

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

As we move through another busy year, I'm proud of the continued dedication of the Technical Services team and the strong partnerships we are continuing to build with our member communities. Over the past months, our staff have been **visiting communities, connecting with leadership and staff, and working together** to support infrastructure, housing, and environmental initiatives that help **strengthen our communities**. Our team has also been **engaging with youth** at career fairs and continuing to invest in training to ensure staff are prepared and safe while working in the communities we serve.

Just as important as the work we do every day is the way our team gives back. From participating in the Natoaganeg Parade of Lights, to organizing the Nuelewimk Toy Drive in support of the Nignen Women's Shelter, our staff **remain committed to supporting families and community initiatives whenever possible**. These efforts reflect the spirit of collaboration and community care that guide our work, and we look forward to continuing this important work together in the year ahead.

With many thanks,
Jim Ward
NSMTC General Manager



PRIZES TO A GOOD CAUSE

For the **second year in a row**, the Green Communities team decorated the utility trailer and entered the **Natoaganeg Parade of Lights** on December 13, 2025. Volunteers from several NSMTC departments joined in to help hand out treat bags and spread holiday cheer to community members along the parade route. The NSMTC float was **awarded 2nd prize, valued at \$400**. In the spirit of the season, the prize was **donated to the Natoaganeg Community Food Centre** to support their holiday food drive. It was a great opportunity to take part in a fun community event while also giving back during the holiday season.



TOY DRIVE SUCCESS

This December, NSMTC's Technical Services team organized the **Nuelewimk Toy Drive**, raising a total of **\$7,174** along with many **toy donations**. Donation boxes were placed in Natoaganeg and at Giant Tiger, and the team also hosted a full-day drive-through donation event. **All donations were given to the Nignen Women's Shelter, where the toys were distributed to Indigenous children and families in need**. The team would like to thank everyone who contributed and helped make the holiday season a little brighter for families in our communities.



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TALKING RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Recently, Dan, our Green Communities Manager, was featured on a podcast discussing the **importance of collaboration between municipalities and First Nation communities** as recycling programs transition to Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP). During the conversation, Dan shared insights on how communities are preparing for these changes, what EPR means for local recycling programs, and how residents are responding to the transition. The discussion highlighted the **value of strong partnerships and community engagement as we work toward more sustainable waste management and a circular economy for the future.**



MEETING WITH OUR YOUTH

This winter, Technical Services attended **four career and recruitment fairs, connecting with youth** and sharing more about the work we do to support our communities. These events are a great opportunity to **introduce young people to potential career paths** in areas like housing, infrastructure, and environmental services.



CONTINUOUS TRAINING

In February, the entire Technical Services team completed **Intermediate First Aid training** to ensure our staff are well prepared when working in our member communities. Keeping our training up to date is a priority, as our team often works in the field and directly within communities. This training helps ensure **we can respond quickly and safely** in emergency situations while continuing to support the important work being done across our communities. **Health and safety is always a top priority for our team, both for our staff and for the community members we work alongside.**



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COMMUNITY VISITS & CONVERSATIONS

So far in 2026, our Infrastructure Services team has visited Eel River Bar, Indian Island, and Metepenagiag, and we look forward to connecting with the remaining member communities soon. These visits give us the chance to **meet with Band staff in their own communities to talk about infrastructure and housing priorities** for the year ahead. We review current projects, discuss maintenance needs, and share updates on programs and tools that support community infrastructure planning. When possible, housing staff also join the conversations to talk about housing updates, upcoming workshops, and plans for the year ahead. Most importantly, **these meetings are a chance to connect face-to-face and hear directly from communities about what matters most.**



REGIONAL SAMQWAN GATHERING

On February 17–18, the Weso'tmk Samqwan team hosted the **Regional Samqwan Gathering**, bringing together **First Nation leadership, Band staff, and water and wastewater operators from across the region**. The event included both online presentations and in-person discussions at the Delta Moncton, and was organized in collaboration with the **New Brunswick Office of the Assembly of First Nations**. The gathering gave participants the chance to share updates, learn from one another, and talk about important issues related to **protecting our water and ensuring safe drinking water for our communities**. Many also discussed current concerns such as drought conditions and future improvements to community water systems. Overall, it was a great opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and **continue working together to protect water for future generations**.



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