



# Climate Change Impacts on Water and Wastewater Infrastructure at Akwesasne

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## Final Report

### PREPARED FOR

Ontario First Nations  
Technical Services Corporation  
(OFNTSC)

### PREPARED BY

Guy Félio,  
*PhD, P.Eng., FCSCE, IRP Senior Advisor*

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Ontario First Nations  
Technical Services  
Corporation



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## Sign-off Sheet

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Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

**Guy Félio**

Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

**Adrien Comeau**

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

**Stephane D'Aoust**

## Table of Contents

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>ABBREVIATIONS</b>   | <b>I</b>   |
| <b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>  | <b>I</b>   |
| <b>1.0 INTRODUCTION</b>  | <b>1.1</b> |
| 1.1 BACKGROUND   | 1.1        |
| 1.2 THE AKWESASNE COMMUNITY  | 1.2        |
| 1.3 PIEVC PROTOCOL   | 1.2        |
| 1.3.1 Step 1 – Project Definition                                  | 1.3        |
| 1.3.2 Step 2 – Data Gathering and Sufficiency                      | 1.3        |
| 1.3.3 Step 3 – Risk Assessment                                     | 1.6        |
| 1.3.4 [Optional] Step 4 – Engineering Analysis                     | 1.7        |
| 1.3.5 Step 5 – Conclusions and Recommendations                     | 1.7        |
| 1.3.6 Steps 6 to 8 – Triple Bottom Line Module                     | 1.7        |
| 1.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY, TIMELINE AND LIMITATIONS                   | 1.7        |
| 1.4.1 Scope of the Study   | 1.7        |
| 1.4.2 Timeline   | 1.8        |
| 1.4.3 Limitations  | 1.8        |
| 1.5 PROJECT TEAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE                            | 1.8        |
| <b>2.0 STEP 1 - PROJECT DEFINITION</b>                             | <b>2.1</b> |
| <b>3.0 STEP 2 – DATA GATHERING - AKWESASNE W/WW INFRASTRUCTURE</b> | <b>3.1</b> |
| 3.1 INVENTORY OF INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS                         | 3.1        |
| 3.1.1 Cornwall Island, Ontario                                     | 3.1        |
| 3.1.2 St. Regis, Quebec  | 3.11       |
| 3.1.3 Snje, Quebec   | 3.17       |
| 3.2 CONDITION OF INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS                         | 3.19       |
| <b>4.0 CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS</b>                                  | <b>4.1</b> |
| 4.1 TRADITIONAL CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE                                  | 4.1        |
| 4.1.1 Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Akwesasne (2013)          | 4.1        |
| 4.1.2 Lightning and Hail   | 4.2        |
| 4.2 GENERAL OVERVIEW   | 4.3        |
| 4.3 SOURCES OF INFORMATION   | 4.5        |
| 4.4 CLIMATE ELEMENTS   | 4.6        |
| <b>5.0 STEP 3 - VULNERABILITY AND RISK ASSESSMENT</b>              | <b>5.1</b> |
| 5.1 PIEVC PROTOCOL PROCESS   | 5.1        |
| 5.2 RISK THRESHOLDS  | 5.1        |
| 5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE RESPONSE  | 5.2        |
| 5.4 CLIMATE PROBABILITY SCORING                                    | 5.2        |
| 5.5 INFRASTRUCTURE SEVERITY SCORING                                | 5.5        |

|            |  |            |
|------------|--|------------|
| 5.6        | RISK ASSESSMENT .....                            | 5.6        |
| 5.6.1      | Infrastructure components evaluated .....        | 5.6        |
| 5.6.2      | Risk screening process .....                     | 5.9        |
| 5.6.3      | Summary of risk results.....                     | 5.12       |
| 5.6.4      | Influence of the Infrastructure Condition.....   | 5.18       |
| 5.7        | COMMUNITY IMPACTS FROM INFRASTRUCTURE RISKS..... | 5.21       |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>      | <b>6.1</b> |

## LIST OF TABLES

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Table 1.1: Project Team and PAC Members.....  | 1.9  |
| Table 3.1: INAC's ICMS, Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (CIRC) Condition<br>Rating Scales and Descriptive (from City of Edmonton) ..... | 3.19 |
| Table 3.2: INAC's ICMS Condition Rating Scale.....  | 3.21 |
| Table 4.1: Principal Climate Elements Considered in the Analysis .....  | 4.7  |
| Table 5.1: Selected Risk Thresholds.....  | 5.2  |
| Table 5.2: PIEVC Probability Scoring Method B .....   | 5.3  |
| Table 5.3: Probability Scores for Temperature and Fog .....   | 5.3  |
| Table 5.4: Probability Scores for Precipitation.....  | 5.4  |
| Table 5.5: Probability Scores for Winds, Hail and Lightning.....  | 5.5  |
| Table 5.6: Infrastructure Severity Scoring.....   | 5.6  |
| Table 5.7: Cornwall Island Infrastructure Assessed.....   | 5.7  |
| Table 5.8: St. Regis Infrastructure Assessed.....   | 5.8  |
| Table 5.9: Snye Infrastructure Assessed .....   | 5.9  |
| Table 5.10: Summary of risks for Cornwall Island infrastructure .....   | 5.15 |
| Table 5.11: Summary of Risks for St. Regis infrastructure .....   | 5.16 |
| Table 5.12: Summary of Risks for Snye infrastructure.....   | 5.17 |
| Table 5.13: Summary of Asset Information from ICMS .....  | 5.19 |
| Table 5.14: Summary of Risks for Cornwall Island Infrastructure Replaces at the<br>End of its Design Life and Deteriorated .....            | 5.21 |

## LIST OF FIGURES

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Figure 1: PIEVC Protocol Process Flowchart (Source: Engineers Canada, PIEVC<br>Protocol Revision PG-10, May 2012).....                              | 1.5 |
| Figure 2: Project Timeline .....  | 1.8 |
| Figure 3: PIEVC Protocol Project Step 1 - Definition Process Flowchart (Source:<br>Engineers Canada, PIEVC Protocol Revision PG-10, May 2012) ..... | 2.1 |
| Figure 4: Presentation by David Lapp of Engineers Canada at the Project<br>Definition Workshop.....   | 2.2 |
| Figure 5: Jay Benedict, Director of MCA Technical Services presents the W/WW<br>Infrastructure of Akwesasne at the Project Definition Workshop..... | 2.2 |
| Figure 6:Key Plan of Cornwall Island Water and Waste Water Facilities .....   | 3.2 |



# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Figure 7: Cornwall Island Water Treatment Plant Building .....  | 3.3  |
| Figure 8: Intake and Low Lift Pump .....  | 3.4  |
| Figure 9: Inside View of the Cornwall Island WTP .....  | 3.5  |
| Figure 10: MCA Water Treatment Plant Operator Clayton Barnes Explaining the<br>Plant's SCADA System During the February 28, 2017 Site Visit ..... | 3.6  |
| Figure 11: MCA Water Treatment Plant Backup Generator.....  | 3.7  |
| Figure 12: Exterior View of Block 97 RBC.....   | 3.8  |
| Figure 13: Interior View of Block 97 RBC .....  | 3.9  |
| Figure 14: Exterior and Interior Views of the Cornwall Island Administration Pump<br>Station .....  | 3.10 |
| Figure 15: Building of the High Lift Station at Block 97 .....  | 3.11 |
| Figure 16: Main Infrastructure Locations in St. Regis (QC) .....  | 3.12 |
| Figure 17: Exterior View of the St. Regis Water Treatment Plant.....  | 3.13 |
| Figure 18: Granular Activated Carbon Tanks at St. Regis WTP.....  | 3.13 |
| Figure 19: Exterior of the Cherry Street Pump Station.....  | 3.14 |
| Figure 20: Interior of the Cherry Street Pump Station.....  | 3.15 |
| Figure 21: Exterior View of the St. Regis Wastewater Treatment Plant .....  | 3.16 |
| Figure 22: RBC Units at St. Regis WWTP .....  | 3.16 |
| Figure 23: Main Infrastructure Assets at Snyc .....   | 3.17 |
| Figure 24: Snyc Pump Station #1 (left) and Pump Station #2 (right) .....  | 3.18 |
| Figure 25: Comparison of Summer Rainfall Averages and August Rainfall<br>Averages for Cornwall (* indicates incomplete data).....                 | 4.2  |
| Figure 26: Historical and Projected August Mean Temperatures for Cornwall (ON) .....  | 4.4  |
| Figure 27: Heather Auld of RSI Inc. Presenting Climate Information to the<br>Participants at Workshop 4 on March 21, 2017 .....                   | 4.5  |
| Figure 28: Projected Future Mean Annual Temperatures for Cornwall – 2020's<br>(2010-40) and 2050's (2040-70): (IPCC AR5, RCP8.5) .....            | 4.6  |
| Figure 29: PIEVC Protocol Risk Assessment Process Flowchart .....   | 5.1  |
| Figure 30: Process Used to Establish Infrastructure Risks and Impacts on the<br>Community .....   | 5.11 |
| Figure 31: Adaptation in the Infrastructure Life Cycle (Source: Larrivée and<br>Simonet, 2007) .....  | 6.1  |

## LIST OF APPENDICES

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| APPENDIX A CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS – PRESENTATION BY RSI ..... | A.1 |
| APPENDIX B WORKSHOP #3 PRESENTATION – MARCH 1, 2017 .....     | B.1 |

## Executive Summary

### Introduction

Severe weather and climate uncertainty represent risks to public safety as well as the safety of the service provided by engineered systems in Canada and around the world. In this context, an increasing number of public agencies and organizations that provide public services address climate change adaptation as part of their primary mandate – protection of the public interest, which includes life, health, property, economic interests, and the environment.

The impacts of severe weather add to the existing stresses on infrastructure and services it provides. In addition to factors that reduce the capacity and performance of these assets such as age, increased demand, material weathering, design and construction inadequacies, lack of maintenance or extension of service life beyond design, the increased intensity of weather events can produce the incremental load that causes the asset failure.

Engineers Canada initiated discussions with the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) in the Fall of 2015 concerning the impacts of changing climate and extreme weather events on First Nations infrastructure. Of particular interest was to incorporate climate considerations into First Nations asset management planning. Engineers Canada's PIEVC<sup>1</sup> Protocol was considered a promising process to define climate risks and vulnerabilities.

These discussions led to OFNTSC submitting a funding proposal, with support from Engineers Canada, to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources (OCCIAR). The project was proposed in two phases as follows:

#### **PHASE 1. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Infrastructure Vulnerability Study (Funded by INAC)**

Using Engineers Canada's PIEVC Protocol, evaluate the vulnerability to climate changes of water and wastewater (W/WW) infrastructure of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and provide recommendations on possible adaptation measures to mitigate risks identified; and

#### **PHASE 2. Development of a First Nations PIEVC Toolkit and Training Program (Funded by OCCIAR)**

Use the application of the PIEVC Protocol for Akwesasne water and wastewater infrastructure for knowledge transfer and to build capacity for Akwesasne and OFNTSC staff for future projects by:

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<sup>1</sup> PIEVC is the acronym for Engineers Canada's Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

- a) Develop a “FN PIEVC/Asset Management Toolkit” tailored to First Nations communities that includes linkages to infrastructure assets management and leverages existing infrastructure data such as the Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS) and the Integrated Capital Management System (ICMS); and
- b) Provide training on the use of the Toolkit at two locations: Southern and Northern Ontario

This report presents the results of the Phase 1 study, the MCA water and wastewater vulnerability study using Engineers Canada's PIEVC Protocol.

### The Akwesasne Community

Akwesasne is a community of approximately 12,300 people (2016) distributed over an area of 11,720 acres and governed by the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA). The community comprises three districts: Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island, Ontario), Kana:takon (St. Regis, Quebec) and Tsi Snaihne (Snye, Quebec).

The Mohawk territory of Akwesasne is jurisdictionally unique in that the Akwesasne Territory includes portions that are in Ontario and Quebec within Canada and in New York State of the United States of America. No other First Nation community in Canada has these unique jurisdiction and geographic features. To aid government administration and jurisdiction, the MCA has Political Protocol agreements with the Crown, the Province of Quebec, and is undertaking the development of a Political Protocol with Ontario.

### The PIEVC Protocol

Engineers Canada describes the Protocol as a methodology that “systematically reviews historical climate information and projects the nature, severity and probability of future climate changes and events. It also establishes the adaptive capacity of an individual infrastructure as determined by its design, operation and maintenance. It includes an estimate of the severity of climate impacts on the components of the infrastructure (i.e. deterioration, damage or destruction) to enable the identification of higher risk components and the nature of the threat from the climate change impact. This information can be used to make informed engineering judgments on what components require adaptation as well as how to adapt them e.g. design adjustments, changes to operational or maintenance procedures.”

The PIEVC Protocol offers the user flexibility in adapting the process to the assessment context and constraints (e.g., time, resources, etc.). For the Akwesasne Water and Wastewater (W/WW) vulnerability and risks assessment, the application of the Protocol did not include the optional Step 4 – Engineering Analysis, since the objective was to develop an overall risk profile of all the infrastructure, buildings and facilities used in providing potable water and wastewater collection and treatment for the community. In addition, although throughout the process social,



economic and environmental impacts and benefits were considered, the assessment did not use the triple-bottom-line (TBL) module.

### Scope of the Study

The objectives of the project were to:

- Build awareness of the PIEVC Protocol as a risk management tool to MCA and OFNTSC staff;
- Identify infrastructure vulnerabilities to current and future severe weather. The Akwesasne W/WW infrastructure considered in the study included the potable water, and wastewater collection and treatment systems for Cornwall Island (ON), St. Regis (QC) and Snye (QC);
- Establish a risk profile for the Akwesasne W/WW infrastructure; and
- Provide recommendations regarding mitigating risks with the highest consequences to the assets, service, and community.

It is important to note that the project was initially approved in October 2016 and the initial kick-off meeting took place during that month. However, due to schedule constraints and the changes in consulting team, the project's activities resumed mid-January 2017 and substantial completion was achieved at the end of March 2017.

### Project Team

The Project Team was composed of key staff from the MCA – Technical Services and Environmental Services Departments, OFNTSC Staff, and the Consulting team. This small but focused group of subject matter experts were supported by a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) from organizations that are knowledgeable or are interested in the area of climate change impacts on public infrastructure.

