



New Post Creek Project News

Newsletter #2

October, 2008



The late Peter Sutherland Sr. on New Post Creek.
Photo provided by the family of Peter Sutherland Sr.

The Peter Sutherland Sr. Generating Station

Hydroelectric generating stations like the one proposed for New Post Creek are often named for a place nearby, like the Abitibi Canyon Generating Station, or for someone involved in the development of the energy system in Ontario, like the Sir Adam Beck Generating Stations at Niagara Falls. Peter Archibald, a former chief and the Government Liaison and Community Advisor for Coral Rapids Power, has suggested a name for the proposed New Post Creek project that will resonate more with the people of Taykwa Tagamou Nation. He has proposed the name, the Peter Sutherland Sr. Generating Station to honour and remember the late elder of the Taykwa Tagamou Nation.

Peter Sutherland Sr. grew up around New Post Creek and trapped, hunted, and fished in the area where the proposed dam is to be constructed. He spoke often of the abundance of animals and fish around New Post, which were important to his and his family's survival. He spoke about his old trapline, and how he would travel up New Post Creek, near where the old Hudson's Bay Company site is, and make portages in the area. He was raised in the bush and knew the traditional teachings and ways of his ancestors. Peter Sutherland Sr. raised his family in the area, and his children and grandchildren continue to come back to this place to hunt, fish, and trap. Peter Sutherland Sr. passed away in 1998 and was the eldest member of the community at the time, and is remembered by his family,

Wachay!

The team is moving forward with the New Post Creek project and wants to keep the community informed about our progress.

Peter Archibald,

Community Advisor & Government Liaison

Sue Hartwig,

Interim CEO

Project Status

Coral Rapids Power continues to work with Ontario Power Generation on the work required to start the New Post Creek Project.

The next steps include determining the process for releasing the generating station site from the provincial park, completing the agreement with the Moose Cree First Nation about the development, completing a variety of legal agreements required in this partnership, and staffing Coral Rapids Power.

This newsletter will give you more information on what we have been doing since the last newsletter.

Coral Rapids Goes Online

A website for Coral Rapids Power has been launched! You can visit the website at www.coralrapidspower.com.

This website has copies of the newsletters, photos, information about the New Post Creek Project. It will also provide information on any upcoming events and any other projects that Coral Rapids Power undertakes.

The website will be your source for new information between the newsletters and will provide you with the information you need to contact the project team and learn more.

Visit the website today, and let us know what you think is missing, or what you would like to see more of.

friends, and the whole of the Taykwa Tagamou Nation.

There are a great number of roads, towns, and regions in Ontario that are named for people who made impacts on the history of the province or the area, but rarely are these names those of the First Nations people who lived there. This is an opportunity to honour an elder and ensure that his name will remain in the minds of people for many decades. It will stand not only as a reminder not just of Peter Sutherland Sr., but of the Taykwa Tagamou Nation and its people, who traditionally used these lands and waters to sustain their life, and who still do.

Key Project Updates

Water Gauge

The May 2008 newsletter described the need to install a water gauge on the New Post Creek near the potential development site to gather accurate flow data. The Coral Rapids Power/Ontario Power Generation team submitted a formal Project Description for this installation to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Once MNR issues a permit to install the gauge, the Water Survey of Canada will install this equipment for the project. The Water Survey of Canada is the national agency responsible for the collection, interpretation and dissemination of water resource data and information in Canada and have significant expertise in completing this type of work. Water Survey of Canada will install the gauge using its regular proven standards for this type of work. They will utilize best practices that are incorporated into the Water Survey of Canada's training program. As the lead national agency in this area, they have decades of experience and use new technology to ensure accurate and unintrusive monitoring.

The information provided by the gauge is especially vital for the engineering assessment that needs to be completed prior to any hydroelectric project proceeding. It provides vital data for the economic assessment for the project engineering capability and also for the Environmental Assessment.

The proposed location for the gauge is in the stretch of New Post Creek that starts approximately 100 meters downstream of the proposed weir for the hydroelectric development to the top of New Post Creek Falls. The final location of the gauge will be determined by Water Survey of Canada in conjunction with MNR. TTN/OPG has submitted a Project Description to MNR that identifies a Preferred Alternative and a Compromise Alternative with respect to the type of gauge installation.

Surveying

Survey crews are scheduled to start field work on Tuesday October 7, 2008. The purpose of the survey is to mark out the southern boundary of the provincial park on both sides of the Abitibi River. The crew will also mark out the park boundary along both sides of New Post Creek. There will be survey stakes placed at 120 meters (about 400 feet) from the high water mark on both sides of the creek, running about 1 km (6/10 of a mile) upstream from the proposed intake site.

There is an estimated 17 days of field work required to complete the surveying. The surveyor plans to hire a "surveyor's helper" from the TTN community. Peter Archibald is working with the surveyor to coordinate the hiring of this helper.

Once the survey is complete further field activities will follow this year before snow fall or starting again in June 2009. It is important to establish where the boundaries of the provincial park are so that the plans for the generating station can be accurately developed, and so that the release of lands from the park is done correctly.



New Post Creek near the proposed project site.

Geotechnical and Geophysical Field Investigation

After the park boundaries are marked, there are plans to carry out a preliminary geotechnical assessment of the site on Crown land, outside of the park. The purpose of this study is to confirm that there is enough good bedrock on which to build the power house and penstock. This work is important because the structure needs to be safe and secure for decades.

The field work will include clearing of access trails to the powerhouse site, and drilling at the site. The drill equipment is mounted on a tracked vehicle about the size of a small bull dozer. This work will likely be carried out next summer or possibly in February or March 2009 depending on Ministry of Natural Resources permit approvals.

Fisheries Baseline Studies

Coral Rapids Power and Ontario Power Generation are planning on hiring a fisheries biologist to undertake some baseline fisheries work in anticipation of undertaking an Environmental Assessment. It is generally a good idea to have at least two years of baseline data on fish spawning and habitat.

These studies will study the current populations of fish, if there are any in the area and their habitat so that the project team can understand how these populations may be impacted by the construction of the generating station, and the diversion of water.

WIN \$250!

The proposed Peter Sutherland Sr. Generating Station needs a logo, and Coral Rapids Power wants to use a design from the community.

Give your drawing of the proposed logo to Peter Archibald by October 31st, 2008 and you might win \$250 and your logo will be part of history!