

Line 3 and Prairie Region News

For Indigenous Nations, governments and groups



Line 3 and Prairie Region News is one way that Enbridge seeks to keep Indigenous Nations, governments and groups up to date on our projects and operations on the Canadian Prairies, with a focus on the Line 3 Replacement Program (L3RP). We are committed to keeping you informed throughout the lifecycle of our projects and operations and hope you find this publication to be timely and relevant. As always, our Community & Indigenous Engagement team would be pleased to answer your questions. To get in touch, please see the contact information at the end of this newsletter.

Final step in Line 3 pipeline project underway

Decommissioning work begins in southeastern Saskatchewan.

Along a 1,097-km corridor—stretching underground across the Prairies from Hardisty, AB to the U.S. border at Gretna, MB—is a new, 36-inch pipeline placed into service by Enbridge in November 2019. With the above-ground pipeline right-of-way returned to its pre-construction condition, work to decommission the ‘legacy’ Line 3 continues in 2022.

“This is the final step toward completing the entire Line 3 Replacement Program in Canada,” says Construction Manager Allen Sawatzky. “We’re done in most of Manitoba and this year we’re focused on the remaining segments of Line 3 from Hardisty and throughout Saskatchewan to west of Cromer (Manitoba).”

The remaining decommissioning will focus on three segments, beginning with the 255-km leg from Regina to Cromer in July and followed by the other segments (Hardisty to Kerrobert; Kerrobert to Regina) in August. Work in each segment will have a peak workforce of about 60, including crews of between seven and 10 construction and contract personnel.

The work is being done with strong Indigenous participation. Only Indigenous-owned companies were invited to bid as general contractors in all of the four decommissioning segments. Each of the successful general contractors is responsible for overseeing decommissioning in their segment, including managing subcontractors. With the decommissioning this includes the major tasks of isolation, segmentation and rail fill.



Inclusion is an important component of Line 3 decommissioning, with only Indigenous-owned general contractors invited to bid. During the recently completed Manitoba segment, Indigenous men and women accounted for approximately 75% of the workforce. Pictured (from left) during the Manitoba work last summer are: Travis Favel (Enbridge); Ellis Cochrane (Peguis First Nation); Dennis Esperance (Enbridge); and Jade Dewar (Manitoba Metis Federation).

“Decommissioning is a logistically challenging job,” says Sawatzky. “It’s different than building a pipeline—you don’t just work from kilometre zero to kilometre 100 in a straight line. You go back-and-forth, from site-to-site, and the particular job in Manitoba involved 31 different locations for segmentation, valve isolation and for installing engineered material in the pipe beneath railway and road crossings.”

Enbridge acknowledges that the Prairie Region liquids system stretches across Treaties 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7 as well as the Métis Homeland. Enbridge respects the histories, languages, and cultures of all First Peoples, whether they be of First Nation, Métis or Inuit descent, and appreciates that their presence continues to enrich Canada’s vibrant communities. We acknowledge all those who share a connection with this land. We are all treaty people.

Decommissioning 101

A decommissioned pipeline is defined by the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) as one that is taken out of service safely and permanently while other existing or new pipelines in the same right-of-way continue to provide service to end users.

Enbridge has approval from the CER (formerly the National Energy Board) to decommission Line 3 in place, a standard practice which minimizes the potential effects on communities and the stability issues that surround soil disturbance.

“Leaving Line 3 in place avoids the added disturbance and significant construction activities that excavation and removal would bring,” said Brett Fixsen, Supervisor, Maintenance Projects, at Enbridge. “Leaving the line in the ground also reduces the risk of soil and slope instability as well as settlement and compaction issues that could compromise the safety of active pipelines sharing that right-of-way.”

Line 3 decommissioning will involve cleaning, disconnecting, segmenting, filling the pipeline at strategic points and ongoing monitoring, even after decommissioning is complete.

