

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
2020 WATER SUMMIT
*A NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON URGENT AND
EMERGING WATER ISSUES FACING FIRST NATIONS*



SOMMET SUR L'EAU
DE L'ASSEMBLÉE DES PREMIÈRES NATIONS
*UN DIALOGUE NATIONAL SUR LES PROBLÈMES D'EAU URGENTS ET
ÉMERGENTS AUXQUELS SONT CONFRONTÉES LES PREMIÈRES NATIONS*

Assembly of First Nations

2020 Water Summit

NOVEMBER 24, 2020 • VIRTUAL SUMMIT – 11AM TO 3PM (EDT) • 24 NOVEMBRE 2020 • SOMMET VIRTUEL – 11 H À 15 H (HNE)



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AFN Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the AFN and its offices are located the on unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation, and the Kitigan Zibi Anishinaabeg First Nation. We extend our respect to all First Nations for their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

We also recognize that this event is being held virtually, on the unceded territories of our many First Nations. We extend our respect to all First Nations across Canada.



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Housing, Infrastructure, Water and Emergency Services (HIWES) Sector

- COVID-19 has emphasized the housing and infrastructure crisis across First Nations.
- Our Sector continues to advocate for immediate investments to support the needs of First Nations.
- Our focus is on the fundamental changes required to attain self-sufficiency and self-determination in housing and infrastructure and emergency planning through various initiatives.
- We continue to advocate for full and meaningful involvement in *all* programs and services that affect First Nations.



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Key Water Issues Facing our First Nations

- Long-Term Drinking Water Advisories
 - Federal Commitment to end Long-Term Advisories
 - Speech from the Throne Commitment to close the Infrastructure Gap by 2030
- Inadequate funding
 - Capital and O&M for Water and Wastewater Funding
 - Sunsetting funding programs
- Canada Water Agency
 - A mandate commitment
- Legislation
 - Repeal & Replacement of Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act



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2020 AFN Water Summit

- Invited guests and presentations will focus on urgent and emerging water issues from across First Nations.
- Invited guests include speakers from
 - Leadership
 - Allies and Recognized Leaders
 - Federal departments including:
 - Indigenous Services Canada/First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
 - Environment and Climate Change Canada
 - Infrastructure and Communities



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2020 AFN Water Summit

- Following the Summit, the AFN is holding pre-engagement sessions across Canada to discuss regional priorities around water.
- These will be led by the Regional Water Coordinators.
- These pre-engagements form the basis of AFN's commitment to engage with First Nations from January to March 2021.
- For more information on pre-engagements in your region, contact water-eau@afn.ca.



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2021 Water Engagement Sessions

- The AFN's focus for engagements from January to March 2021 includes:
 - The Repeal and Replacement of the SDWFNA
 - The co-development of a Long-Term Water and Wastewater Strategy
- In addition, the AFN is planning to engage directly with youth and women as a continued commitment from the input provided at last year's Water Symposium.



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Next Steps

- Continue to follow the work of the AFN as we organize engagements and events over the course of the next few months.
- We are planning a virtual National Water Symposium in February 2021
- Your participation and involvement is critical. The work of the AFN is founded on the needs of First Nations, and the direction provided by the Chiefs-in-Assembly.
- We hope you enjoy today's Water Summit!



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National First Nations Water Leadership Award

- The National First Nations Water Leadership Award was created in 2018 which recognizes First Nations individuals and organization that demonstrated leadership and outstanding dedication to the advancement of clean and safe drinking water in First Nations communities.
- The AFN would like to acknowledge and congratulate Eric Sioui. Mr. Sioui is a Huron-Wendat chemical engineering technician and a water treatment systems technician from Wendake, Quebec. He is being recognized for his leadership and for sharing his expertise with First Nations water operators across the province of Quebec through the Circuit Rider Training Program.
- Some of his contributions to water leadership also include the development of a web page to assist water operators with training courses, and the creation of a centralized equipment loan program for materials, including an inspection camera, a leak detector and other water system-related equipment.
- Congratulations! Well done and wishing you the best, Eric!