The strong technical, operational, and environmental expertise of the MCA staff, and their knowledge and experience as long-time residents of Akwesasne, was an essential and invaluable source of infrastructure and climate information to this project.

The members of the Project Team and PAC are listed below.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

| Project Team   |   |
|--|---|
| <u>Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation</u><br>Elmer Lickers, Senior O&M Advisor (Project Director)<br>Bill Maloney, Climate Change Officer<br><u>Mohawk Council of Akwesasne</u><br>Jay Benedict, Director Technical Services<br>Dr. Henry Lickers, Director Environmental Services<br>John Tate Lazore, Water and Wastewater Manager<br>Leslie Papineau, Technical Project Manager | <u>Consulting Team</u><br>Dr. Guy Félio, Senior Advisor, Stantec (Project Manager)<br>Amanda Lynch, Water Resources Engineer, Stantec<br>Eric Dunford, Strategic Management Consultant, Stantec<br>Alexandre Mineault-Guitard, Environmental Engineering Intern, Stantec<br>Heather Auld, Climatologist, RSI Inc. |
| Project Advisory Committee   |   |
| Stephanie Allen, OFNTSC<br>Ashley Dawn Bach, COO<br>Marla Desat, SCC<br>Tom Duncan, INAC<br>Al Douglas, OCCAR  | Andréanne Ferland, FNQLSDI<br>Caroline Larrivée, Ouranos<br>David Lapp, Engineers Canada<br>Jamie Ricci, Engineers Canada<br>Jacqueline Richard, OCCAR  |

### Project Definition

Based on the information provided by the MCA Technical Services, the water and wastewater system in Akwesasne can be characterized as two independent systems, as follows:

- Cornwall Island: potable water and wastewater systems
- St. Regis/Snye: potable water and partial wastewater systems (some properties in St. Regis and Snye use private septic systems)

The Project Team, aided by members of the PAC, discussed which infrastructure systems should be considered in the PIEVC study and decided to do an assessment of both systems. Factors considered included the fact that these two systems serve different types of geography and population densities (Cornwall Island being more geographically spread out while St. Regis being similar to a small village), and would be good examples for other First Nations communities.

The time horizons for the study were selected as current conditions (establishing the baseline risks) and 2050 for future conditions. Many of the Akwesasne infrastructure assets were built in the

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

1990's and early 2000's and will need replacement, undergo rehabilitation or retrofit, or will be at an advanced stage of their service lives within the time horizon selected.

### Infrastructure considered

The infrastructure assets considered in this assessment were divided into components to evaluate the impacts from the selected climate events. All the water and wastewater physical infrastructure (for example the intake, treatment plant, pumping stations, RBC's, etc.) were considered in this study. In addition, related support infrastructure (e.g., personnel, suppliers, energy supply, telecommunications, etc.) were included. Details are provided in the report.

### Climate information

The climate considerations presented hereafter are the result of discussions of the Project Team and PAC members at the project workshops, research into public information, and the report entitled "Climate Probability Analyses for Mohawk Council of Akwesasne PIEVC Studies" from RSI Inc.

| Type of Climate Element | Description   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Temperature             | Days (per year) with Max Temps > 36°C                                     |
|                         | Very warm August Temps Mean >22.5°C ( <i>warmer than August 2012</i> )    |
|                         | Combination August warm temperatures & low rainfalls                      |
| Fog                     | Visibilities below ½ statute mile   |
| Precipitation           | Days with August total precipitation ≤ ~51mm (= or < <i>August 2012</i> ) |
|                         | Winter snowfall for Jan-Feb-Mar > 200 cm                                  |
|                         | Winter rainfall totals (DJF) > 120mm                                      |
|                         | March rainfall totals > 60 mm   |
|                         | Snowfall event > 25 cm/day  |
|                         | Winter rainfall > 25mm/day  |
|                         | Severe ice storms (≥ 20 mm freezing rain in one day)                      |
| Wind                    | Days with gusts > 90 km/h   |
|                         | Days with gusts > 125 km/h  |
|                         | Days with gusts > 140 km/h  |
|                         | Tornado frequency within 25 km radius                                     |
|                         | Tornado frequency – within 50 km radius                                   |



## Risk Assessment

In the PIEVC Protocol, Risk is defined as the product of the Probability score multiplied by the Severity score. Since each of the probability and the severity scores are rated from 0 to 7, the maximum risk score will be 49.

For this project, the risk thresholds shown in the Table below were selected by the Project Team:

### Selected risk thresholds

| Score                | Description  |
|----------------------|--|
| <12                  | <b>Low:</b> no action required   |
| 12 to 20             | <b>Moderate:</b> monitoring recommended  |
| 21 to 34             | <b>High:</b> action may be required if threat materialises; a more detailed analysis may be needed.  |
| ≥ 35                 | <b>Extreme:</b> action required; immediate attention if risk occurs in current climate; adaptation planning necessary if risk occurs in future climate projections             |
| <b>Special Cases</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequently recurring events - low single event impacts but accumulated effects</li> <li>Low probability - High impact events</li> </ul> |

The response criteria against which the infrastructure-climate interactions and risks were evaluated are as follows:

### Infrastructure response

1. Structural design/capacity
2. Functionality
3. Serviceability
4. Watershed, surface waters and groundwater
5. Operations, maintenance, and materials performance
6. Environmental effects

### Community Impacts

7. Emergency response
8. Insurance and legal considerations
9. Policy considerations
10. Social and cultural effects
11. Impacts on the environment
12. Financial/fiscal considerations

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

The first step in the production of the risk matrix was to evaluate whether there is an interaction between an infrastructure component and a climate event, also referred to as establishing the exposure of the infrastructure to the climate hazards. In the case where an interaction exists, the Project Team identifies with respect to which infrastructure performance considerations the potential risk might exist (for example, impacts on the structural capacity or the functionality of the asset or component).

As the Project Team progressed through the project, it became evident that there were two types of impacts for the climate events: 1) impacts on the performance of the infrastructure itself, and, 2) impacts on the service to the community should the infrastructure fail to deliver as designed. It was therefore decided to establish the risks with respect to the infrastructure assets considering the infrastructure response factors, followed by the consequences on the service and/or the community should the risk materialize and the infrastructure fail to perform. This process is illustrated in Figure 1 next page.

Furthermore, the risks associated with future climate events were evaluated with respect to two (2) asset conditions within the time horizon of the assessment (2017 – 2050): Condition 1 relates to assets that have been replaced at the end of their design life as per the ICMS data; Condition 2 relates to assets that reach the time horizon of this study (2050) beyond their design life. This distinction is important since many assets in the infrastructure systems considered will reach their design life within the time horizon selected. Condition 2 thus presents a higher level of vulnerability for these assets. It should be noted that this analysis is not prescribed in the PIEVC Protocol; however, the Project Team and PAC felt it provides a more realistic assessment of the risks if the assets are not replaced or retrofitted in due time. Only assets characterized as high and extreme risk assets were evaluated with this dual condition process.

# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

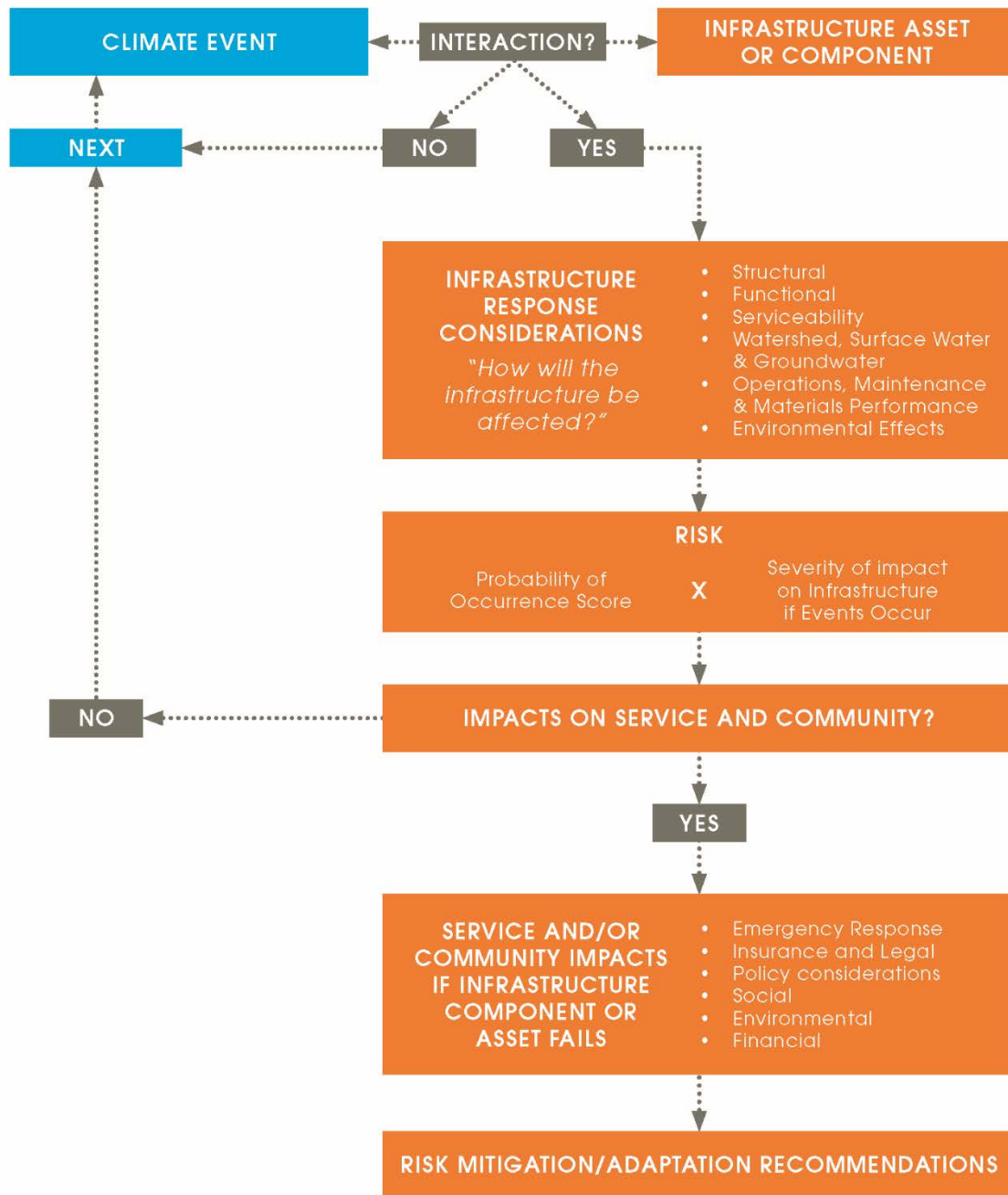


Figure 1: Process used to establish infrastructure risks and impacts on the community



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Summary of risks for Cornwall Island infrastructure

| Risk Score Counts      |                 |                        | Main Climate Events  | Principal Infrastructure Affected  | Infrastructure Performance Impacted   |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|--|---|
|                        | Current Climate | Future (2050s) Climate |  |  |   |
| <b>Cornwall Island</b> |                 |                        |  |  |   |
| Moderate               | 145             | 88                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li> <li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li> <li>• Snowfall event</li> <li>• Severe Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Winds</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• General roadworks</li> <li>• Emergency response</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Communications</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| High                   | 47              | 135                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hail</li> <li>• Tornados</li> <li>• Strong winds</li> <li>• Ice storms</li> <li>• Snowfall events</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• SCADA</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• General road works</li> </ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| Extreme                | 28              | 34                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightning</li> <li>• Tornados</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infrastructure</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All performance considerations</li> </ul>  |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Summary of risks for St. Regis infrastructure

| Risk Score Counts |                 |                        | Main Climate Events   | Principal Infrastructure Affected   | Infrastructure Performance Impacted   |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|---|---|
|                   | Current Climate | Future (2050s) Climate |   |   |   |
| <b>103</b>        |                 |                        |   |   |   |
| Moderate          | 135             | 103                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li> <li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li> <li>• Snowfall event</li> <li>• Severe Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Winds</li> <li>• Rain events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• General roadworks</li> <li>• Emergency response</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Stormwater system</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| High              | 46              | 96                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hail</li> <li>• Tornados</li> <li>• Strong winds</li> <li>• Ice storms</li> <li>• Snowfall events</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• SCADA</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• General road works</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| Extreme           | 23              | 28                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightning</li> <li>• Tornados</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infrastructure</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All performance considerations</li> </ul>  |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Summary of risks for Snye infrastructure

| Risk Score Counts |                 |                        | Main Climate Events   | Principal Infrastructure Affected   | Infrastructure Performance Impacted   |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|---|---|
|                   | Current Climate | Future (2050s) Climate |   |   |   |
| <b>Snye</b>       |                 |                        |   |   |   |
| Moderate          | 99              | 60                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li> <li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li> <li>• Snowfall event</li> <li>• Severe Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Winds</li> <li>• Rain events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• General roadworks</li> <li>• Emergency response</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Stormwater system</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| High              | 37              | 80                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hail</li> <li>• Tornados</li> <li>• Strong winds</li> <li>• Ice storms</li> <li>• Snowfall events</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• SCADA</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• General road works</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| Extreme           | 19              | 36                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightning</li> <li>• Tornados</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infrastructure</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All performance considerations</li> </ul>  |

## Influence of infrastructure condition

As indicated earlier, the condition of the infrastructure is a key element to establishing risks. Estimating the future condition of the infrastructure is a complex process that requires predicting the operations, maintenance and capital investments to maintain the infrastructure in a state of good repair and replacing it when it has reached the end of its service life. This is the realm of sound asset management practices. While this analysis is not prescribed in the Protocol, it is worth noting that the Protocol offers flexibility to incorporate additional levels of analysis within its framework, as long as they are documented.

In the context of this study, the summary risk results, and the detailed risk matrices were established considering the infrastructure is in good condition, that is, it is operating at the performance level it was designed for. It was beyond the scope of this project to do an analysis of each component affected based on condition assessment information.

The Project Team and PAC members, during Workshop 4, indicated a useful analysis would be to see the risks assessed in a context where the infrastructure is past its design life and has not been replaced. Information to support this analysis was obtained from the ICMS data provided by INAC.

