE), a series of energy conservation workshops will be held to educate participants on how to implement household energy efficiency measures, and how they can participate further with TPU energy programs and other ICE initiatives.

Energy surveys will be available online until the end of September. Please follow the link to fill one out today: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CR7RGCX>

For more info please email Stephanie - stephanie.petiquan@treaty3.ca



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Trapping & Wildlife

CORDA (Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement) Applications will be accepted until **October 4, 2021** at midnight. CORDA funding projects include trapping, fishing, forestry, harvesting (such as wild rice), maple syrup production, and many more. Projects may include training such as youth trapper courses, employment, stewardship, traditional learning, equipment (such as humane traps), and supplies (such as trees for planting). The maximum funding level per project is \$35,000. Please contact Tammy Cardinal at Tammy.cardinal@treaty3.ca if you would like an application.

Hunting – This continues to be a tradition of the Anishinaabe to offer tobacco and abide by the wildlife limits of Treaty #3. There are no wasteful practices, unsafe, or inhumane hunting.

Trapping – People trap animals for furs, meat and other valuable products, as well as to protect property and human safety. Trapping is also used for the added purposes of conservation, environmental protection and for maintaining diversity. Trapping for food remains an important economic and traditional cultural activity in communities. Modern trapping respects animal welfare and is often the most practical option for capturing wild animals. The most prevalent species trapped for fur is the muskrat followed by the beaver. Our department continues to advocate for the Trappers of Treaty #3 and to continue to protect, preserve and enhance Treaty and Aboriginal rights for the Nation as a whole. Please contact dave.lindsay@treaty3.ca or tammy.cardinal@treaty3.ca with any questions





Do you have a natural resource use or conservation project in mind for your community, organization, or small business?



THE CANADA ONTARIO RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CORDA) OFFICE IS NOW ACCEPTING FUNDING APPLICATIONS FOR 2022-2023



ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES INCLUDE:

- Forestry
- Trapping
- Fishing
- Harvesting (such as wild rice)
- Resource Planning
- Eco-Tourism
- Maple syrup production
- And more!

Projects may include training (such as a youth trapping courses), employment, stewardship, traditional learning, equipment (such as humane traps), and supplies (such as trees for planting).

To obtain more information about project eligibility or to request an application package, please contact Laura Howard, Secretariat, CORDA Office or visit

<http://www.hiawathafirstnation.com/services-departments/corda/>

For support from the Territorial Planning Unit - please contact Tammy Cardinal at Tammy.cardinal@treaty3.ca

The Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA) is an agreement between Canada, Ontario and First Nations' members in Ontario.

The Agreement promotes resource and economic development opportunities.

First Nations, their members and organizations in Ontario are eligible to apply for funding.

The maximum funding level per project is \$35,000.00

Project approval is subject to funding availability.

The CORDA office has moved, please see new contact info:

**CORDA OFFICE
431 HIAWATHA LINE
HIAWATHA, ON K9J 0E6
TEL: 705-295-4421
FAX: 705-996-4501
EMAIL: CORDA@HIAWATHAFN.CA**

Applications are due to the CORDA Office by 11:59p.m. EST Monday, October 4, 2021.

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING

The Territorial Planning Unit, Emergency Management Team have been working diligently with communities to assist in the development of Emergency Planning.

With the support and feedback provided by members, we were able to identify a number of resources and services that could assist communities prior to, and during an emergency. The goal (safety of members and their community); can be accomplished by predicting challenges and preparing for what lays ahead.

Over the past few months, we have developed a close working relationship with Bimose, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services and Kenora Chiefs Advisory, in support of community members during the fire season. We look forward to strengthening this partnership in the future.

Prior to and during the fire season we were able to obtain 212 air purifiers, that were deployed (on loan) to communities that were impacted by smoke. In addition we also had other deployable devices available such as water pumps & hoses, generators and suppression tools (axes, rakes, saws, and cutters), available for communities as needed.

The air purifiers provided have been and are extremely helpful with smoke caused by wild fires, and were also an asset to helping reduce the spread a COVID-19.

