

- Nearly every community's water plant system is in need of replacement or repairs.
- Nearly all communities face a lack of funding for the hiring and training of qualified staff and the safe operation of water systems.

“The Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario must uphold their legal obligation to provide adequate support and resources to immediately address the dire need for safe water and wastewater infrastructure for NAN First Nations,” said Waboose “We support the development of water quality standards, but only if such standards are developed in consultation with NAN First Nations and are fully funded by the federal and provincial governments.”

In July 2010, The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution declaring safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right essential to the full enjoyment of life and all other human rights. Furthermore, standards of proper social conditions are brought forward in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 21 “...*Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions...sanitation...*”.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty No. 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty No. 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario.

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