Here is a look at the five steps involved in decommissioning:

- 1. Clean the pipeline:** A combination of cleaning instruments (often referred to as ‘pigs’) and cleaning solution are used to wipe and clean the pipeline.
- 2. Disconnect the pipeline:** The pipeline is physically disconnected and sealed off from active operational facilities, like pump stations, to prevent oil from re-entering the system.
- 3. Segment the pipeline:** Permanent physical barriers are created inside the pipeline to prevent the pipeline from acting as a conduit. This includes valves and permanent segmentation installations. Valves are closed and permanently disabled, and small pieces of the pipeline are removed so it can be sealed at select locations.
- 4. Strategically fill the pipeline:** The line will be filled with an engineered material at railway crossings, which can also provide protection against water conduits.
- 5. Monitor the pipeline:** Cathodic protection will continue to be applied to the decommissioned pipeline. It will be monitored with regular pipeline patrols, pipeline signs indicating exact location, and depth-of-cover surveys, and it will remain on Click Before You Dig program databases.



The journey to reconciliation continues

Report spotlights the transformation of relationships between Enbridge and Indigenous peoples; sets the stage for a formal 2022 reconciliation action plan.

Across North America, Indigenous communities are gradually emerging from the long shadow of a past scarred by systemic social and economic exclusion.

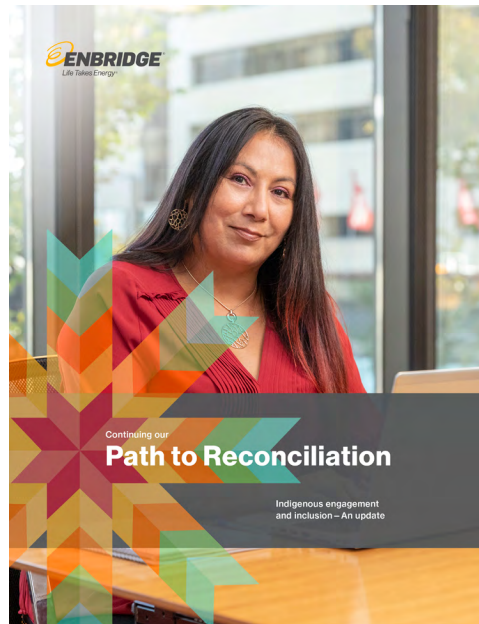
“Healing takes time and sustained, willful action—but the only way society can move forward is by openly acknowledging history and then embarking on a path toward reconciliation,” says Paul Eberth, Director, Tribal Engagement with Enbridge in the U.S. “We believe our industry has a responsibility to accelerate the pace of change by working collaboratively with Indigenous leaders to remove traditional socio-economic barriers and help build a brighter future.”

For Enbridge, a company with a long history of engaging Indigenous peoples, the journey of reconciliation can be said to have taken root on both sides of the border with the now-completed Line 3 pipeline replacement project (L3RP).

“This project generated more than \$450 million in Indigenous spending in Canada alone, a record Enbridge is very proud of,” says Kim Brenneis, Director, Community & Indigenous Engagement Canada. “Looking ahead, I think the Line 3 project will be seen as a blueprint—not only for how companies engage on major projects but for how we do business and how we seek to deepen our relationships with Indigenous communities.

Line 3 is among the many signs of progress referenced in a recently published Enbridge report, [Continuing our Path to Reconciliation](#), which covers a timeframe of June 2018 to the end of 2021. The report spotlights the transformation in relationships that is taking place between Enbridge and Indigenous peoples and sets the stage for the subsequent publishing of a formal reconciliation action plan in 2022 that will mark a first for Enbridge in 2022.

In the meantime, here are a couple of brief examples from Enbridge’s current report that demonstrate our Indigenous engagement plans in action.



Newly published Enbridge report chronicles Indigenous engagement progress since 2018.

Enhancing engagement through a pandemic

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, stay-at-home orders issued across North America and with Indigenous communities locked down to outside visitors, Enbridge, like so many organizations and individuals globally, needed to find new and innovative ways to remain connected. In-person became virtual/online workshops and meetings to deliver materials, provide opportunities for dialogue, seek feedback on projects and continue to ensure inclusion in field activities.