We were successful in receiving the much needed funds for these resources and tools, which will be available (on loan) in the future. Once returned, and they are no longer needed by communities for this year, resources are cleaned, and inventoried to prepare for next year based on requests from members. To help ensure a quick response time and delivery of these deployable resources, five trailers have also been purchased to expedite deployment.

Due to the challenges during fire season and poor air quality we've had in Northwestern Ontario, we are rescheduling IMS training to give everyone the opportunity to participate. Dates are yet to be confirmed for: (IMS100, IMS200, ICS I-300, ICS I-400 and Scribe for Emergency Management etc.) Please visit our website for the new training updates expected in Sept/Oct.

More Training Coming soon!!

For more information, please contact:

Monika Huminuk, Emergency Management Coordinator
monika.huminuk@treaty3.ca | (807) 464 - 4616

Ashley Lindsay, Emergency Management Assistant
ashley.lindsay@treaty3.ca | (807) 407 - 4969



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Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

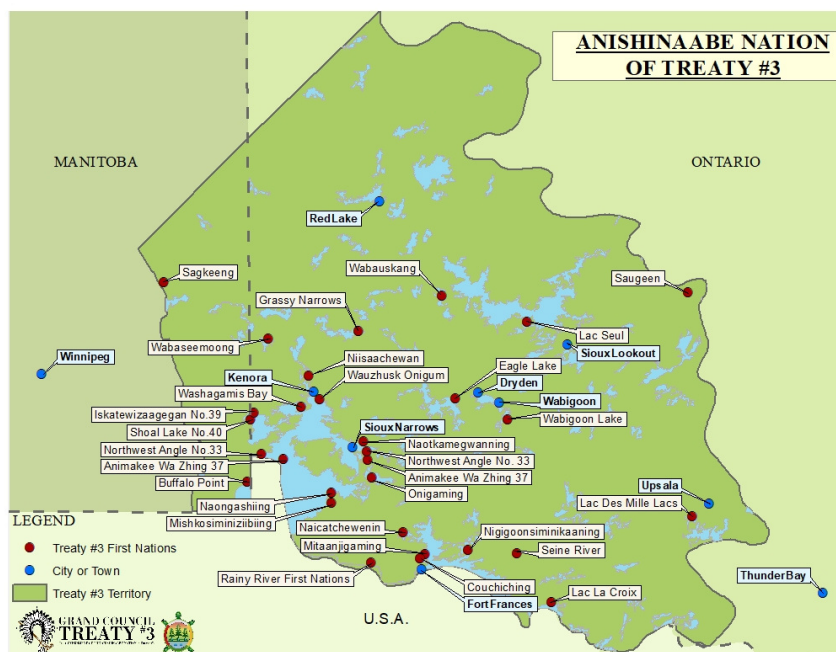
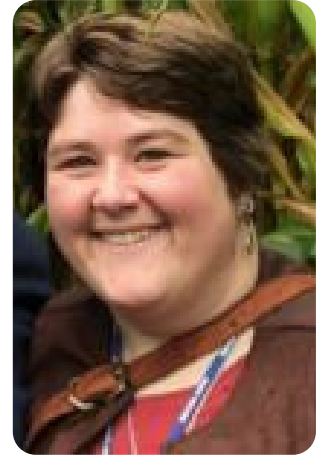
Meet the GIS Specialist!

Hello, my names Rae and I'm Grand Council Treaty #3's GIS Specialist. GIS stands for Geographical Information Systems and is used to look at and compare multiple sources of spatial data. In the TPU this is used for the purposes monitoring, planning, researching and storing data. My job is to coordinate this and build the internal infrastructure we need in the TPU and GCT3 to best support the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3.

Multiple projects have been underway to bring better maps and data to the Treaty #3 communities and GCT3. The Treaty #3 Geoportal, will facilitate data sharing across the nation and access for every community to a free geospatial database. Digital maps to community will be accessible at fingertips, as well as mapping of water structures, schools, hospitals, and anything else required.

I look forward to start working more with each community to support any initiatives as GIS can be applied to any portfolio.

