



News Release

ATTAWAPISKAT RESOURCES INC. HONOURED WITH 2012 NADF “CORPORATION” BUSINESS AWARD

Attawapiskat First Nation, Ontario, October 25, 2012 – At a ceremony yesterday in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Attawapiskat Resources Inc. was named winner of the **2012 Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund (NADF) Business Award** – in the *Corporation* category. These awards are among the most prestigious in Northern Ontario. They recognize the important economic role of Aboriginal entrepreneurs and business organizations.

In accepting the award, Board Chairperson Steve Hookimaw said, “Attawapiskat Resources is still fairly young, but we already have a growing record of business development that is improving opportunities for Attawapiskat First Nation members. We are also contributing to the economy of Northern Ontario as a whole.”

NADF selected Attawapiskat Resources for this year’s *Corporation* Award in recognition of a body of work that has resulted in a number of milestones:

Business Creation:

- **Attawapiskat Catering Limited Partnership (ACLP)** was established to secure the \$8 million annual contract with DeBeers Canada for camp and catering services at the Victor Diamond Mine.
- Employment resulted for approximately 100 employees with about 33% from Attawapiskat. Some 75% of employees are Aboriginal; most of these are from James Bay coastal communities.
- The outcome has been the creation of experienced services and catering capacity with potential to bid on other contracts.

- **Attawapiskat Cell Phone Services Ltd.** was the result of a two-year effort to bring basic 2G telephone service to community members. Attawapiskat is now the only remote, fly-in community along the James Bay Coast with service.

- **Advanced Security** was acquired earlier in 2012 and brings a 25-year positive track record in providing industrial and commercial security services.
- The Timmins-based business already employs 130 people in the area, including a partnership with Moose Cree First Nation for services at the OPG Lower Mattagami site.

- A total of **eight joint ventures** with private sector partners were created to supply requirements **at the DeBeers Canada Victor Diamond Mine** site.
- These commercial activities include explosives and blasting services, helicopter transportation, steel fabrication and mechanical warranty work on heavy equipment.

Business-specific Training:

- ARI ran a two-week training program in the community, during which 10 individuals learned food preparation and safety.
- A second program has now been launched – a two-year, “Cooks Certification” program, with training for at least seven individuals from Attawapiskat and other coastal communities.
- The trainees will serve as a feeder group to fill requirements at Attawapiskat Catering Limited Partnership.

Community Investment:

- Total contributions of \$2.2 million have been made to date in the Attawapiskat First Nation Community Trust.
- Since March 2010, donations of \$100,000 have been provided to individual community member requirements.
- Full time, local employment for two Attawapiskat First Nation members continues.

“I am very pleased that NADF has recognized Attawapiskat Resources in this way – not only for the role it has played so far, but for the commitment to our community that has become its driving force,” responded Chief Theresa Spence.

Attawapiskat Resources invests in the future of the First Nation by negotiating and creating for-profit businesses. Revenues generated from these enterprises go toward a Community Trust and other member requirements. The organization is wholly-owned by the Attawapiskat First Nation.

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