



October 6, 2015

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Collaboration key in new Maritime Link Training Initiative

Emera NL, IBEW Local 1620, Abengoa and the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation have partnered to offer a three week training module that will provide some members of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation with a better chance at finding employment with the Maritime Link Project.

The training initiative, which was launched yesterday at the K'taqmkuk Mi'kmaw Museum in St. George's, is being offered to 18 men and women of the Bay St. George area. In addition to receiving certification in Standard First Aid, Powerline Hazards, WHMIS, Fall Arrest and Traffic Control, participants will receive training to work in tower assembly with Emera NL's sub-contractor, Abengoa.

Brendan Sheppard, Chief of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band, was on hand to welcome participants. He said "This program will help open doors for you. Not just with Abengoa, but with any of the sub-contractors working with the Maritime Link Project. You will all be equipped with certifications that are required for employees on job sites with this project, as well as specific skills in tower assembly. I'm sure that many of you will find employment as a result of this ongoing collaboration with our partners."

The Maritime Link Project involves the construction and operation of a new transmission line, converter stations and associated infrastructure, between the Granite Canal, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Woodbine, Nova Scotia. Labour needs are estimated at 350 persons over the life of the project, peaking at 650 people. Much of the skilled labour force living within range of the project are members of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band. As such, the Band is committed to fostering opportunities for its membership, and will continue to form partnerships that allow members and member-owned businesses to participate in local development.

-30-

Media:

Alison White
Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band
tel. 709-634-5163
awhite@qalipu.ca