Without knowledge of long-term capital investment plans for this infrastructure, the worst-case scenario is that none of the assets under consideration will be replaced during the study time horizon and therefore it will be in a more deteriorated condition in the future. This, in turn, results in a higher asset vulnerability to the climate hazards identified. Due to time constraints, only the Cornwall Island infrastructure was assessed using this scenario, which involved increasing the severity scores by one for each of the climate-infrastructure interactions. Also, only the MCA built infrastructure was adjusted, that is the environment, personnel and third-party infrastructure scores remained unchanged. The Table below presents the comparison between the risks to the infrastructure replaced at the end of its design life and the risks with deteriorated infrastructure (not replaced). The analysis did not consider low risks which may become moderate as a result of an increase in severity of the infrastructure.

### Summary of risks for Cornwall Island infrastructure replaced at the end of its design life and deteriorated

| Future Climate Risk Score Counts<br>Cornwall Island Infrastructure |   |  |                                 |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Risk Rating  | Infrastructure replaced at end of design life | Infrastructure deteriorated (not replaced) | Percentage change in risk count |
| Moderate   | 88  | 59   | - 33%                           |
| High   | 135   | 143  | + 6%                            |
| Extreme  | 34  | 44   | +29%                            |

The table illustrates the value of maintaining the infrastructure in a state of good repair and capital investments at the end of its service life as an important measure to mitigate risks.

### Conclusions and recommendations

Infrastructure in a community exists to provide a service. Since many of the components or assets within infrastructure systems have long service lives, there are many opportunities to introduce climate change adaptation measures throughout this life-cycle.

In general, and if maintained in a state of good repair, the water and wastewater infrastructure considered in this study appears in good condition to withstand some increases in frequency and intensity of the climate events retained for this PIEVC analysis. In regard to extreme events, for example tornadoes and ice storms, a loss of function is generally expected and Community risk mitigation and recovery measures are incorporated in Emergency Management and Response Plans. Within their resources constraints, the staff of MCA's Technical Services are providing safe and reliable water to the Akwesasne community, and protecting the health of people and the environment through the wastewater collection and treatment system.

Adaptive and risk mitigation measures were identified by the Project Team and PAC members present during Workshop 4. Since the intent of the study is to provide an overall risk profile of the infrastructure owned and managed by the MCA in Cornwall Island, St. Regis, and Snye, the recommendations do not address specific infrastructure issues. The recommendations below are not listed in a priority order.

- Evaluate the financial constraints and resources needed to maintain the infrastructure in a state of good repair and to invest in a timely manner in the replacement of infrastructure when it reaches the end of its service life, which can effectively decrease the extreme risks by more than 25%. This can be done through the life-cycle analysis and investment planning processes of an asset management plan.
- Improve the weather alert system to support operational staff and emergency first responders; allowing them to be pro-active in anticipation of severe weather, for example, ensuring back-up power (fixed and portable) units are ready for use.
- Identify risk mitigation or risk avoidance measures for strong to extreme wind events, such as securing (anchoring) asset components such as roofs, light structures, etc. Select tree locations and species to minimize risks of property damage in case they would fall down.
- Review and improve, as required, policies and procedures – for example:
  - Operations and Maintenance: this could include inspection cycles, practices to maintain the performance of the assets, etc.
  - Climate related events in emergency response measures and plans, etc.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

- Install weather stations on Cornwall Island and in St. Regis to ensure relevant local data. These stations should have the capability to at least provide hourly records. Note that the data from the Cornwall station only provides daily averages, thus representing a gap where short duration/high intensity events may be missed. This data will allow an evaluation of whether the climate changes projected in this study have materialized.
- Continue maintaining the high level of staff competencies and the knowledge the MCA staff has about its infrastructure. The knowledge and experience of the MCA staff are critical to continue providing services during normal and severe weather conditions.
- Provide the opportunity to MCA staff to access external subject-matter expertise and advice to deal with specific risk mitigation issues. This could include identifying key climate-infrastructure risks for which a more detailed analysis would be beneficial.
- Review land use planning policies to avoid authorizing construction in high-risk areas of the community.
- Communications, outreach and training to prevent, mitigate and respond to risks, for example: tree pruning to reduce the damage from broken branches; what to do in the case of an extreme event, etc.
- Creative problem solving: use processes such as “key personnel analysis” to bring staff from different services identify risk prevention and mitigation solutions. Use MCA Focus Groups and other community processes as well.
- Ensure lightning protection for sensitive equipment, particularly the SCADA systems.
- Include the risks identified through this study in planning work for infrastructure renewal, future design and construction, and include climate change considerations in best management practices and bylaws. This also involves keeping track of new developments regarding changes to practices and regulations – for example, under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change<sup>2</sup>.
- Plan for reduced mobility of operators and suppliers due to severe or extreme events, including warning, stock-piling, etc. This could include coordination at border crossings to accelerate passage during emergencies.
- Anticipate and plan collaborations for high risk weather events, such as interactions with emergency and community services, external agencies, and the community itself.

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<sup>2</sup> See: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/pan-canadian-framework.html>

Finally, this application of the PIEVC Protocol contributed two new elements to the methodology which should be considered in future versions of the Protocol:

1. The separation of the infrastructure response considerations into two categories as follows (Section 5.6.2):
  - a. Impacts on the infrastructure (or service) to assess the risks
  - b. Consequences on the community should those risks materialize
2. The analysis of risks based on the future condition and replacement (as guided by asset design life) of the infrastructure (Section 5.6.1).

## Abbreviations

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| ACRS    | Asset Condition Reporting System                                       |
| COO     | Chiefs of Ontario  |
| ICLR    | Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction                              |
| FNQLSDI | First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute |
| ICMS    | Integrated Capital Management System                                   |
| INAC    | Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada                                 |
| MCA     | Mohawk Council of Akwesasne  |
| OCCIAR  | Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources            |
| NOAA    | US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration                     |
| OFNTSC  | Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation                   |
| O&M     | Operations and maintenance   |
| PAC     | Project Advisory Committee   |
| PIEVC   | Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee              |
| RBC     | Rotating Biological Contactor  |
| RSI     | Risk Sciences International Inc.                                       |
| SCC     | Standards Council of Canada  |
| TBL     | Triple Bottom Line   |
| WTP     | Water Treatment Plant (potable water)                                  |
| WWTP    | Wastewater Treatment Plant   |

## Acknowledgements

This project was made possible by the leadership and dedication of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) in close collaboration with Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA), Engineers Canada and INAC. The Project Team and the members of the Project Advisory Committee are grateful to the MCA and its community for hosting this project and the meetings on their lands.

Stantec wishes to acknowledge and is grateful for the contributions of many individuals that participated in this study.

The role of Elmer Lickers, Senior O&M Advisor at OFNTSC was crucial in defining the project and obtaining funding. Elmer provided support and leadership in all aspects of this study, and his contributions helped meet tight timelines.

Dr. Henry Lickers, inspiring and knowledgeable in a wide range of fields, was a key champion and participant in all aspects of this project. His passion to bring the knowledge gained in Akwesasne to other First Nations communities in Canada will be critical to the planned development of the FN PIEVC Toolkit

Jay Benedict, Director of MCA Technical Services and his team of dedicated professionals, without whom this project would not have been completed within the short timeline available.

The input and time from the Members of the Project Advisory Committee that participated in the workshops and contributed through their comments enriched the content of this PIEVC study:

Stephanie Allen, OFNTSC  
Ashley Dawn Bach, COO  
Marla Desat, SCC  
Tom Duncan, INAC  
Al Douglas, OCCAR

Andréanne Ferland, FNQLSDI  
Caroline Larrivée, Ouranos  
David Lapp, Engineers Canada  
Jamie Ricci, Engineers Canada  
Jacqueline Richard, OCCAR

INAC funding made this project possible.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Severe weather and climate uncertainty represent risks to the safety of and service provided by engineered systems and to public safety in Canada and around the world. In this context, an increasing number of public agencies and organizations that provide public services address climate change adaptation as part of their primary mandate – protection of the public interest, which includes life, health, property, economic interests, and the environment.

The impacts of severe weather add to the existing stresses on infrastructure and services it provides. In addition to factors that reduce the capacity and performance of these assets such as age, increased demand, material weathering, design and construction inadequacies, lack of maintenance or extension of service life beyond design, the increased intensity of weather events can produce the incremental load that causes the asset failure.

Infrastructure vulnerability and risk assessments are the foundations to ensure climate change is considered in engineering design, operations and maintenance of public infrastructure, buildings, and facilities. Identifying the services and related assets that are highly vulnerable to climate change impacts enables the community to plan and implement cost-effective solutions to adapt to these new weather patterns.

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Engineers Canada initiated discussions with the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC) in the Fall of 2015 concerning the impacts of changing climate and extreme weather events on First Nations infrastructure. Of particular interest was to incorporate climate considerations into First Nations asset management planning. Engineers Canada's PIEVC<sup>3</sup> Protocol was considered a promising process to define climate risks and vulnerabilities.

Improving First Nations awareness, knowledge and internal technical capacity to incorporate climate considerations into asset management was viewed as an important strategy to develop sustainable and cost-effective solutions to address the impacts and costs of future climate and extreme weather events.

These discussions led to OFNTSC submitting a funding proposal, with support from Engineers Canada, to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources (OCCIAR). The project was proposed in two phases as follows:

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<sup>3</sup> PIEVC is the acronym for Engineers Canada's Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee



### **PHASE 1. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Infrastructure Vulnerability Study (Funded by INAC)**

Using Engineers Canada's PIEVC Protocol, evaluate the vulnerability to climate changes of water and wastewater (W/WW) infrastructure of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and provide recommendations on possible adaptation measures to mitigate risks identified; and

### **PHASE 2. Development of a First Nations PIEVC Toolkit and Training Program (Funded by OCCIAR)**

Use the application of the PIEVC Protocol for Akwesasne water and wastewater infrastructure for knowledge transfer and to build capacity for Akwesasne and OFNTSC staff for future projects by:

- a) Develop a "FN PIEVC/Asset Management Toolkit" tailored to First Nations communities that includes linkages to infrastructure assets management and leverages existing infrastructure data such as the Asset Condition Reporting System (ACRS) and the Integrated Capital Management System (ICMS); and
- b) Provide training on the use of the Toolkit at two locations: Southern and Northern Ontario

This report presents the results of the Phase 1 study, the MCA water and wastewater vulnerability study using Engineers Canada's PIEVC Protocol.

## **1.2 THE AKWESASNE COMMUNITY**

Akwesasne is a community of approximately 12,300 people (2016) distributed over an area of 11,720 acres and governed by The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA). The community comprises three districts: Kawehno:ke (Cornwall Island, Ontario), Kana:takon (St. Regis, Quebec) and Tsi Snaihne (Snye, Quebec).

The Mohawk territory of Akwesasne is jurisdictionally unique in that the Akwesasne Territory includes portions that are in Ontario and Quebec within Canada and in New York State of the United States of America. No other First Nation community in Canada has these unique jurisdiction and geographic features. To aid government administration and jurisdiction, the MCA has Political Protocol agreements with the Crown, the Province of Quebec, and is undertaking the development of a Political Protocol with Ontario.

## **1.3 PIEVC PROTOCOL**

In August 2005, Engineers Canada partnered with Natural Resources Canada to conduct a national engineering vulnerability assessment of existing and planned public infrastructure to the

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Introduction  
June 21, 2017

impacts of climate change. One of the key outcomes from this partnership, completed in April 2008, was a formalized risk assessment procedure or tool, known as the PIEVC Engineering Protocol ("the Protocol"). Since then, more than 45 infrastructure systems have been completed or are in progress for a wide spectrum of assets (a complete list can be found at [www.PIEVC.ca](http://www.PIEVC.ca))

Engineers Canada describes the Protocol as a methodology that "systematically reviews historical climate information and projects the nature, severity and probability of future climate changes and events. It also establishes the adaptive capacity of an individual infrastructure as determined by its design, operation and maintenance. It includes an estimate of the severity of climate impacts on the components of the infrastructure (i.e. deterioration, damage or destruction) to enable the identification of higher risk components and the nature of the threat from the climate change impact. This information can be used to make informed engineering judgments on what components require adaptation as well as how to adapt them e.g. design adjustments, changes to operational or maintenance procedures."

OFNTSC signed a license agreement with Engineers Canada to use the Protocol for this assessment. The version used was PIEVC Engineering Protocol for Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation to a Changing Climate, Revision PG-10, May 2012.

The steps in the Protocol application are illustrated in **Figure 1**.

The PIEVC Protocol offers the user flexibility in adapting the process to the assessment context and constraints (e.g., time, resources, etc.). For the Akwesasne W/WW vulnerability and risks assessment, the application of the Protocol did not include Step 4 – Engineering Analysis, since the objective was to develop an overall risk profile of all the infrastructure, buildings and facilities used in providing potable water and wastewater collection and treatment for the community. In addition, although throughout the process social, economic and environmental impacts and benefits were considered, the assessment did not use the TBL module.

A brief description of each step is provided hereafter.

### 1.3.1 Step 1 – Project Definition

The first step in the application of the Protocol involves setting the general boundary conditions for the project. The Project Team establishes the infrastructure to be assessed and its key attributes such as location, condition, known concerns, etc. The team identifies the overall climatic elements that impact the infrastructure and past weather events that have caused disruptions or failures to the service(s) provided by the asset(s).

This step is used to narrow the focus of the study to allow efficient data collection and vulnerability assessment processes.

### 1.3.2 Step 2 – Data Gathering and Sufficiency

At this stage of the project, the Team compiles detailed information regarding:

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Introduction  
June 21, 2017

- **The infrastructure, facilities, and buildings part of the assessment.** For example:
  - Detailing physical components of the infrastructure;
    - Number of physical components;
    - Location(s);
  - Other relevant engineering/technical considerations:
    - Material of construction;
    - Age;
    - Importance within the community served;
    - Physical condition;
    - Previous failures causing service disruptions;
  - Operations and maintenance practices;
- **Maintenance and operations logs and reports;**
  - Management practices related to the infrastructure;
    - Insurance considerations;
    - Policies and guidelines;
    - Financial and funding considerations;
    - Regulatory setting; and
    - Legal considerations.

