

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Consulting Engineers from Niagara Falls Help Protect the Environment and Support Northern Ontario Communities

(OTTAWA) October 25, 2016 – For its ground breaking work on the Lower Mattagami River project in northern Ontario, Niagara Falls consulting engineers Hatch won an Award of Excellence Tuesday night at the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering (CCE) Awards gala. This hydroelectric project was recognized for its technical excellence and its social, economic and environmental contribution to the nearby Kapuskasing and First Nations communities. Because of the innovative work of these consulting engineers, the project not only added almost 500 MW of power without building additional dams, but 70% of its workforce was comprised of local workers including First Nations workers who acquired valuable training and work experience.



“These awards showcase the outstanding talent and expertise of consulting engineers across Canada,” said ACEC President and CEO John Gamble. “By recognizing projects with national awards, we highlight the important contributions of engineering firms to Canadians and the huge impact they have both here at home and around the world.”

Providing training and jobs for local communities

This \$2.6 billion project which was delivered on budget and ahead of schedule, employed 1,200 people, 70% of whom were drawn from local communities. On a broader level, the project also supported the local economy by enabling several First Nations companies to share approximately \$250 million in contracts. Thanks to the efforts and collaborative spirit of Hatch’s team, First Nations workers represented 25% of the project’s workforce, and 350 First Nations people benefitted directly from career training.

Engineering and environmental feats

While allowing the existing stations to operate throughout construction, the Lower Mattagami River project added almost 500 MW of power by updating three generating stations and completely replacing a fourth. “We are deeply honoured to receive this recognition for the Lower Mattagami River Project, Ontario Power Generation’s largest hydro project in 40 years,” said Fadi Chidiac, project manager, Hatch. “As Owner’s Representative, we were able to manage complex technical and environmental requirements, while drawing on strong First Nations and local workforce participation.” Hatch acted as owner’s engineer for the front-end study and design phases and as owner’s representative during implementation.

In November, follow the [#20DaysOfExcellence](https://twitter.com/20DaysOfExcellence) in engineering campaign on Twitter and at www.acec.ca/20daysofexcellence to watch videos of award-winning projects like this one and to learn more about the impact of consulting engineering on our quality of life.

The award-winning projects are described in full in the October-November 2016 issue of *Canadian Consulting Engineer* at <http://www.canadianconsultingengineer.com/digital-edition/>.

About **Hatch**: With over six decades of experience in the mining, energy, and infrastructure sectors, the firm knows and understands the rapidly changing challenges its clients face. They offer smart, efficient, and innovative solutions. Hatch challenges the status quo, creating positive change for its clients, its employees, and the communities it serves. www.hatch.com

ACEC represents companies in Canada that provide professional engineering services to both public and private sector clients. These services include the planning, design and execution of all types of engineering projects, as well as providing independent advice and expertise in a wide range of engineering and engineering-related fields. For more information about ACEC and the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, please visit www.acec.ca.

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Multimedia (includes project description, video, photo):

[Project photo](#)

[Project page on acec.ca](#)

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