For more info please contact: raeshawn.parsons@treaty3.ca



Invasive Species Monitoring

This Spring, the TPU began building Zebra Mussel settlement samplers which allow for passive monitoring of Zebra Mussel presence in community waters. As of August the TPU has given out 32 settlement samplers to 12 of the Treaty #3 communities. The settlement samplers are hung off of docks and provide an area for Zebra Mussels to grow on that are easily monitored by community members. To date, no Zebra Mussel sightings have been reported on the settlement samplers.



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Resource Revenue Sharing

The RRS Chiefs Committee and Grand Council Treaty #3 continue to work on the Resource Revenue Sharing Amending Agreement. We will notify each community when the agreement is ready to sign and be working with everyone to ratify the final version.

The Grand Council Treaty #3 team is still working on the collection of 20-21 Resource Revenue Sharing Reports and Audits. If you're community is yet to share your report and audit please contact **Chelsea.jack@treaty3.ca** for the report form or any questions.

Flood Vulnerability Study

Grand Council Treaty #3's ongoing Flood Vulnerability Study for the Winnipeg River Drainage Basin is a grassroots approach to understanding the effects that flooding has had and will continue to have on our land, water, and values. We are combining traditional methods with modern technology to create a number of tools that can support future decision-making at both the community and territorial level.

While the pandemic presented some unavoidable delays to the project last year, we have been able to make up for it with recent community visits and data collection. From community interviews to high accuracy drone flights, this summer has definitely been busy! We are continuing to incorporate the collected information into our flooding database, as well as safely complete more interviews as we move into the fall. The support and participation from communities involved has been amazing!

We are looking forward to continuing this important work in the months to come!



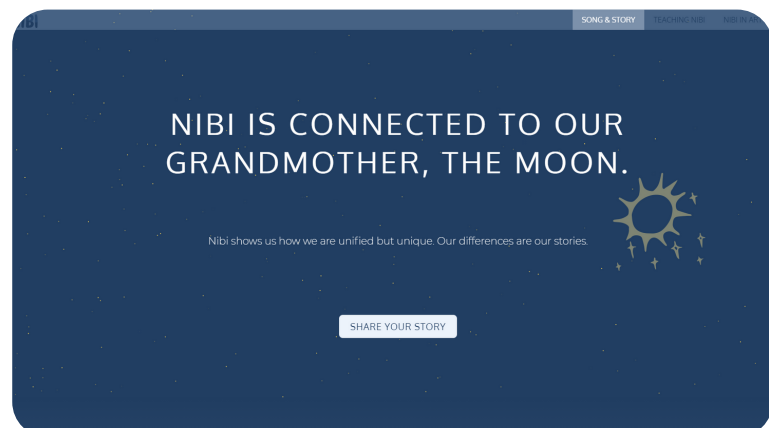
Lands Managers Toolkit

Grand Council Treaty #3 in partnership with Narratives Inc. will be launching the Treaty #3 Lands Manager Toolkit and training program this fall. The Toolkit will provide a practical resource to lands managers throughout the Treaty #3 Territory navigating the realms of Ontario legislation and environmental assessment and Canada's legislation and Impact assessment processes as they relate to natural resource development. If you or your community are interested in taking the training please reach out to the TPU and watch for our training posters to be released this fall!



Nibi Portal

The Territorial Planning Unit in Partnership with the Treaty #3 Women's Council and Decolonizing Water continue to work on the development of the Treaty #3 Nibi Portal. The portal will be a space to create, share and learn about our sacred relationship and responsibilities to Nibi. Watch for the launch of this site as we can't wait to share it with you!