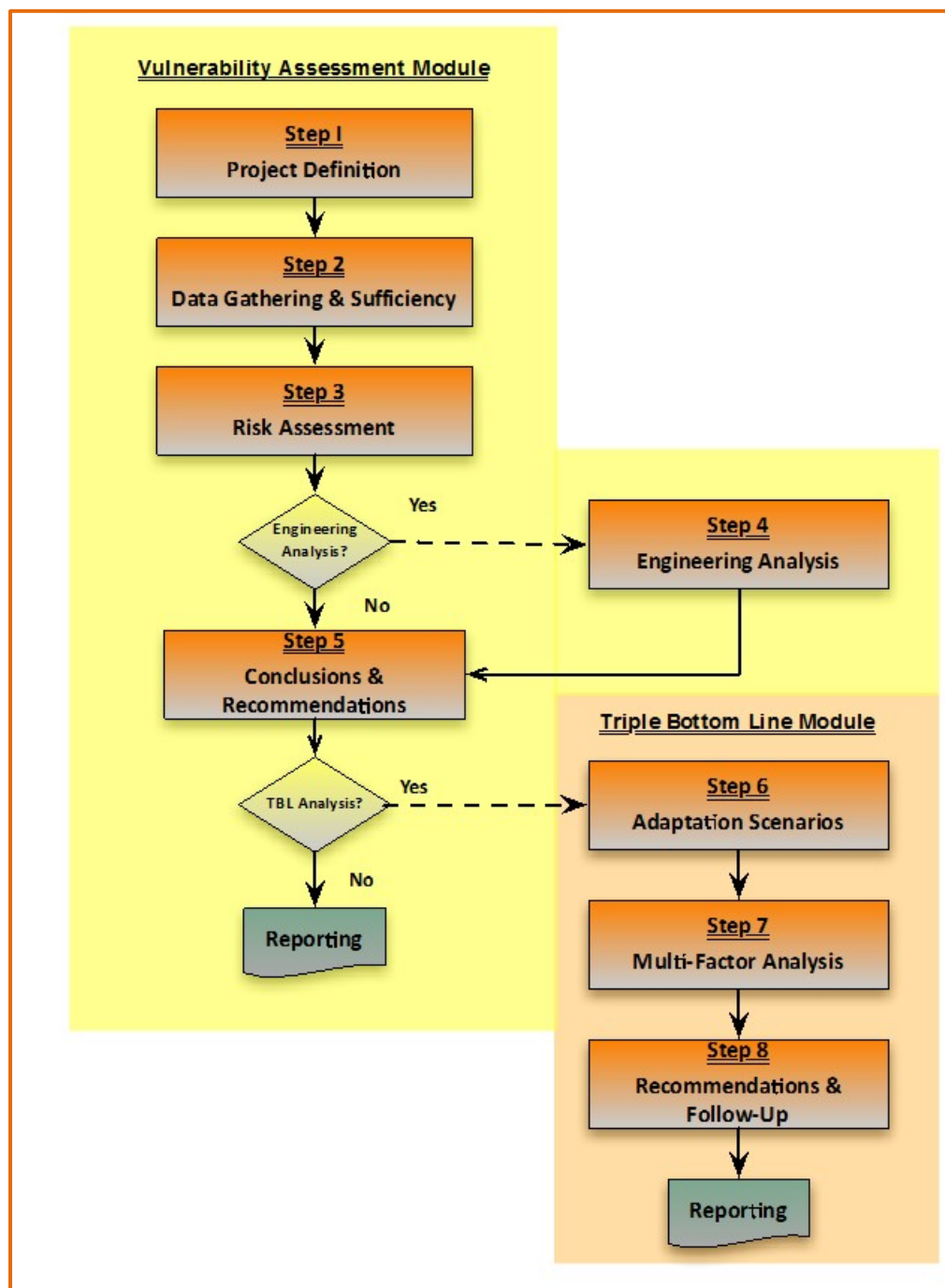


Figure 1: PIEVC Protocol Process Flowchart (Source: Engineers Canada, PIEVC Protocol Revision PG-10, May 2012)

- **Applicable climate information.** Sources of climate information include, but are not limited to:
  - Government agencies (for example: Environment and Climate Change Canada; Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change)
  - The National Building Code of Canada, Appendix C, Climate Information;
  - Intensity - Duration – Frequency (IDF) curves (for example, from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation or the Ontario Climate Data Portal);
  - Flood plain mapping;
  - Regionally specific climatic modeling and scenario development (IPCC, CCCSN.ca);
  - Historical records of severe weather events (for example: drought reports from conservation authorities and agriculture ministries; US NOAA registries, etc.)
  - Airport weather information (particularly wind patterns)
  - Climate research organizations (for example, ICLR, Ouranos); and
  - Others, as appropriate.

In this project a new element was added to incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) pertaining to community knowledge of local climate as well as local ecological/environmental concerns.

### 1.3.3 Step 3 – Risk Assessment

The Project Team first establishes which infrastructure (assets or components) are affected by the selected climate elements; this narrows down the number of interactions the Team will have to assess. These climate-infrastructure interactions are identified in the context of particular response considerations, for example: structural performance, operational impacts, loss of functionality, effects on the environment, etc.

In the Protocol, Risk is defined as the product of two ratings:

- Probability rating: a rating that represents the probability of occurrence of a climate event above a selected threshold, ranging from 0 (not applicable) to 7 (certain to occur)
- Severity rating: a rating of the impacts on the infrastructure asset or component should the climate event occur, ranging from 0 (no impact) to 7 (complete failure)

Risks are evaluated under current climate conditions to establish a baseline; future risks are assessed considering future (projected) climate changes and the projected condition of the infrastructure. The interactions identified are evaluated based on the professional judgement of the assessment team.

In a PIEVC Protocol application, the assessment process does not require that all interactions be subjected to further assessment. In fact, most of the interactions considered will ultimately be eliminated from further consideration. Some interactions may clearly present no, or negligible,



risk. Some interactions may clearly indicate a high risk and a need for immediate action. Those interactions that do not yield a clear answer regarding vulnerability may be the subject of a more detailed analysis (for example, refining the relevant climate event projections or improving the knowledge about the condition of the infrastructure and potential impacts of climate events), subjected to the further Engineering Analysis (Step 4 of the Protocol) or recommended for additional study subsequent to the assessment.

### 1.3.4 [Optional] Step 4 – Engineering Analysis

The optional Step 4 of the Protocol was not performed in this study.

### 1.3.5 Step 5 – Conclusions and Recommendations

The results of the previous Protocol steps are used to provide recommendations that generally fall into five major categories:

- No further action is required;
- Remedial actions required to mitigate infrastructure performance risks – typically engineering solutions such as upgrades to the infrastructure;
- Management actions required to account for changes in the infrastructure performance - for example, modifying operation and maintenance procedures due to fluctuations in winter precipitation patterns;
- Monitoring activities - for example, performance of the infrastructure or climate data analysis to validate projections; and/or
- Further work required to fill gaps in data availability or data quality.

### 1.3.6 Steps 6 to 8 – Triple Bottom Line Module

Not performed in this study.

## 1.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY, TIMELINE AND LIMITATIONS

### 1.4.1 Scope of the Study

The objectives of the project were to:

- Build awareness of the PIEVC Protocol as a risk management tool to MCA and OFNTSC staff;
- Identify infrastructure vulnerabilities to current and future severe weather. The Akwesasne W/WW infrastructure considered in the study included the potable water, and wastewater collection and treatment systems for Cornwall Island (ON), St. Regis (QC) and Snye (QC);
- Establish a risk profile for the Akwesasne W/WW infrastructure; and

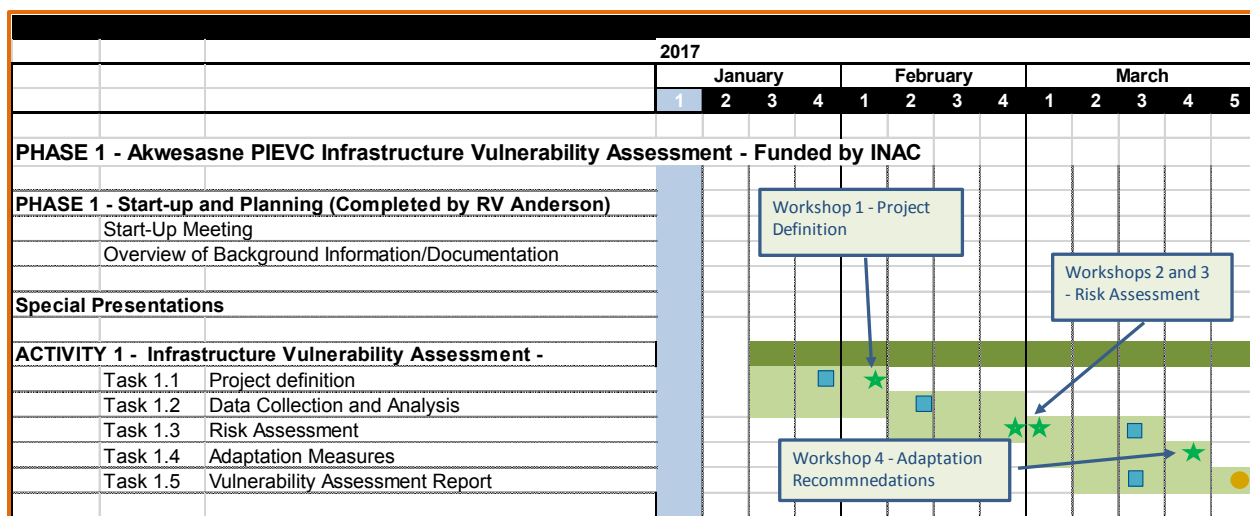
## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Introduction  
June 21, 2017

- Provide recommendations regarding mitigating risks with the highest consequences to the assets, service, and community;

### 1.4.2 Timeline

**Figure 2** below shows the timeline of the project. It is important to note that the project was initially approved in October 2016 and the initial kick-off meeting took place during that month. However, due to schedule constraints and the changes in consulting team, the project's activities resumed mid-January 2017.



**Figure 2: Project Timeline**

### 1.4.3 Limitations

Due to the short timeline of the project, pressure was placed on the Project Team to meet the deadlines while respecting the principles of the PIEVC Protocol in terms of data collection, analysis, and validation.

It is possible that additional infrastructure and climate data exists that was not available at the time of the project or could not be considered.

Further investigation into the availability of infrastructure and climate data and its compilation into sources compiled for this project will form one of the recommendations arising from this assessment.

## 1.5 PROJECT TEAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Project Team was composed of key staff from the MCA – Technical Services and Environmental Services Departments, OFNTSC Staff, and the Consulting team. This small but focused group of subject matter experts were supported by a Project Advisory Committee

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Introduction  
June 21, 2017

(PAC) from organizations that are knowledgeable or are interested in the area of climate change impacts on public infrastructure.

The strong technical, operational, and environmental expertise of the MCA staff, and their knowledge and experience as long-time residents of Akwesasne, was an essential and invaluable source of infrastructure and climate information to this project.

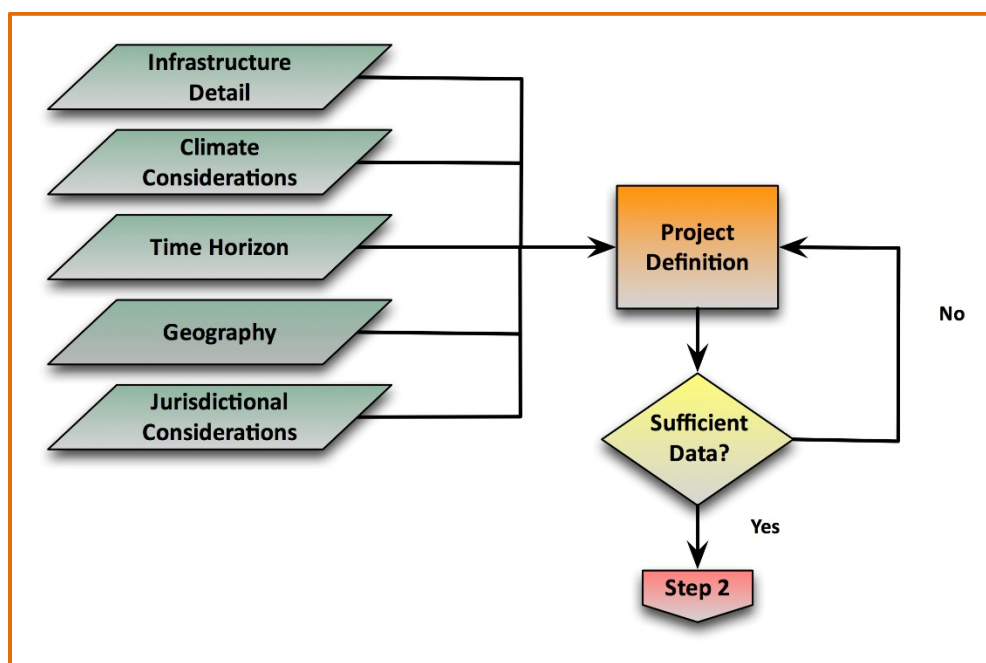
The members of the Project Team and the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) are listed below.

**Table 1.1: Project Team and PAC Members**

| Project Team   |   |
|--|---|
| <u>Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation</u><br>Elmer Lickers, Senior O&M Advisor<br>(Project Director)<br>Bill Maloney, Climate Change Officer   | <u>Consulting Team</u><br>Dr. Guy Félio, Senior Advisor, Stantec<br>(Project Manager)<br>Amanda Lynch, Water Resources<br>Engineer, Stantec<br>Eric Dunford, Strategic Management<br>Consultant, Stantec<br>Alexandre Mineault-Guitard,<br>Environmental Engineering Intern, Stantec<br>Heather Auld, Climatologist, RSI Inc. |
| <u>Mohawk Council of Akwesasne</u><br>Jay Benedict, Director Technical Services<br>Dr. Henry Lickers, Director Environmental<br>Services<br>John Tate Lazore, Water and Wastewater<br>Manager<br>Leslie Papineau, Technical Project<br>Manager |   |
| Project Advisory Committee (PAC)   |   |
| Stephanie Allen, OFNTSC<br>Ashley Dawn Bach, COO<br>Marla Desat, SCC<br>Tom Duncan, INAC<br>Al Douglas, OCCAR  | Andréanne Ferland, FNQLSDI<br>Caroline Larrivée, Ouranos<br>David Lapp, Engineers Canada<br>Jamie Ricci, Engineers Canada<br>Jacqueline Richard, OCCAR  |

## 2.0 STEP 1 - PROJECT DEFINITION

The PIEVC Protocol illustrates the elements that are considered during the Project Definition step as illustrated in **Figure 3** below.



