

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The NSMTC Technical Services Department makes meaningful strides in supporting First Nations through collaboration, education, and innovation. From engaging future leaders at the Indigenous Career Fair to strengthening partnerships with UNSM and advancing water operator training, our team has demonstrated the power of shared knowledge and technical excellence. Events like the Samqwan Mawio'mi, which focused on water regulations, further emphasized the importance of centring Indigenous voices in critical infrastructure discussions.

As we look ahead, I'm excited to build on this momentum with even more opportunities for growth, training, and community partnerships. Together, we're paving the way for sustainable solutions and empowering First Nations through technical leadership. Thank you to everyone who contributed to these successes—your dedication makes a lasting impact.

Maggie Stothart, P.Eng, FEC
Director, Technical Services



INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION: CAREER PATHWAYS FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

In January, the NSMTC Technical Services team had the opportunity to participate in the Indigenous Career Fair at St. Thomas University. The event was a valuable chance to connect with young professionals and discuss **career opportunities in technical fields within First Nation communities**.

Meeting with students and sharing insights into the industry is essential in fostering the **next generation of Indigenous leaders**. These conversations help bridge the gap between education and real-world applications, encouraging youth to explore careers in areas like engineering, environmental sciences, and technology.

Events like this highlight the **importance of mentorship, knowledge-sharing, and representation**.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

In January, the NSMTC Technical Services team had the opportunity to meet with Wasuek and the team from the **Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq**, who traveled from Cape Breton for an in-depth discussion on collaboration and potential partnerships.

Working with neighboring Tribal Councils is essential to fostering **knowledge-sharing** and strengthening technical expertise. By building these connections, communities across Turtle Island can benefit from **shared experiences, innovative solutions, and collective advocacy**.

The NSMTC Technical Services team looks forward to continued collaboration with Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq and other partners to support the growth and sustainability of First Nations communities.



HANDS-ON TRAINING FOR OPERATORS: CRTP BUILDS REAL-WORLD SKILLS

In February, the Circuit Rider Training Program (CRTP) event provided water and wastewater operators with **valuable hands-on experience and industry insights**. Attendees participated in practical workshops covering pipe tapping, valve operation, mechanical joint applications, and hydrant maintenance, while also exploring the latest innovations in water infrastructure. A key highlight was the focus on Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems, where operators learned how to enhance monitoring and control processes for more efficient operations.

Following the training, participants took a certification test and earned Continuing Education Unit credits, reinforcing their newly acquired knowledge.

By combining technical education with real-world applications, the CRTP event helped operators sharpen their skills and improve field performance.



SAMQWAN MAWIO'MI

In March, NSMTC partnered with the Assembly of First Nations New Brunswick Regional office to host an important event focused on **water and wastewater regulations in New Brunswick, viewed through the lens of First Nation communities**. This gathering brought together **Indigenous leaders** such as the Regional Chief, provincial policymakers, and water and wastewater operators to discuss the unique challenges and opportunities that First Nations face in managing water resources.

We explored the importance of **culturally relevant regulatory frameworks** and the need for greater collaboration to ensure that water governance respects both traditional knowledge and modern environmental standards. It was a powerful conversation about building stronger, sustainable water systems that reflect the needs and values of First Nation communities in the province.

The journey continues with the 4th Samqwan Mawio'mi on the horizon for early 2026. Keep an eye out for updates!

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT FOR WATER OPERATORS

The Operator Advisory Group, made up of dedicated water and wastewater operators, meets monthly to share knowledge, and provide input on how NSMTC can better support them and their communities.

In February, the Operator Advisory Group from the member NSMTC First Nations had the opportunity to tour the Research and Productivity Council (RPC) in Fredericton, a leading research and technology organization that provides analytical services, applied research, and technical solutions across various industries. With expertise in environmental testing, water quality analysis, and infrastructure support, RPC plays a vital role in ensuring safe and sustainable water management.

By collaborating and learning from industry experts like RPC, the group continues to **strengthen water management practices**, ensuring the highest standards of safety and efficiency for First Nations.



NSMTC SHINES AT FCM'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

In February 2025, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) hosted its annual Sustainable Communities Conference in Fredericton, NB—bringing together leaders and innovators to **advance climate action and sustainable development**. Among the featured speakers was Daniel Jagoe, Manager of the NSMTC Green Communities Team.

Daniel's presentation, "Tribal Councils and Solid Waste Management in First Nations," highlighted the critical role of Indigenous leadership in environmental stewardship. With a powerful call to action—"Climate Action Requires Indigenous Voices"—he underscored the importance of collaboration between municipalities and Indigenous communities to drive meaningful change.



COMING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN HOUSING PRACTICES

The NSMTC Housing Team proudly hosted its 2nd In-Person Technical Housing Workshop on April 29–30, 2025, in Moncton, NB, bringing together housing professionals from across the region.

The event welcomed 56 participants, including First Nation housing staff and contractors from **New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island**. Over two days, attendees engaged in expert-led presentations and valuable knowledge-sharing sessions focused on **enhancing housing practices** in their communities. Among the attendees were NSMTC's **two new Indigenous youth interns**, who joined the workshop as part of NSMTC's commitment to mentorship and capacity-building in First Nation communities.

Building on this momentum, the **3rd Technical Housing Workshop is in the works and is planned for Fall 2025**. Stay tuned for more details!



OUR TEAM

The Technical Services Department is made up of a dynamic and highly skilled team working to support our member communities across all areas of infrastructure, housing, and environmental stewardship.

Our department brings together a wide range of professional expertise—including **engineers, certified engineering technicians, housing inspectors, certified water and wastewater operators, and environmental professionals**. We also proudly support the next generation of Indigenous leaders through the inclusion of **Indigenous youth**, as well as dedicated administrative professionals who keep our operations running smoothly.

Together, we deliver hands-on support and strategic guidance on everything from housing inspections and infrastructure development to sustainable water systems and environmental protection. Our team's strength lies not just in our qualifications, but in our shared commitment to **building safe, vibrant, and resilient communities**.



TECHIE TIDBITS

VOLUME 1

MAY 31, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

C RTP Training Event
June 26, 2025
Dartmouth, NB

3rd Technical Housing Workshop
November 2025
Fredericton, NB



OPPORTUNITIES

We're Hiring!

Are you passionate about making a difference in First Nation communities? The NSMTC Technical Services Department is growing—and we're looking for dedicated professionals to join our team.

Current Openings:

- **Infrastructure Services Coordinator**

To learn more or apply, visit: www.nsmtc.ca/careers

Get Involved

Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting your career, there are many ways to engage with our department. From **mentorship and youth internships to training and conference opportunities**, we're committed to creating space for Indigenous leadership in all areas of infrastructure and environmental protection.

Have questions or want to get involved?

✉ Email us TechServices@nsmtc.ca

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