



SUMMER 2023

SAMQWAN SAMAQAN + SAGE

Leading progress, innovation, and a long-term solution for water and wastewater management for Atlantic First Nations communities.

The Atlantic First Nations Water Authority (AFNWA) is a not-for-profit, Wabanaki Nations water utility that is owned and operated by First Nations, for First Nations. Our goal is to provide clean drinking water and safe wastewater services to participating First Nations communities.

AFNWA is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and capital upgrades of all water and wastewater assets in each participating First Nations community. We are committed to helping build stronger First Nations communities in Atlantic Canada, and supporting long-term planning initiatives.

PROGRESS UPDATE

» We thank **former Interim CEO Carl Yates** and wish him all the best as he strolls into the wonderful world of retirement. Carl's role was key in AFNWA transitioning from an 'idea into a reality' since his appointment by the Board in 2020. Wela'liek/Woliwon, Carl!



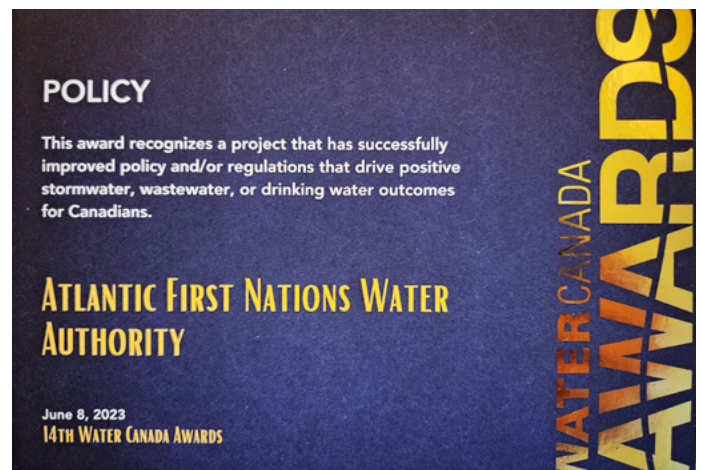
» The summer has also seen **new team members** join the AFNWA family. We welcome Jodie MacPhail, Utility Tech—Industrial Electrician; Nathan Martinello, Junior Utility Technician, who is joining us for summer; and Mark Francis, Bilijk (Kingsclear) Operator. It is our pleasure to have you all join us in further strengthening the Operations department.

» James MacKinnon is now Director of Engagement & Government Relations, one of the **new roles** set forth by the AFNWA Board. John Lam is now Director of Engineering; Chantal LeBlanc is Director of Corporate Services, and still CFO; and James Trimble is our Director of Operations.

» AFNWA would like to **congratulate Board members** and Regional Chiefs, Johanna Bernard (NB) and Paul 'PJ' Prosper (NS/NL), on their new roles. Regional Chief Paul was appointed as an independent member to the Senate of Canada and Regional Chief Johanna was named as the interim National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. We wish you both all the best in your new roles.

» Millbrook has confirmed their memberships, having submitted their respective BCRs. AFNWA now has **12 member** communities in an official capacity. The criteria outlined by ISC in the Service Delivery Transfer Agreement is formally satisfied and now ratified.

» AFNWA received the **Water Canada Award for Policy**, which recognizes a project that has successfully improved policy and/or regulations that drive positive stormwater, wastewater, or drinking water outcomes for Canadians. We also congratulate Jeff Wujcik, Superintendent of Technical Services, and Mark E. MacDonald, Utility Tech, on upgrading their water and wastewater level certifications.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Susheel Arora, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.
Chief Executive Officer



As part of its post-transition objectives, AFNWA required new leadership with a strong background in water and wastewater systems.

Susheel Arora, former Director of Operations at Halifax Water, brings over 20 years of expertise and field work to his new role as AFNWA CEO.

Susheel previously led One Water, an initiative involving wastewater and stormwater collections, water distribution, treatment, and biosolids management for the Halifax region, advocating its holistic approach in the value of water.

His career includes having earned two master's degrees, one in Environmental Engineering and other in Applied Sciences. He also graduated from Harvard Business School's General Management program.

An active member of Engineers Nova Scotia, Susheel also participates in professional organizations such as Water Environment Federation (WEF), American Water Works Association (AWWA), and the International Water Association (IWA).

Susheel practices an active life style and is always keen to explore new countries and cultures. He is the volunteer Vice-Chair of the Board at Zatzman Sportsplex, Dartmouth.

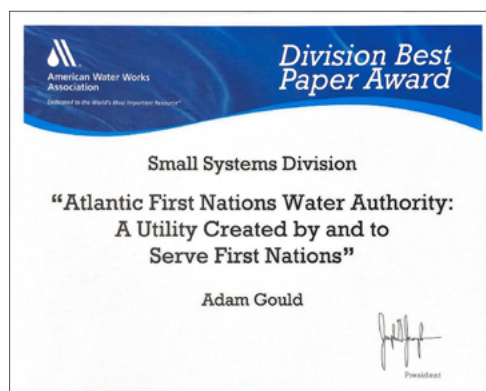
COMMUNICATIONS + OUTREACH

» Congratulations to C+O Manager Adam Gould for receiving the **AWWA Division Best Paper Award**—Small Systems Division at ACE23 in June.

» AFNWA rolled out an awareness campaign on Facebook known as the 3Ps, which focuses on items that are safe to flush down the toilet. Nothing should be flushed down your toilet except for the **3Ps: pee, poop, and toilet paper!**

» We also remind community members that important announcements regarding water and wastewater services are posted on our **Facebook page**. Advisories are currently listed for Elsipogtog and Eskasoni, with updates shared on a weekly basis.

» It is a busy season for **sponsorships**, having wrapped up some over spring, while supporting new initiatives in summer. AFNWA is thankful for opportunities to support the Every Child Matters hockey tournament, the #JStrong charity fundraiser, and the 2023 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games including the 'Family Fun Day' hosted by Mi'kmaw Family & Children's Services of Nova Scotia.



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