**Figure 3: PIEVC Protocol Project Step 1 - Definition Process Flowchart (Source: Engineers Canada, PIEVC Protocol Revision PG-10, May 2012)**

The Project Team met at Workshop 1 on February 8, 2017 with some members of the PAC in attendance to define the project parameters.

All participants acknowledged that MCA's Technical Services had very good knowledge of the water and wastewater infrastructure they operate as illustrated by the comprehensive information presented at the Workshop.

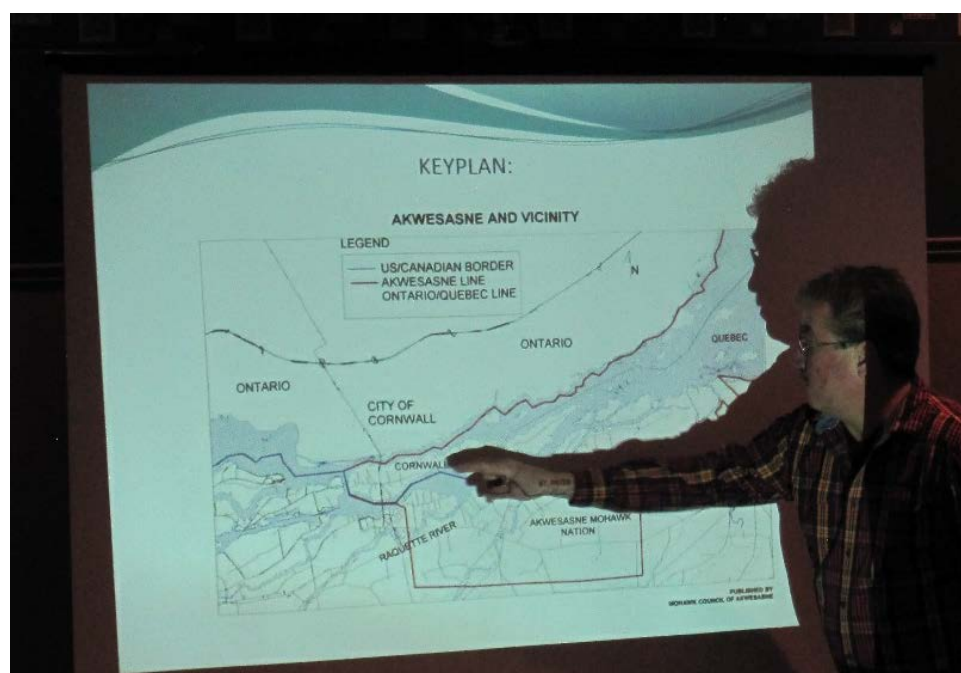
## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 1 - Project Definition

June 21, 2017



**Figure 4: Presentation by David Lapp of Engineers Canada at the Project Definition Workshop**



**Figure 5: Jay Benedict, Director of MCA Technical Services presents the W/WW Infrastructure of Akwesasne at the Project Definition Workshop**

### Climate related concerns:

Discussions focused on current concerns on meteorological events that have or are causing W/WW infrastructure and operations disruptions and failures, and on observations of changes in climate patterns. Following are the main points raised and discussed during the Workshop.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 1 - Project Definition

June 21, 2017

- Lightning: has caused disruptions in the SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition – an IT system for gathering and analyzing real time data to support W/WW operations) and radio signals.
  - A participant noted a shift in when Traditional Lightning Ceremonies took place, In the past, these ceremonies would take place in June/July and September/October. However, in the last 10 years, these ceremonies occur earlier, in March/April and later in the year, November/December. It was also mentioned that lightning was noticeably more intense.
- Mixed winter precipitation events are more common: snow with winter rain, and freezing rain. This has caused problems in buildings with flat roofs (which are common in W/WW facilities), which are susceptible to damage due to these conditions and can cause leaks into the buildings.
- Strong wind events that restrict traffic or close bridges to Cornwall island: this has an impact on operations since the South Channel Bridge is used to access the W/WW facilities in St. Regis and Snyc.
- Impacts of extreme high or sustained high temperatures on the operations personnel. The MCA has been pro-active in this area with precautions in place for employees.
- Heavy rains:
  - Concerns with surface run-off that change the turbidity of the raw water. Although the WTPs have some capacity to deal with certain thresholds of turbidity, more frequent or severe run-off may cause turbidity levels that cannot be handled by current plant processes.
  - Increased I/I (infiltration and inflow) into wastewater collection system that impacts the WWTP at St. Regis.
  - Increased flow into the WW collection system from individual properties - for example, sump pumps from houses in St. Regis are connected to the WW collection system.
- Lower water levels in the St. Lawrence River – impacts on the raw water intake:
  - Change in shipping channels, that currently may cause ships to run aground, may cause ships to come close and damage the water intake.
  - Lower water levels and higher temperatures may cause biological changes in the raw water that may not be treated with the current processes in the WTP.
  - Concern about the water transmission main buried in the channel between St. Regis and Snyc.
- Freezing rain and ice storms: winter road patterns are changing and during freezing rain events, cars have fallen through near the water intake in St. Regis.
- Insect spreads (and possible new species): for example, Brown Recluse spider and Lyme disease carrying ticks – impacts on personnel operations.

### Infrastructure to be considered

Based on the information provided by the MCA Technical Services, the water and wastewater system in Akwesasne can be characterized as two independent systems, as follows:



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## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 1 - Project Definition  
June 21, 2017

- Cornwall Island: potable water and wastewater systems
- St. Regis/Snye: potable water and partial wastewater systems (some properties in St. Regis and Snye use private septic systems)

The group discussed which infrastructure should be considered in the PIEVC study and decided to do an assessment of both systems. Factors considered included the fact that these two systems serve different types of geography and population densities (Cornwall Island being more geographically spread out while St. Regis being similar to a small village).

### Time Horizon for the study

The time horizons for the study were selected as current conditions (establishing the baseline risks) and 2050 for future conditions. Many of the Akwesasne infrastructure assets were built in the 1990's and early 2000's and will have to be replaced, undergo rehabilitation or retrofit, or will be at an advance stage into their service lives within the time horizon selected.

## 3.0 STEP 2 – DATA GATHERING - AKWESASNE W/WW INFRASTRUCTURE

MCA operates the Community's water and wastewater system to service the population of the three districts. As many other communities in Canada, Akwesasne is not immune to extreme weather and climate uncertainty, and has experienced meteorological events that have caused service disruptions and damage to its infrastructure.

### 3.1 INVENTORY OF INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS

The Akwesasne Mohawk Nation spans the Ontario/Quebec border as well as the Canada/U.S.A. border. The infrastructure systems reviewed in this study includes systems located on Cornwall Island, Ontario and St. Regis and Tsi Snaihne (Snye), Quebec.

In addition to the infrastructure information provided by the MCA Technical Services, the team was given INAC's Asset Condition Rating System (ACRS) and Integrated Capital Management System (ICMS) data for the Akwesasne infrastructure.

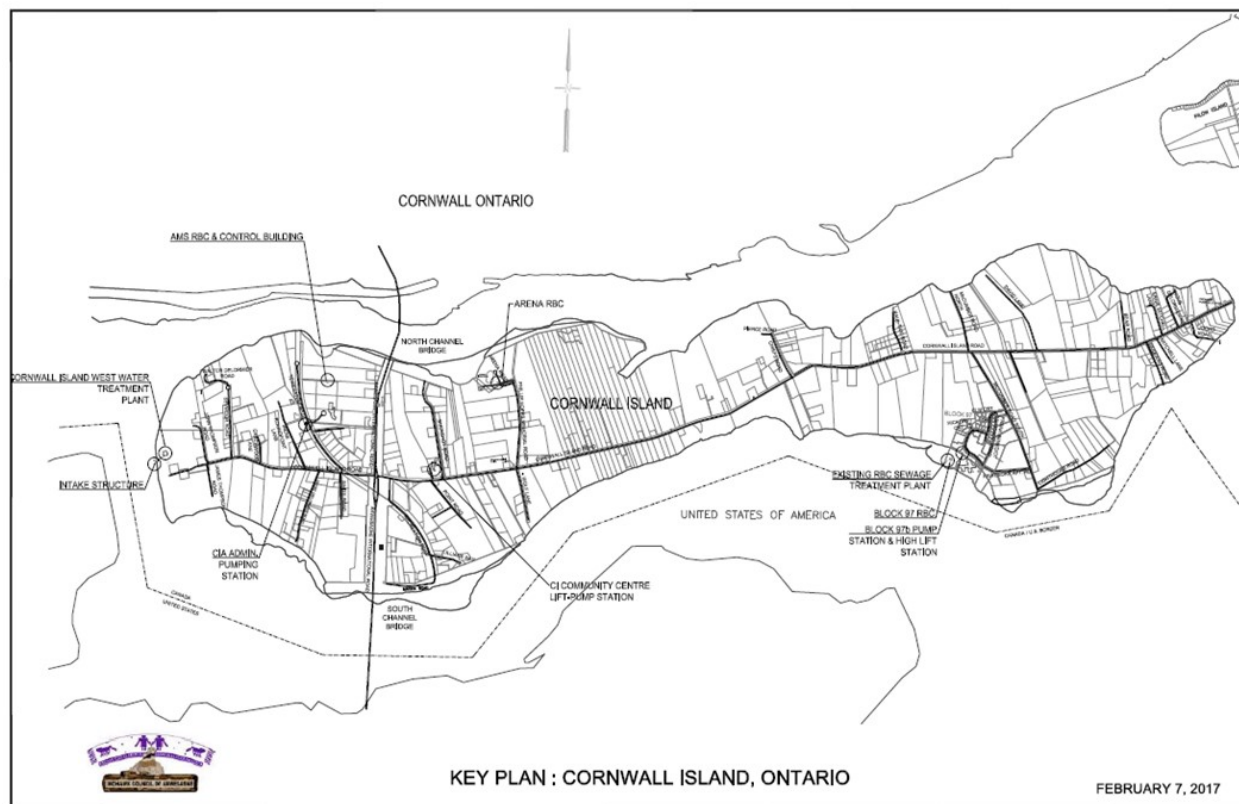
#### 3.1.1 Cornwall Island, Ontario

The Cornwall Island infrastructure systems consists of the Cornwall Island West Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and associated distribution pipes and fire hydrants, pump stations and rotating biological contactors (RBC) for treatment of sanitary discharge at various community facilities. Each of the facilities is discussed in the following sections. A key plan of Cornwall Island infrastructure is included in **Figure 6** below.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 6:Key Plan of Cornwall Island Water and Waste Water Facilities**

### 3.1.1.1 Cornwall Island West Water Treatment Plant

The Cornwall Island WTP used direct filtration treatment to provide potable water to all of Cornwall Islands' water distribution system. The facility is located on the west end of the island which is the highest elevation location on the island. The facility was constructed in 2006 and designed for a 20-yr population projection of 6,898 persons. The facility is designed to meet average day demand flows of 300Lcpd and provide a fire flow rate of 166.7L/s for 3hours. The WTP also includes 1,400m<sup>3</sup> of reservoir storage.

**Figure 7** below shows frontal photo of the building.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 7: Cornwall Island Water Treatment Plant Building**

### Intake and Low Lift Pump

The intake for the WTP is located in a high-flow reach of the St-Lawrence River approximately 10m from the shoreline and 3m deep. A low lift pump is housed in a control building at the top of the river bank to pump water from the St-Lawrence to the WTP. The pump station includes two low-lift pumps to allow for redundancy.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 8: Intake and Low Lift Pump**

### Treatment Process Components

The water treatment process at the Cornwall Island WTP relies primarily on direct filtration using sand filter systems. A flocculant agent (alum) is added to the intake water to encourage

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

coagulation of particles to facilitate removal through the filtration system. Filtered water is captured and conveyed to the UV treatment system for disinfection.



**Figure 9: Inside View of the Cornwall Island WTP**

Filters are backwashed on a regular basis to remove the sediments accumulated in the filters. Backwash water is discharged to settling tanks from which the settled sludge is collected for disposal and clarified water is discharged back to the St-Lawrence River. The backwash discharge is routinely tested for chlorine residual. A cascading outlet system and wetland provides aeration and polishing of the backwash discharge water.

Disinfection of the treated water is provided via an Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system. For drinking water treatment, UV systems are increasingly common as they provide high levels of disinfection with less production of harmful by-products which are common with chlorine or bromine disinfection processes. Nevertheless, a small amount of chlorine is required to be added to the treated water prior to entering the reservoir to ensure sufficient residual is present in the distributed water to prevent contamination in the distribution system.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

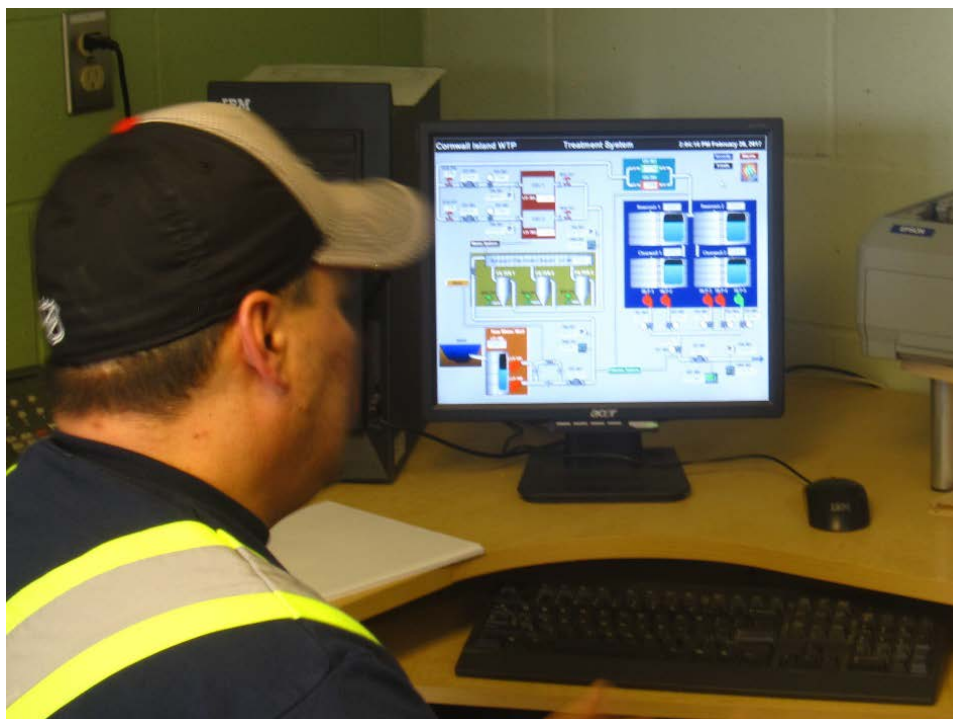
June 21, 2017

### Reservoir and High lift pumps

Treated water is stored in the 1400m<sup>3</sup> reservoir for domestic demand and fire-fighting reserve. Water is pumped from the reservoir to the distribution main by high-lift pumps. A total of five (5) high-lift pumps are available to pump to the distribution main however only one pump runs continuously with the other four pumps available during higher demand conditions. If the pressure in the distribution main drops below 80psi a second pump is started to maintain the system pressure.