In eastern Canada, this included taking archaeological field survey video footage to share with Indigenous groups to facilitate virtual monitoring of proposed projects. In the Prairie provinces, in-person roundtable sessions with Indigenous groups were shifted to hosting webcasts to provide updates on the Line 3 Replacement Program, including the Line 3 Decommissioning regulatory filings. In northeast British Columbia, this meant mounting video cameras on helicopters completing area flyovers to share and review with Indigenous communities to facilitate discussions around caribou habitat restoration.

Walking the line in Minnesota

Experts from 30 federally recognized Tribes collaborated on a landmark, three-year (2017 to 2019) Tribal Cultural Resource Survey of the full 337-mile (541-km) L3RP route through Minnesota.

Managed by the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, 60 significant cultural locations were identified in advance of pipeline construction for further avoidance, mitigation treatments or tribal monitoring. Enbridge incorporated these recommendations into its project plans and construction was supervised by tribal monitors with the authority to stop construction.

“A project like this has never been done across Tribal communities or energy companies,” says Jim Jones, a Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe member and a project manager for the survey. “They really set a precedent.”

A pioneering environmental partnership

In February 2022, Enbridge and five Indigenous communities in Alberta announced our intention to work collaboratively to advance a proposed carbon transportation and storage hub west of Edmonton.

Once built, the Open Access Wabamun Carbon Hub will transport captured carbon-dioxide (CO₂) via pipeline, from large industrial operators (such as Capital Power and Lehigh Cement) in the west-Edmonton region, and safely and permanently sequester it in deep underground geological formations. Such projects are seen by organizations like the International Energy Agency as critical if countries like Canada are going to effectively combat climate change and achieve near- and long-term goals, including net-zero emissions by 2050.

In March, Enbridge was one of six proponents awarded rights to pursue development of a carbon dioxide (CO₂) sequestration hub. Since then, work has focused on further evaluation of the local geology. The Hub's carbon transportation and sequestration

facilities will be co-developed and ultimately co-owned with our local Indigenous partners.

Four Treaty 6 Nations which make up the First Nations Capital Investment Partnership (Alexander First Nation, Alexis First Nation, Enoch Cree Nation and Paul First Nation), have signed an agreement with Enbridge to pursue ownership in future carbon transportation and storage projects associated with the Hub. Under a separate agreement, the Lac Ste. Anne Métis Community will also have an opportunity to acquire an equity interest.

Enbridge is committed to maximizing benefits to the participating Indigenous communities. As carbon transportation and storage projects proceed within the Hub, Enbridge will look to utilize Indigenous contractors as direct contractors, sub-contractors, and suppliers. Indigenous procurement, training



Treaty 6 Chiefs (from left): Chief George Arcand Jr. (Alexander First Nation); Chief Arthur Rain (Paul First Nation); Chief Tony Alexis (Alexis First Nation) and Chief Billy Morin (Enoch Cree Nation).

and hiring policies will be implemented during Hub construction and operations.

In addition, Enbridge and our Indigenous partners will work collaboratively on engagement plans for each community to improve understanding and knowledge, while developing and putting in place measures to mitigate any potential impacts to land, water and climate, traditional and cultural use of the land, and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

“ This path creates an opportunity to generate wealth, but more importantly it allows sustainable economic sovereignty for our communities. We are creating a healthy future for the next seven generations to thrive. We’re looking forward to working with industry leaders who share our values of environmental stewardship and to collaborate with Enbridge on world-scale carbon transportation and storage infrastructure investments. ”

George Arcand Jr., Chief of the Alexander First Nation

“ This is an exciting opportunity to meaningfully involve local Indigenous communities in the energy transition underway today. We’re thrilled to be working with these Treaty 6 Nations and the Lac Ste. Anne Métis Community to advance projects that will benefit Indigenous people and help Alberta and Canada meet its climate change goals while supporting economic recovery. ”

Colin Gruending, Executive Vice President and President, Liquids Pipelines

About this collaboration

The four Treaty 6 First Nations involved in this collaboration represent, collectively, more than 10,000 on- and off-reserve members. Participating groups include:



Alexander First Nation is a Treaty 6 First Nation located west of Morinville, Alberta. Alexander First Nation has a mission to protect Inherent Treaty Rights through tactical initiatives, community enhancement, law development and continuous improvement.



Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation is a Treaty 6 First Nation located west of Edmonton. Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation focuses on protecting Inherent Treaty Rights, maintaining the community's culture, language, history, and customs, working with the Elders and staff to revive tribal laws, building businesses, generating capital, improving education services, advancing wellness and supporting equity, justice and the development of future generations.



Enoch Cree Nation is a Treaty 6 First Nation located on Edmonton's western border. Enoch Cree Nation has a mandate to work collectively towards an atmosphere of respect and trust for the community by providing opportunities, resources and programs that will enhance the quality of life for future generations to work and prosper.



Paul First Nation is a Treaty 6 First Nation located on the eastern shore of Lake Wabamun, Alberta (Wabamun Indian Reserve #133 A & B). Paul First Nation is a mix of Cree and Nakoda origin. Priorities of Paul First Nation include the ongoing development of land, fiscal, protection of the environment and human resources, seeking business and employment opportunities within the province and abroad for the benefit of members and the fair distribution of benefits and opportunities.

Saying farewell...

In memory of a dearly departed friend, colleague and respected community engagement professional.



The Enbridge family is mourning the tragic loss of one of our own— Jeff Yanko of Wilcox, Saskatchewan, who passed away on April 30 at the age of 52 following a brief battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Kathie, a son and two daughters.

As a member of our Prairie Region team, Jeff's most recent role focused on reaching out and building relationships with communities, primarily in his home province of Saskatchewan.

"Jeff was intensely focused on making a difference in communities—and he did," remembers Kim Brenneis, Director, Community & Indigenous Engagement. "He was known for his dedication, caring style and ability to build authentic relationships—both within Enbridge and with community leaders, many calling him the 'heart of Enbridge.'"

Jeff worked to ensure Enbridge community engagement programs and donations were delivered, often in person, to hundreds of community organizations across Saskatchewan and Manitoba. He was also passionate about safety and played a critical role in redesigning Enbridge's public awareness program, supporting emergency response and delivering our Safe Community program.

"Since his passing, many Indigenous groups, rural municipalities, towns and villages that dealt with Jeff have passed on their condolences to us and his family and this outreach speaks to the respect they all had for him," Kim says. "One Chief shared that he had an opportunity to discuss the plight Indigenous Nations face each day with Jeff and found him to be sincere in his interest and deeply remorseful. The Chief wanted Enbridge and the Yanko family to know he and his community viewed Jeff as a good man.

"Jeff's humanity and passion will be greatly missed by all of us at Enbridge and never forgotten," Kim concludes. "Building a respectful rapport, gaining trust and building lasting relationships—that was right up Jeff's alley...and he wore his Enbridge jersey with pride."

Honoring a special day and month

To honor National Indigenous Peoples Day (NIPD) and National Indigenous History Month, Enbridge holds several in-person and virtual events to give our employees an opportunity to learn and reflect on Indigenous history.

This year, we created a new giving opportunity for employees to support Indigenous culture and legacy-building initiatives within Canada. Funds employees contribute to these initiatives will be matched by Enbridge, doubling the community or organizational benefit.

Kevin Berube, a senior advisor with our Community and Indigenous Engagement team in Ontario and Quebec, one of a growing number of Indigenous employees at Enbridge says, "NIPD is a day that is unique to each person, as our experiences are unique to each of us. It's a good time to pause for reflection so that we don't forget."

We want to hear from you

For more information on Enbridge's Prairie Region projects or operations, you can reach us as follows:

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Or you may contact your local Enbridge representative:

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