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Niiwin Wendaanimok

The Niiwin Wendaanimok Partnership was established in 2018 as a partnership between the Anishinaabeg of Wauzhushk Onigum, Washagamis Bay, Shoal Lake 40, and Niisaachewan. The Partnership's mandate has been focused on the twinning of Highway 17, which is proposed to be constructed over 3 Phases between the Manitoba / Ontario border and Kenora. The Partnership has been working hard to understand and mitigate the impacts of the Project and to secure opportunities for the four Nations. 2020 saw the completion of Phase 1 of the Anishinaabe Aki Kakendamowin (AAK), which represents documentation of the knowledge and practices associated with the care and protection for the lands, skies, soils, and waters. This knowledge has been used to identify and assess potential impacts of Phase 1 of the Project through the unique Harmonized Impact Assessment (HIA). The HIA was brought into ceremony on April 30th, 2021 and is now publicly available at <https://niiwinwendaanimok.com/#hia>. The Partnership is currently in the process of building an Anishinaabe Guardians Program. This will provide opportunities for community members to be responsible for protecting their traditional territories by enforcing the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin and ensuring all mitigation measures in the HIA are being followed when construction begins.

Lake of the Woods Control Board Current Conditions

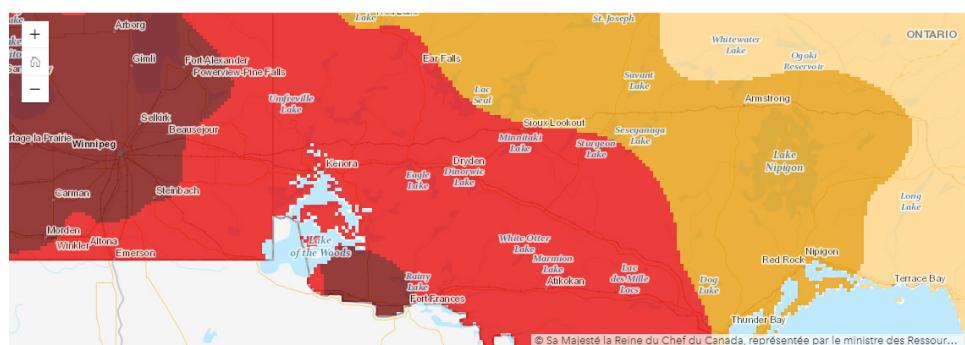
It should not be a surprise to anyone to hear that the Treaty #3 region is in a drought and has been for the last eighteen months, but parts of the region have now moved into the most severe category on both Canadian and American drought monitors: exceptional drought. The graphic below shows the areas most affected by the drought.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has developed some new tools to help quantify drought conditions in the United States. The drought conditions in northern Minnesota are very similar to those around Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake in Ontario. The results for northern Minnesota indicate that it would take 19 inches of precipitation over the next 8 months to end the drought, which is much more than normal. The results also suggest this is very unlikely to happen.

For the last year, the Lake of the Woods Control Board has taken a cautious approach to setting outflows from both Lake of the Woods and Lac Seul, so that what little water is stored in the lakes does not get used up too quickly and allows for flow in the Winnipeg and English Rivers to be maintained for a longer period. This approach is expected to continue over the fall and winter.

More details of the Board's regulation information are available online at: <http://lwcb.ca/noticeboard/regulation/>. To contact the Board's staff, call 1-800-661-5922 ext. 2 or email secretariat@lwcb.ca.

Drought conditions as of August 31, 2021



[Download a high resolution map and narrative \(PDF Version, 2.5 MB\)](#) suitable for printing

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Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) Update:



The NWMO has been moving ahead with Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel by engaging with communities and advancing scientific studies in both the Ignace and South Bruce regions. Recently, the Mobile Learn More Centre (MLMC) made a tour throughout several communities in both sites and our Ignace Learn More Centre is now open to the public. These spaces give us an opportunity to listen to the community and build relationships. Several community studies have been launched to better understand the impact of the proposed repository project and we look forward to seeing the results over the coming year. Indigenous engagement has been active across both sites. Canada's plan will only proceed in an area with informed and willing hosts, where the municipality, First Nation and Métis communities, and others in the area are working together to implement it.