### SCADA System

The entire treatment plant is controlled by a SCADA system that monitors flows and pressures throughout the various system components. The system will initiate back-up pumps as necessary and will also alert the operator of critical issues.



**Figure 10: MCA Water Treatment Plant Operator Clayton Barnes Explaining the Plant's SCADA System During the February 28, 2017 Site Visit**

### Backup Power

A diesel generator provides a back-up power source for the WTP. On-site fuel storage provides sufficient fuel to power the generator continuously for approximately 3 days. The generator is serviced and tested regularly to ensure it is maintained operable in the event of a power failure.



**Figure 11: MCA Water Treatment Plant Backup Generator**

#### **3.1.1.2 Cornwall Island Water Distribution Systems:**

The Cornwall Island Water Treatment Plant serves Kawehnoke with over 9 kilometers of water main and approximately 450 service connections, while the St. Regis Water Treatment Plant serves all of Kanatakon and Tsi Snaihne with 27 kilometers of water main and approximately 950 service connections.

A total of 143 fire hydrants are located on Cornwall Island and are maintained for the Cornwall Island District. Fire hydrants provide a point of connection for fire-fighting as well as a means of flushing the water distribution system to eliminate any stagnated or potentially contaminated water from the distribution main.

#### 3.1.1.3 Rotating Biological Contactors

There are three (3) rotating biological contactors (RBC) that provide waste water treatment to community buildings on Cornwall Island. These RBC units are a form of secondary wastewater treatment which relies on biological decomposition of organic matter in the wastewater. The systems include a primary treatment process that uses pre-screening and settling to remove larger solids.

The RBC unit consists of closely spaced disks that are mounted on a rotating shaft and installed just above the surface of the wastewater. Microorganisms grow on the disks which provide the mechanism for biological decomposition of the organic pollutants in the wastewater.

The following RBC units are in operation on Cornwall Island:

- Cornwall Island Block 97 RBC
  - o Built in 2001 to replace a smaller system
  - o Services all of Block 97
  - o Discharges by gravity to the St-Lawrence River on the shore of the island



Figure 12: Exterior View of Block 97 RBC

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 13: Interior View of Block 97 RBC**

- Arena RBC
  - o Build date is unconfirmed
  - o Services the Cornwall Island Arena
  - o Discharges by gravity to the St-Lawrence on the north shore of the island
- Akwesasne Mohawk School (AMS) RBC
  - o Built in 1991 and services the AMS
  - o Gravity outlets to the St-Lawrence River on the north shore of the island
  - o Includes a control building which houses power and controls for the RBC unit

### **3.1.1.4 Pump Stations**

#### Wastewater

There are three wastewater pump station facilities located on Cornwall Island that pump wastewater to nearby RBC units for treatment. These pumps are located below ground with access ports from the surface. Most sites include above ground control panels and air vents.

Cornwall Island Block 97 pump station



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

- Pumps wastewater from the Block 97 development (consists of 9 apartment buildings, chronic care facility and 30 homes) to the RBC unit.
- Constructed in 1991

#### Cornwall Island Community Centre Lift Station

- Serves the Community Centre/Daycare and the Tri-district Elders Centre.

#### Cornwall Island Administration (CIA) complex Pump Station

- Pumps wastewater from the CIA complex to the AMS RBC for treatment.
- Constructed in 2002



**Figure 14: Exterior and Interior Views of the Cornwall Island Administration Pump Station**

#### Potable Water

A high-lift water pumping station is also operational at the Block 97 site; this lift station was initially constructed in 1989 to service the development but is now on standby since the construction of the water treatment plant.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 15: Building of the High Lift Station at Block 97**

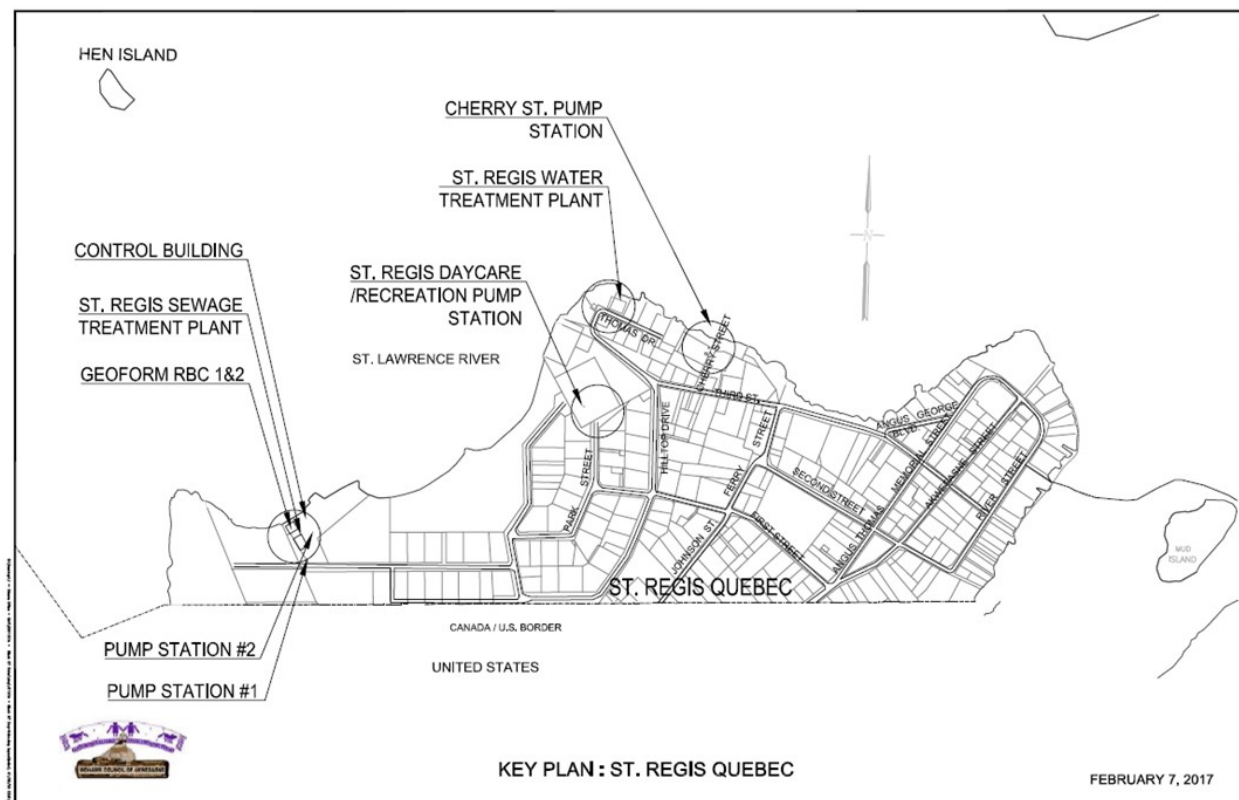
### 3.1.2 St. Regis, Quebec

The St. Regis infrastructure systems consists of a Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and associated distribution pipes and fire hydrants, pump stations, Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) and wastewater pumping stations for collection of waste water and for discharge of treated effluent. St. Regis village infrastructure also includes a stormwater collection system. Each of the facilities is discussed in the following sections. A key plan of St. Regis infrastructure is included in **Figure 16** below.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 16: Main Infrastructure Locations in St. Regis (QC)**

### 3.1.2.1 St. Regis Water Treatment Plant

The St. Regis WTP uses direct filtration treatment to provide potable water to all of St. Regis and a portion of Snye's water distribution system. The facility is located on the south bank of the St-Lawrence River. The facility was constructed in 1998 and designed for a population projection of 2,500 persons. The facility is designed with a total flow capacity of 2046m<sup>3</sup>/d and serves to meet average day demand flows of 300Lcpd. The WTP has a total storage capacity of 1,639m<sup>3</sup> within the reservoir which includes a fire flow reserve of 842m<sup>3</sup>.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 17: Exterior View of the St. Regis Water Treatment Plant**

### Intake and Water Treatment Process

The treatment facility draws raw water from an intake of the shore of the St-Lawrence River. Treatment of the raw water is achieved using granular activated carbon (GAC) filters and ultraviolet (UV) system disinfection.



**Figure 18: Granular Activated Carbon Tanks at St. Regis WTP**

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

### Reservoirs

The reservoirs at the St. Regis WTP includes a total of 5 holding tanks. Two reservoirs are used to store raw water and the remaining three are used to store treated drinking water for distribution and emergency supply.

### Water Distribution System

Treated water is distributed from the WTP to St. Regis village and a portion of Snje via a watermain network. The distribution system also includes 39 fire hydrants which are maintained by the St. Regis District.

#### **3.1.2.2 St. Regis Waste Water Collection System**

The St. Regis waste water collection system includes two pump stations which pump waste water from the service area to the wastewater collection sewers for conveyance to the wastewater treatment plant. Both facilities are located below ground with control panels located above the ground surface.

##### Cherry Street Pump Station.

This lift station services the entire lower region of St. Regis Village which consists of approximately 150 homes. Constructed in 1998 the lift station is located near the north central limit of the village.



**Figure 19: Exterior of the Cherry Street Pump Station**



**Figure 20: Interior of the Cherry Street Pump Station**

### St. Regis daycare/Recreation Centre Pump Station

This lift station services the Kanatakon St. Regis Recreation Building. The facility is located south of the water treatment plant near the centre of the village.

### **3.1.2.3 St. Regis Waste Water Treatment Plant**

The St. Regis waste water treatment plant (WWTP) was constructed in 1991 and services the entire village of St. Regis. While the facility was originally constructed in 1991 the existing treatment system relies on Geoform RBC units installed in 2001. The facility has a design capacity for 2018 population projections of 2,000 persons and uses and has a rated capacity of 1,080m<sup>3</sup>/d. The plant's peak hydraulic capacity is 42.7L/s for three hours.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017



**Figure 21: Exterior View of the St. Regis Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The treatment facility provides primary and secondary treatment of wastewater. Primary treatment is achieved through settling of solids while secondary treatment is achieved through the four train RBC system composed of four trains of four units. Treated wastewater is pumped from the PS3 lift station for discharge to the St-Lawrence River. The pump station is located underground with a control panel located at the surface. The lift station was constructed in 1999.



**Figure 22: RBC Units at St. Regis WWTP**

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

### 3.1.2.4 Stormwater Collection System

A stormwater collection system services a portion of St. Regis however it is understood that the system provides conveyance only and does not include water quality treatment or flow control.

### 3.1.3 Snye, Quebec

The Snye infrastructure systems consists of a drinking water storage and distribution system, wastewater pump stations, and a wastewater treatment facility including a lagoon. Each of the facilities is discussed in the following sections. A key plan of Snye water and waste water infrastructure is included in **Figure 23** below.

#### 3.1.3.1 Snye Water Storage Facility/Pump House and High-Lift Station

The Snye Water Treatment Plant is located near the centre of the district and serves only to house the main reservoir for drinking water distributed from the St. Regis WTP. The facility has a storage capacity of 800m<sup>3</sup> and was constructed in 1991. As the reservoir is located underground, a high lift station is used to distribute drinking water and to sustain system pressures. The lift station was constructed in 1991 and consists of three high lift pumps; two jockey pumps and one Fire Pump that provides limited service during a power outage. A total of 149 fire hydrants also make up part of the Snye water distribution system.

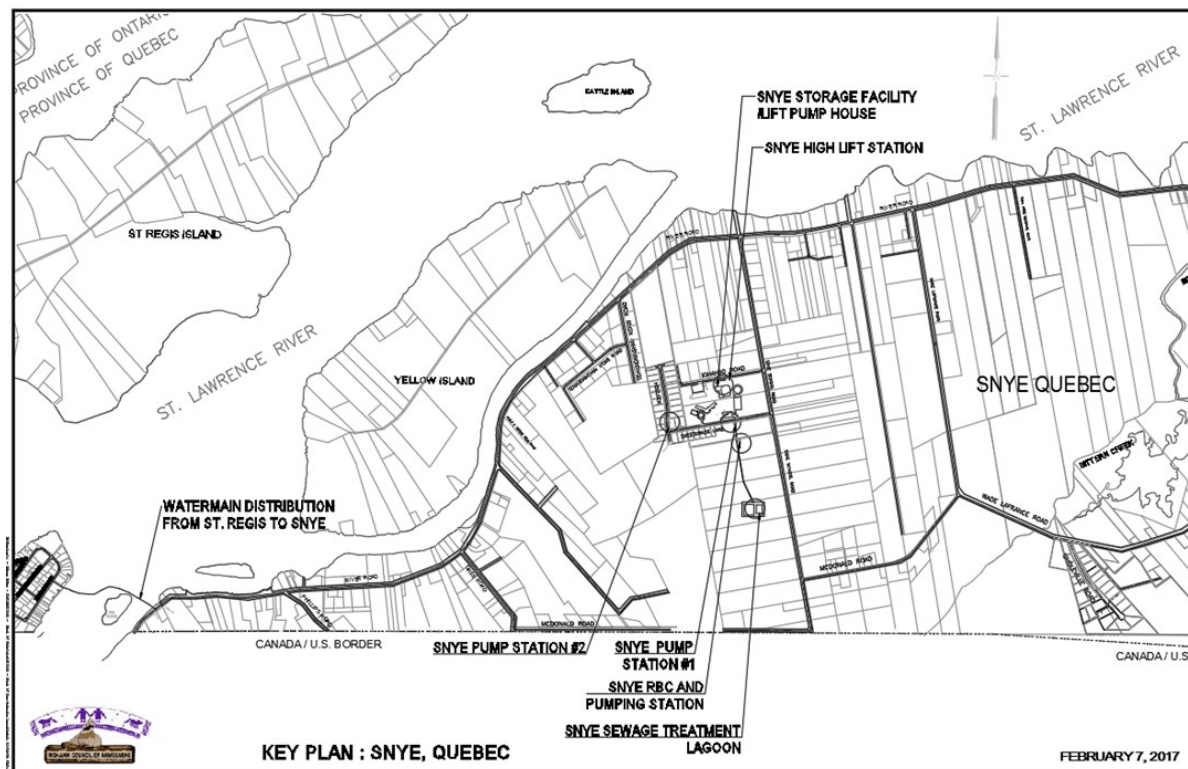


Figure 23: Main Infrastructure Assets at Snye

#### 3.1.3.2 Waste Water Pumping Stations

There are two waste water pumping stations located within the Snye district that pump waste water to the RBC treatment facility.

