



BUILDING HEALTHY HORIZONS

— WEENEEBAYKO FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER —

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MESSAGE FROM LYNNE INNES



*Lynne Innes,
President and CEO
of the Weeneebayko
Area Health Authority
& the Weeneebayko
Foundation*

A Busy and Successful Summer for WAHA

The summer of 2025 has been a productive and exciting time for WAHA. In May, we were proud to acquire a second transport boat to support the travel needs of our staff and patients to Moose Factory. This important addition was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Weeneebayko Foundation. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Foundation for its continued commitment to ensuring our hospital has the resources needed to deliver care close to home.

On June 15th, I had the pleasure of participating in the 5th Annual Ornge Air Ambulance Golf Classic. This well-attended event raised over \$39,000 in support of WAHA's Redevelopment Project.

On October 1st, Weeneebayko General Hospital celebrated its 75th Anniversary and the 15th Anniversary of WAHA. WAHA held community celebration activities, along with activities with staff and the coastal sites. I invite you to review the photo collage of the celebration on page 4 of this newsletter.

Lynne Innes



WAHA REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

On June 4th, 2025 WAHA reached a significant milestone in its Redevelopment Project journey. Members of the WAHA executive team gathered with staff, community members, partners, funders, and leadership from Pomerleau to celebrate the official signing of the Redevelopment Project contract.

The June 4th Signing Ceremony marked a major step forward in bringing our shared vision of providing exceptional, culturally sensitive healthcare to patients and clients living along the western James Bay and Hudson Bay coasts.



*Pictured in photo taken at the June 4th Signing Ceremony: **Left side** (L-R): Sean Twyford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health, Valerie Flynn, Director Operations, Indigenous Services Canada, Warren Hardisty, Deputy Chief, Moose Cree First Nation, Dr. Elaine Innes, Chief of Staff, WAHA, and Kelley Kitchicappo, Deputy Chief, MoCreebec Eeyoud Council.*

***Right side:** (L-R): Lynne Innes, President and Chief Executive Officer, WAHA, Martin Jacques, Chief Operating Officer, Buildings for Pomerleau, Carman Tozer, Board Chair, WAHA Board, Anthony Dale, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Hospitals Association, and Wayne Taipale, Mayor of the Town of Moosonee.*

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Anonymous Donor Supports Health Care Advancements for WAHA's Remote Sites

The Weeneebayko Foundation sincerely thanks an anonymous donor whose generosity began in 2021 with a \$41,300 contribution for essential medical equipment. This continued with a \$246,275 donation for advanced devices at WAHA's Attawapiskat hospital, followed by \$195,000 in 2023 for a digital radiographic system at Fort Albany Nursing Station. The donor supported WAHA after hearing of its outstanding work. The Foundation greatly appreciates this support for clinical services.



2025 ORNGE AIR AMBULANCE GOLF CLASSIC



5th Annual Ornge Air Ambulance Golf Classic a Sold-Out Success

Under clear skies and surrounded by the scenic beauty of Nobleton Lakes Golf Club, over 140 golfers came together on June 15, 2025, to support the Weeneebayko Area Health Authority's (WAHA) Redevelopment Project. Leaders from both Air Ornge and WAHA were on hand to thank supporters and highlight the importance of the redevelopment project, which aims to improve access to healthcare services for remote and northern communities.

"This event continues to grow each year, and it's incredible to see so many people coming together to support WAHA's mission," stated Joshua McNamara, Air Ornge Communications Lead and event organizer. "We're deeply grateful to everyone who participated, donated, and made the day such a success."



Pictured: (R-L) Dr. Homer Tain, President & CEO of Air Ornge presents a cheque from the Ornge Air Golf Classic to Lynne Innes, President & CEO of WAHA, and Jack Hutchison, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer while Joan Simon, Director of the Weeneebayko Foundation & Lee Ann Grattan, Operations Manager of the Weeneebayko Foundation, look on.

THE WEENEEBAYKO FOUNDATION SUPPORTS ORNGE GOLF CLASSIC WITH UNIQUE FISHING TRIP PRIZE

For the first time, the Weeneebayko Foundation proudly sponsored a prize at the 5th Annual Ornge Air Ambulance Golf Classic, supporting efforts to raise funds for the WAHA Redevelopment Project.

The exclusive prize was a four-day guided fishing trip for four to Moosonee — a unique experience designed to highlight the beauty and culture of the James Bay region. Generous support came from multiple partners:

- Worldwide Travel One and Air Creebec provided complimentary flights from Toronto to Moosonee.
- Super 8 in Moosonee offered accommodation, complete with a continental breakfast.
- Necessities, in Moosonee, catered daily box lunches and dinners, ensuring participants enjoyed delicious, local cuisine.

The trip was guided by expert fishing guides Nolan Toser and Billy Kapashesit, along with Stacy Hurtubise, WAHA's Associate Vice-President of Corporate services, who served as the Weeneebayko Ambassador. Together, the team's mission was simple: to create an unforgettable, culturally rich fishing experience for the group.

This initiative showcased the Foundation's commitment in fundraising for WAHA's Redevelopment Project. Plans are in the works for securing this prize for the 6th Annual Ornge Air Ambulance Golf Classic that is taking place in June 2026. The Weeneebayko Foundation is extremely grateful for the community's support in making the Fishing Trip a resounding success.



Getting ready to head out.



Winners of the Moosonee Fishing trip arrive.



What a catch!!



Not a bad day of fishing.

MOOSONEE FISHING TRIP

I want to send out a big thank you to everyone at the Weeneebayko Foundation for an excellent trip.

Our host, Stacy, went out of his way to make this trip memorable! The only thing missing was the Marching Band Parade. Stacy represented the foundation with great pride and we appreciated everything he did for us.

Obviously we had fun fishing with Nolan & Billy, but we also have a better understanding of the struggles of living in the North.

Thanks again to everyone involved in making this trip with my family & good friends special.

*See you next tournament!
Richard, Donny, Blair & Mark*



On the water with a beautiful sunset – what could be better?



Fish aren't the only things here!



Good times and great weather!

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS FOR THE WEENEEBAYKO GENERAL HOSPITAL & 15 YEARS OF WAHA



Moosonee & Moose Factory students taking part in celebration activities.



Kashechewan Nursing & Paramedic



WAHA boat transport who transported numerous people to celebration activities.




Kashechewan anniversary community folks gathering to celebrate 15 years of WAHA.

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