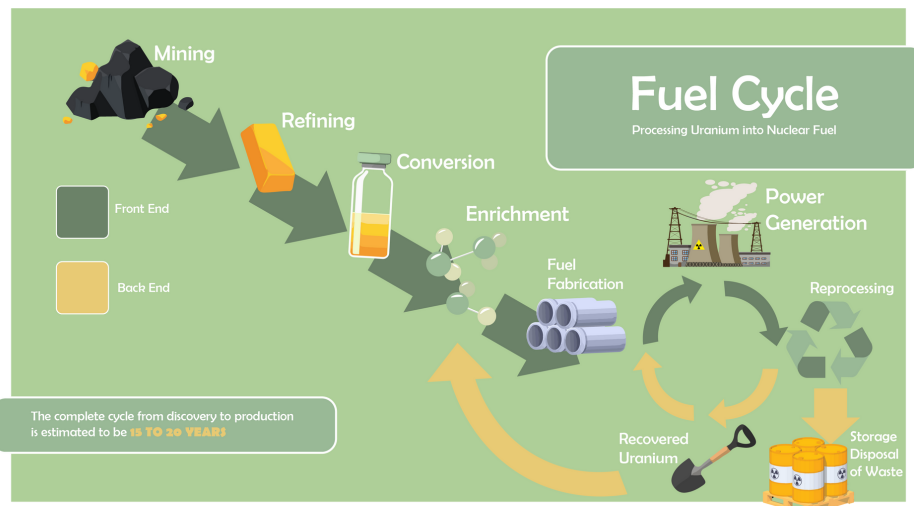
The NWMO's geoscience fieldwork is continuing in both the South Bruce and Ignace areas. Geoscience work in 2021 includes activities such as deep borehole drilling, coring and testing, installation of shallow groundwater monitoring well networks, installation of microseismic monitoring station networks, and seismic surveys. The NWMO's broader environmental baseline monitoring program to determine conditions around the potential repository sites is also continuing. A memorable highlight of NWMO's summer activities has been the eDNA training session led by the University of Guelph. Participants included WLON community members, NWMO environmental staff, and members of North-South Environmental. The NWMO is also working with people – both on the ground and virtually – to address their questions and concerns about radiation exposure during transportation. We continue to seek Canadians' and Indigenous peoples' feedback on transportation through the development of a transportation planning framework and ongoing engagement.



Treaty #3 Nuclear File

Grand Council Treaty #3 in partnership with Narratives Inc. is preparing to launch the Nuclear 101 curriculum. This curriculum was brought together through interviews with knowledge keepers throughout the Treaty #3 Territory and western science research. The Nuclear 101 curriculum will be a tool for Treaty #3 communities to learn about Nuclear energy and its applications and impacts in the Treaty #3 Territory.

Grand Council Treaty #3 also continues to work at the direction of the Chiefs to renegotiate new agreements with NWMO. This is an ongoing process and ensures the continued respect and adherent to Manito Aki Inakonigaawin throughout this process.



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REMINDERS FROM THE TPU!

RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING

A REMINDER TO COMMUNITIES WORKING WITH THE RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT: SOME 19-20 REPORTS AND AUDITS ARE STILL OUTSTANDING. THE COLLECTION OF THE 20-21 REPORTS AND AUDITS ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2021. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR REPORTING TEMPLATES PLEASE CONTACT CHELSEA.JACK@TREATY3.CA



YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT

3RD ANNUAL TREATY #3 YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT OCTOBER 18-21, 2021
WAUZHUSHK ONIGUM FIRST NATION - POW WOW ISLAND
OPEN TO TREATY #3 YOUTH IN HIGH SCHOOL AGED 13-20
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 8, 2021
REGISTER WITH GENEVA KEJICK - GENEVA.KEJICK@TREATY3.CA



UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES TO BE AWARE OF

SCIENCE FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 22 - 24, 2021
RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING REPORTS DUE - SEPTEMBER 30, 2021
GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3 FALL ASSEMBLY - OCTOBER 4 - 7, 2021
YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT - OCTOBER 18 - 21, 2021

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Fish & Wildlife Officer
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Tammy Cardinal
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stephanie.petiquan@treaty3.ca

Shyanne Cobiness
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Kenora, ON P9N3X7



www.gct3.ca/land/territorial-planning-unit



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