##### Snye Pump Station 1

This pump station was constructed in 1960 and is located near Snye School and handles most of the Snye municipal waste water flow. The facility consists of two active pumps located below ground with a control panel located at the surface.

##### Snye Pump Station 2

Pump station 2 was constructed in 2009 and services the residential subdivision along CH-704 and Sweet Grass Lodge Road. the facility is located below ground with a control panel at the surface.



**Figure 24: Snye Pump Station #1 (left) and Pump Station #2 (right)**

#### 3.1.3.3 Snye RBC and Waste Water Lagoon

The RBC unit was constructed in 1991 and services the schools, Daycare, Lakhihsotha Lodge and residential subdivision consisting of approximately 30 homes. The facility handles all the municipal waste water for the Snye district.

The waste water treatment lagoon was constructed in 1960 and consists of two ponds downstream of the RBC unit. At initial construction, the lagoon would have provided the primary

treatment for the Snye waste water system. Since the construction of the RBC unit, the lagoon provides a final treatment step for the RBC effluent.

### 3.2 CONDITION OF INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS

In terms of condition/performance rating, no field inspection was carried out by the Project Team, and we relied exclusively on the asset condition and performance provided by the MCA Technical Services staff and the ICMS report provided by INAC.

The ICMS data provides an overall condition rating for each infrastructure asset on a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being a new asset, as shown in **Table 3.1** below. The table also shows, for reference purposes, the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (see [www.CanadaInfrastructure.ca](http://www.CanadaInfrastructure.ca)) rating system which is commonly used by municipalities. The table also includes a description of the rating used by the City of Edmonton to illustrate the meaning of the ratings.

**Table 3.1: INAC's ICMS, Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (CIRC) Condition Rating Scales and Descriptive (from City of Edmonton)**

| ICMS GENERAL<br>CONDITION RATING |                       | CIRC CONDITION<br>RATING |           | DESCRIPTION<br>(Source: City of Edmonton)  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| 0                                | Closed or<br>Critical | 1                        | Very Poor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The element is physically unsound and/or not performing as originally intended.</li> <li>Element has higher probability of failure or failure is imminent.</li> <li>Maintenance costs are unacceptable and rehabilitation is not cost effective.</li> <li>Replacement/major refurbishment is required.</li> </ul>   |
| 1 – 3                            | Poor                  | 2                        | Poor      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The element is showing significant signs of deterioration and is performing to a much lower level than originally intended.</li> <li>A major portion of the element is physically deficient.</li> <li>Required maintenance costs significantly exceed acceptable standards and norms.</li> <li>Typically, element is approaching the end of its expected life.</li> </ul> |



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

| ICMS GENERAL<br>CONDITION RATING |               | CIRC CONDITION<br>RATING |           | DESCRIPTION<br>(Source: City of Edmonton)  |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| 4 – 6                            | Fair          | 3                        | Fair      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The element is showing signs of deterioration and is performing at a lower level than originally intended. Some components of the element are becoming physically deficient.</li> <li>Required maintenance costs exceed acceptable standards and norms but are increasing.</li> <li>Typically, element has been used for a long time and is within the later stage of its expected life.</li> </ul> |
| 7 - 9                            | Good          | 4                        | Good      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The element is physically sound and is performing its function as originally intended.</li> <li>Required maintenance costs are within acceptable standards and norms but are increasing.</li> <li>Typically, element has been used for some time but is within mid-stage of its expected life.</li> </ul>   |
| 10                               | New           | 5                        | Very Good | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The element is physically sound and is performing its function as originally intended.</li> <li>Required maintenance costs are well within standards and norms. Typically, element is new or recently rehabilitated.</li> </ul>   |
| 99                               | Not Inspected |                          |           |  |

The INAC and municipal scales present similar ratings but are not comparable on a 1-to-1 basis.

**Table 3.2** below presents an extract of the ICMS report provided by INAC which provides information on the condition of infrastructure in Akwesasne.

# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure

June 21, 2017

**Table 3.2: INAC's ICMS Condition Rating Scale**

| Mohawks of Akwesasne - Water & Wastewater Assets<br>As per ICMS - March 16, 2017 |                               |            |   |                  |     |             |                          |                 |       |                          |
|--|-------------------------------|------------|---|------------------|-----|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Site   | Sub-Class Description         | Asset Code | Asset Name                              | Year Constructed | Age | Design Life | Estimated Remaining Life | Quantity Number | Unit  | General Condition Rating |
| 06210  | WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT        | A5A        | KAWENOKE WEST LOW LIFT STATION BUILDING | 2005             | 11  | 40          | 30                       | 22              | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT        | A5A        | ST.REGIS SEWAGE TREATMENT               | 2001             | 15  | 20          | 30                       | 397.3           | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT        | A5A        | KANEKIO WATER PLANT                     | 1998             | 18  | 30          | 25                       | 746.15          | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT        | A5A        | TSI SNAHNE WATERPLANT                   | 1978             | 38  | 30          | 25                       | 260             | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT        | A5A        | KEWENOKE WEST WTP BLDG                  | 2005             | 11  | 40          | 35                       | 906             | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WASTEWATER TREATMENT DISPOSAL | A5B        | SEWAGE TREATMENT BUILDING               | 1991             | 25  | 0           | 25                       | 79.8            | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WASTEWATER TREATMENT DISPOSAL | A5B        | RBC CONTROL BUILDING - AMS              | 1991             | 25  | 30          | 25                       | 8               | sq. m | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | SNYE WATERMAIN EXTENSION                | 2011             | 5   | 50          | 40                       | 10844           | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | WATERMAINS CORNWALL ISLAND              | 1977             | 39  | 0           | 15                       | 100             | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | CI EAST WATERMAIN                       | 2008             | 8   | 50          | 40                       | 7470            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | WATER MAIN SNYE                         | 1996             | 20  | 30          | 25                       | 9600            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | WATER MAINS KAWENOKE APTS.              | 2001             | 15  | 50          | 30                       | 1310            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | WATER MAINS C.I. WEST                   | 2008             | 8   | 50          | 40                       | 9175            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER MAINS                   | B1B        | WATER MAINS ST-REGIS                    | 1998             | 18  | 30          | 30                       | 6453            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM        | B1C        | KAWENOKE WEST WATER TREATMENT           | 2005             | 11  | 20          | 25                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM        | B1C        | WATER TREATMENT SYSTM@KANEKIO           | 1998             | 18  | 30          | 15                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER STORAGE                 | B1E        | RESERVOIR CI WTP                        | 1989             | 27  | 25          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER STORAGE                 | B1E        | RESERVOIR KANEKIO H2O                   | 1997             | 19  | 30          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER STORAGE                 | B1E        | RESERVOIR                               | 1991             | 25  | 0           | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | WATER STORAGE                 | B1E        | RESERVOIR CI WEST WTP                   | 2005             | 11  | 30          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | HIGH LEVEL LIFTSTATION        | B1H        | HIGH LIFT STATION                       | 1991             | 25  | 15          | 15                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | HIGH LEVEL LIFTSTATION        | B1H        | HIGH LIFT STATION                       | 1991             | 25  | 30          | 15                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LOW LEVEL LIFTSTATION         | B1I        | KANE KIO-LOW LIFT STATION               | 1998             | 18  | 0           | 25                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LOW LEVEL LIFTSTATION         | B1I        | KAWENOKE WEST LOW LIFT PUMPS            | 2006             | 10  | 30          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | SANITARY MAIN                 | B2A        | SANITARY MAINS ST. REGIS                | 1992             | 24  | 30          | 20                       | 5222            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | SANITARY MAIN                 | B2A        | SANIT. MAIN COLLECTION SNYE             | 1991             | 25  | 40          | 25                       | 1002            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | SANITARY MAIN                 | B2A        | CI ADMIN SANIT. COLLECTION              | 2002             | 14  | 40          | 25                       | 990             | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | SANITARY MAIN                 | B2A        | SANIT. MAIN COLLECTION BLK97            | 1990             | 26  | 25          | 20                       | 985             | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | STORM MAIN                    | B2B        | STORM MAINS - ST. REGIS                 | 1960             | 56  | 60          | 15                       | 2149            | m     | Fair                     |
| 06210  | STORM MAIN                    | B2B        | STORM MAIN CI EAST                      | 2003             | 13  | 30          | 30                       | 1168            | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | STORM MAIN                    | B2B        | STORM MAINS - C.I. WEST                 | 2001             | 15  | 0           | 25                       | 420             | m     | Good                     |
| 06210  | RBC/TRICKLING FILTER          | B2C        | RBC UNIT                                | 1991             | 25  | 0           | 5                        | 1               | ea    | Fair                     |
| 06210  | RBC/TRICKLING FILTER          | B2C        | 16 UNIT RBC ST. REGIS                   | 2001             | 15  | 7           | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | RBC/TRICKLING FILTER          | B2C        | BLK 97 SEWAGE RBC EXPANSION             | 2001             | 15  | 0           | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LAGOON                        | B2E        | LAGOON - CHENAIL SCHOOL                 | 1960             | 56  | 0           | 5                        | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | CTTY SEPTIC TANK AND FIELD    | B2F        | COMMUNAL SEPTIC FIELD BED               | 2001             | 15  | 30          | 15                       | 1               | ea    | Fair                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | SANITARY LIFT STATION SNYE PH. 2        | 2009             | 7   | 40          | 25                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | LIFT STATION SEWAGE PS2 CHERRY          | 1998             | 18  | 30          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | SEWAGE LIFT STATION, SR-PS5             | 1994             | 22  | 30          | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | PS3 LIFT STATION -SEWAGE                | 1999             | 17  | 30          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | LIFT STATION - SEWAGE                   | 1991             | 25  | 0           | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Fair                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | CI ADMIN.PUMP STATION                   | 2002             | 14  | 20          | 20                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | LIFT STATION - SEWAGE                   | 1960             | 56  | 0           | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Fair                     |
| 06210  | LIFTSTATION                   | B2H        | CI COMMUNITY C&R LIFT STATION           | 2000             | 16  | 0           | 10                       | 1               | ea    | Good                     |

In general, **Table 3.2** shows the water and wastewater assets in Akwesasne are in good condition, with some infrastructure, particularly for wastewater and stormwater management, exhibiting signs of deterioration or performing at lower levels than originally intended.

Additional information on the condition and needs of the Akwesasne water and wastewater infrastructure was provided by the MCA Technical Services as follows:

- SCADA at St. Regis WWTP not working at this time
- Snye RBC needs replacing due to age
- Snye Pump Station 1 needs replacing
- Pumps need to be replaced at Cherry ST. Pump Station 1 (Snye)
- Three pumps at Snye WWTP need replacement
- St. Regis water intake: Zebra mussels and freezing problems
- All Fuel tanks need replacing due to age/condition
- Leaks in distribution system in St. Regis / Snye

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 2 – Data Gathering - Akwesasne W/WW Infrastructure  
June 21, 2017

- Infiltration/sump pumps in stormwater collection system in St. Regis and Snye
- Piping needs replacing in Blk 97 pump station
- Need grinder or shredder pumps in Blk 97 Pumping Station
- Need new grinder in PS 1 St. Regis

Other problems identified by the MCA Technical Services in the operations, maintenance and capital improvements for their W/WW infrastructure include:

- Wait times / travel at both border crossings
- Contracted service personnel sometimes have trouble or refuse to cross border
- Cost of equipment has increased, and/or there is limited availability in Canada, therefore the only source is to purchase in the United States where the exchange rate for the US dollar is high.

## 4.0 CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS

The climate considerations presented hereafter are the result of discussions of the Project Team and PAC members at the project workshops, research into public information and the report entitled "Climate Probability Analyses for Mohawk Council of Akwesasne PIEVC Studies" from RSI Inc. is attached in **Appendix A**.

The selection of climate parameters and infrastructure thresholds was the result of the workshops during which the history of infrastructure-weather interactions that have caused structural or functional failures, or service disruptions were discussed.

### 4.1 TRADITIONAL CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE

Information gathered from long-time residents of Akwesasne on the Project Team, complemented by the report below, were critical to guide the climate analysis and define the infrastructure thresholds this vulnerability assessment.

#### 4.1.1 Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Akwesasne (2013)

The Project Team and PAC members were provided a 2013 report produced by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe entitled *Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Akwesasne*. This report describes climate trends, for example:

"Observed climate trends over the past few decades indicate a changing climate. Since 1970, trends that have been observed include rising temperatures, more frequent hot days, longer growing seasons, less snowfall and more winter rain, reduced snowpack, and earlier ice and snowmelt resulting in earlier peak river flows."

The report makes particular reference to the weather events of 2012, as follows:

"At Akwesasne, the drought of summer 2012 affected many of nature's cycles on all of creation. The changes came about in the way of hot and humid temperatures, high winds, heavy rainfall, hail, low water levels, and fish and wildlife reproductive cycles were out of sync. The downpour of rainfall, hail, and strong high winds destroyed gardens at a time when it was late to restart gardens to get a good crop. Some areas had 6 inches of hail in July. Thunderstorm warnings were also issued."

"Thunderstorm warnings were also issued. As a result of the dry conditions, residents who planted gardens needed to work extra hard to keep gardens from drying up. Heavy rainfall has been more frequent, downing corn stalks

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Climate Considerations

June 21, 2017

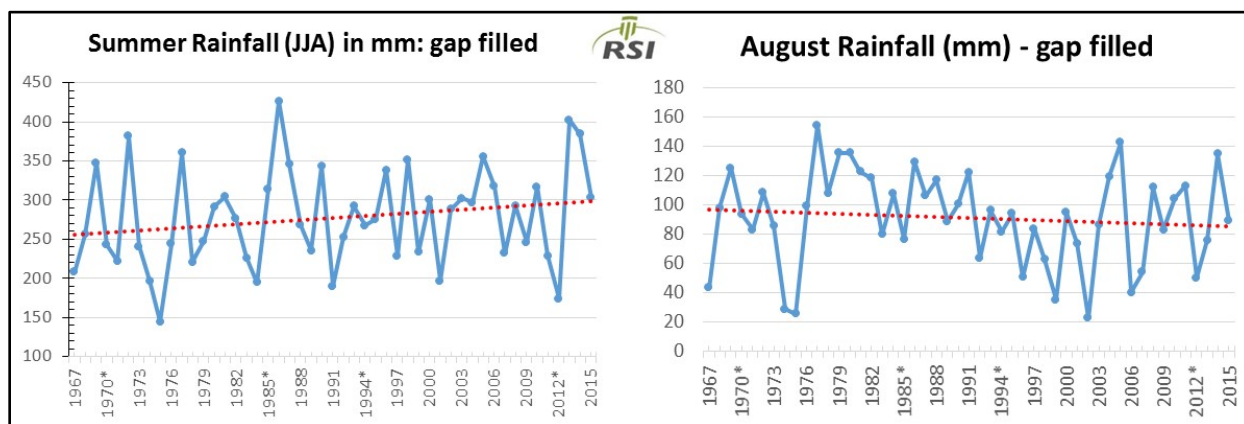
and other tall plants, and heavy cloud cover and cloud formations with high winds have been observed to have become more frequent as well."

"A tornado hit in Summerstown in summer 2012, just miles from Akwesasne. Akwesasne had high winds on that day."

"On December 27th, 2012, there was a winter storm warning in Akwesasne and many businesses and offices were closed. Schools were out on Christmas vacation. Thirteen to 17 inches of snow fell within 24 hours."

Climate trends indicate these patterns may continue in the future. The climate analysis revealed:

- Mid-late summers appear to be changing: increasing rainfall totals for June, July and September, while decreasing in August (see **Figure 25** below).
- Climate change models for future are not clear – slight summer increases.
- Spring and summer 2012 were very dry – Level 2 Low Water in Raisin River Conservation Authority and Level 3 in parts South Nation Conservation Authority; accompanied with hot temperatures.



**Figure 25: Comparison of Summer Rainfall Averages and August Rainfall Averages for Cornwall (\* indicates incomplete data)**

### 4.1.2 Lightning and Hail

Two additional meteorological events were included in the analysis as they may have impacts on the infrastructure assessed:

Lightning which has caused SCADA failures in the past and for which the season of occurrence, based on local observations, is now longer. As indicated earlier, a member of the Project Team noted a shift in when Traditional Lightning Ceremonies took place, and that lightning was noticeably more intense.



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Although hard to predict, the NOAA storm events database reports a strong lightning event in Massena (NY) in May 2007 that caused in excess of US \$250,000 in damages at the time.

Hail up to between 3/4in (19mm) and 1in (25mm) diameter has been reported in the NOAA storm events database in July 2008 and 2016 in the Massena (NY) area.

## 4.2 GENERAL OVERVIEW

Akwesasne's unique and challenging climate can be characterized by:

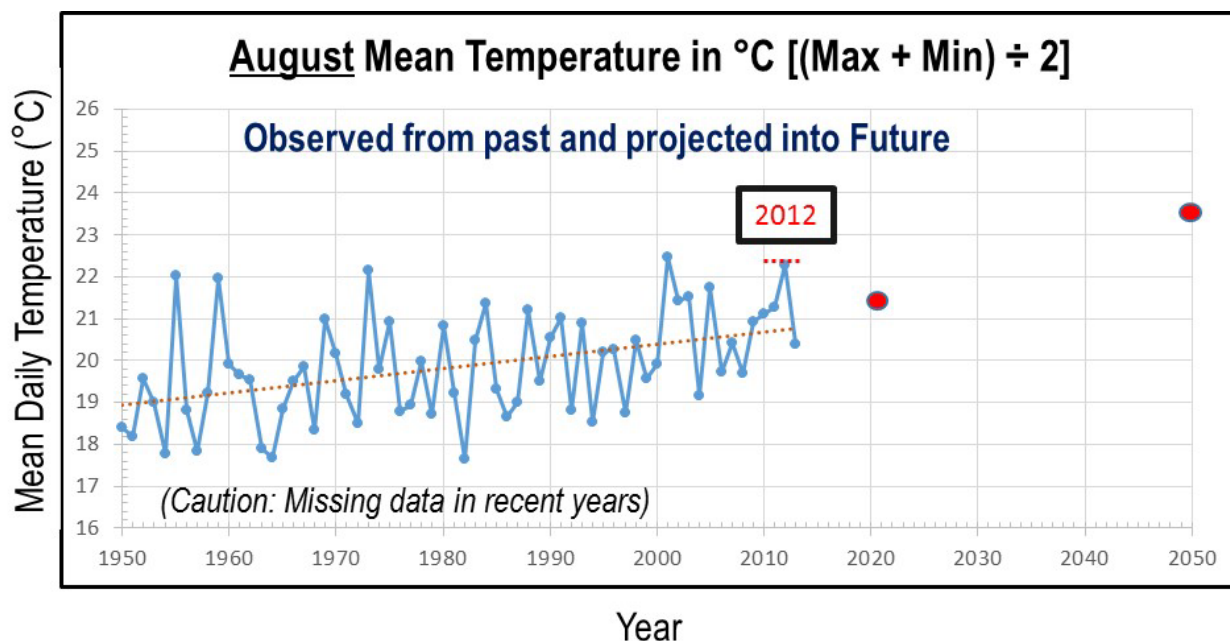
- Many storm tracks meet in the area – even an Atlantic Ocean influence
- Unique valley climate – St Lawrence River, some Ottawa valley influence
- Summer heat & humidity; air quality issues; drought some years (observed and projected – IPCC AR5 RCP 8.5<sup>4</sup>) August mean temperatures illustrated on **Figure 22** below).

Which potentially result in:

- Severe thunderstorms/ tornadoes; heavy downpours, soggy periods
- Windy – winds mainly up and down the valley, funnelling
- Potential for big ice storms, snow storms

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<sup>4</sup> The Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs), which are used for making projections, describe four different 21st century pathways of GHG emissions and atmospheric concentrations, air pollutant emissions and land use. The RCPs include a stringent mitigation scenario (RCP2.6), two intermediate scenarios (RCP4.5 and RCP6.0) and one scenario with very high GHG emissions (RCP8.5). RCP2.6 is representative of a scenario that aims to keep global warming likely below 2°C above pre-industrial temperatures. Source: <http://www.ipcc.ch/index.htm>



**Figure 26: Historical and Projected August Mean Temperatures for Cornwall (ON)**

Climate elements were part of the discussions at each of the four workshops of the project. In Workshop 1 – Project Definition, MCA staff was to recall weather events that may have caused disruptions in the water or wastewater services or failures of assets.

During Workshops 2 and 3, the Project Team and PAC members present reviewed the list of suggested weather elements by the PIEVC Protocol (**Appendix B** – March 1, 2017 Workshop #4 Presentation) and selected those relevant to the infrastructure under assessment and local/regional climate conditions.





**Figure 27: Heather Auld of RSI Inc. Presenting Climate Information to the Participants at Workshop 4 on March 21, 2017**

In Workshop 4, prior to finalizing the risk assessment and discussing potential adaptation measures, the Project Team and PAC members present were provided further information on climate elements, thresholds and probabilities (See **Appendix A** for climate presentation by Heather Auld, RSI Inc.)

### 4.3 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

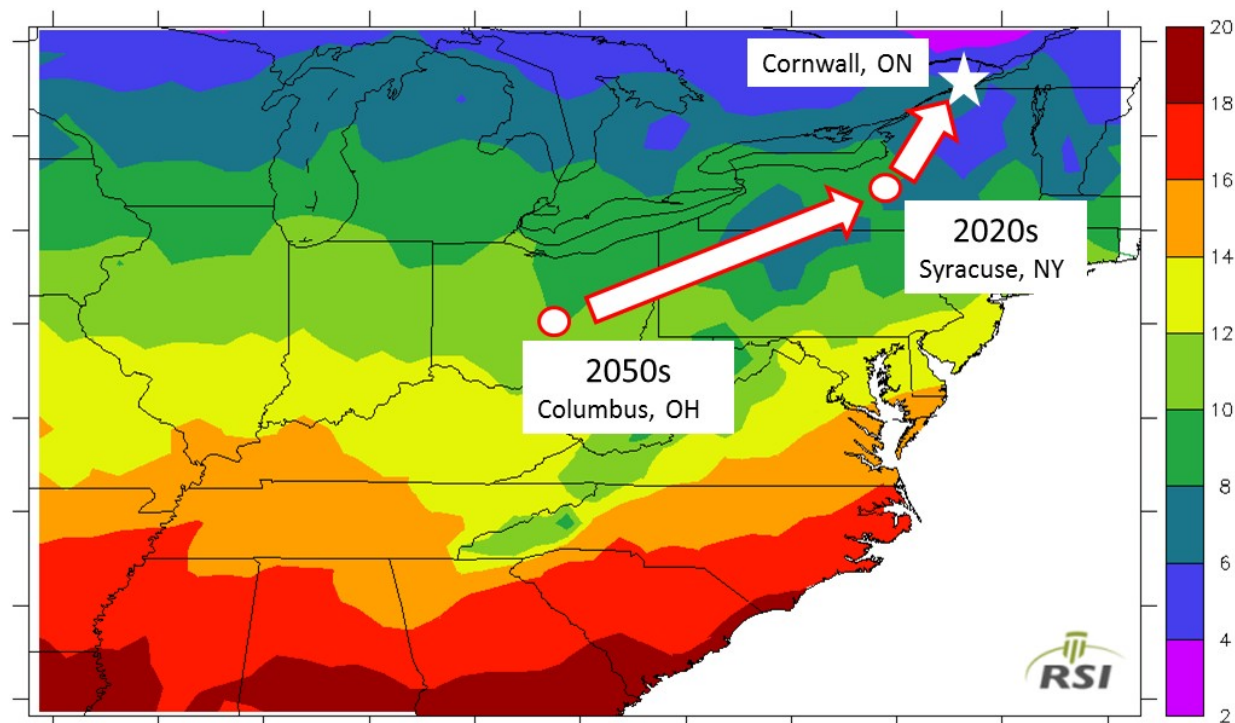
The main sources of climate information for this study are listed below:

- Environment Canada – Cornwall Weather Station; Climate ID: 6101872
- US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
  - Massena (NY) Weather Station
  - Storm Events Data Base for St. Lawrence County (NY)
- Ontario Tornado Watch

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Climate Considerations  
June 21, 2017

In general, the changes in climate in the Akwesasne area are projected to result in a climate similar to Syracuse (NY) in the 2020's and to Columbus (OH) in the 2050's as illustrated in **Figure 28** below.



**Figure 28: Projected Future Mean Annual Temperatures for Cornwall – 2020's (2010-40) and 2050's (2040-70): (IPCC AR5, RCP8.5)**

### 4.4 CLIMATE ELEMENTS

The selected climate elements for the exposure, vulnerability and risk assessments are shown in **Table 4.1** below.

Several extreme weather events were observed locally in 2012 (see section 4.4 Other Considerations) and thus was used as a reference year to establish baseline climate thresholds.

# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Climate Considerations

June 21, 2017

**Table 4.1: Principal Climate Elements Considered in the Analysis**

| Type of Climate Element | Description   | Comment  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Temperature</b>      | Days (per year) with Max Temps > 36°C   | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Very warm August Temps Mean >22.5°C ( <i>warmer than August 2012</i> ) (                  | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Combination August warm temperatures & low rainfalls                                      |  |
| <b>Precipitation</b>    | Days with August total precipitation ≤ ~51mm ( <i>equal to or less than August 2012</i> ) | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Winter snowfall for Jan-Feb-Mar > 200 cm  | Gap filled dataset used  |
|                         | Winter rainfall totals (DJF) > 120mm  | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | March rainfall totals > 60  | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Snowfall event > 25 cm/day  | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Winter rainfall > 25mm/day  | Significant missing data over past decade  |
|                         | Severe ice storms (≥ 20 mm freezing rain in one day)                                      |  |
|                         | Extreme ice storms (≥ 40 mm freezing rain that isn't easily shed)                         |  |
|                         |   |  |
| <b>Fog</b>              | Visibilities below ½ statute mile   | Reference impacts to shipping  |
| <b>Wind</b>             | Days with gusts > 90 km/h   | i.e., NBC 50-year return period design steady wind                                 |
|                         | Days with gusts > 125 km/h  | i.e., NBC 50-year return period climatic design gust with wind gust factor applied |
|                         | Days with gusts > 140 km/h  | Massena A, 50-year return period wind gust   |
|                         | Tornado frequency within 25 km radius   | Only have data for Canadian territory. Probability 2x if considering US side       |
|                         | Tornado frequency – within 50 km radius   | Only have data for Canadian territory. Probability 2x if considering US side       |

## 5.0 STEP 3 - VULNERABILITY AND RISK ASSESSMENT

### 5.1 PIEVC PROTOCOL PROCESS

Step 3 of the Protocol instructs the Project Team to perform the following steps, illustrated in **Figure 29** below.

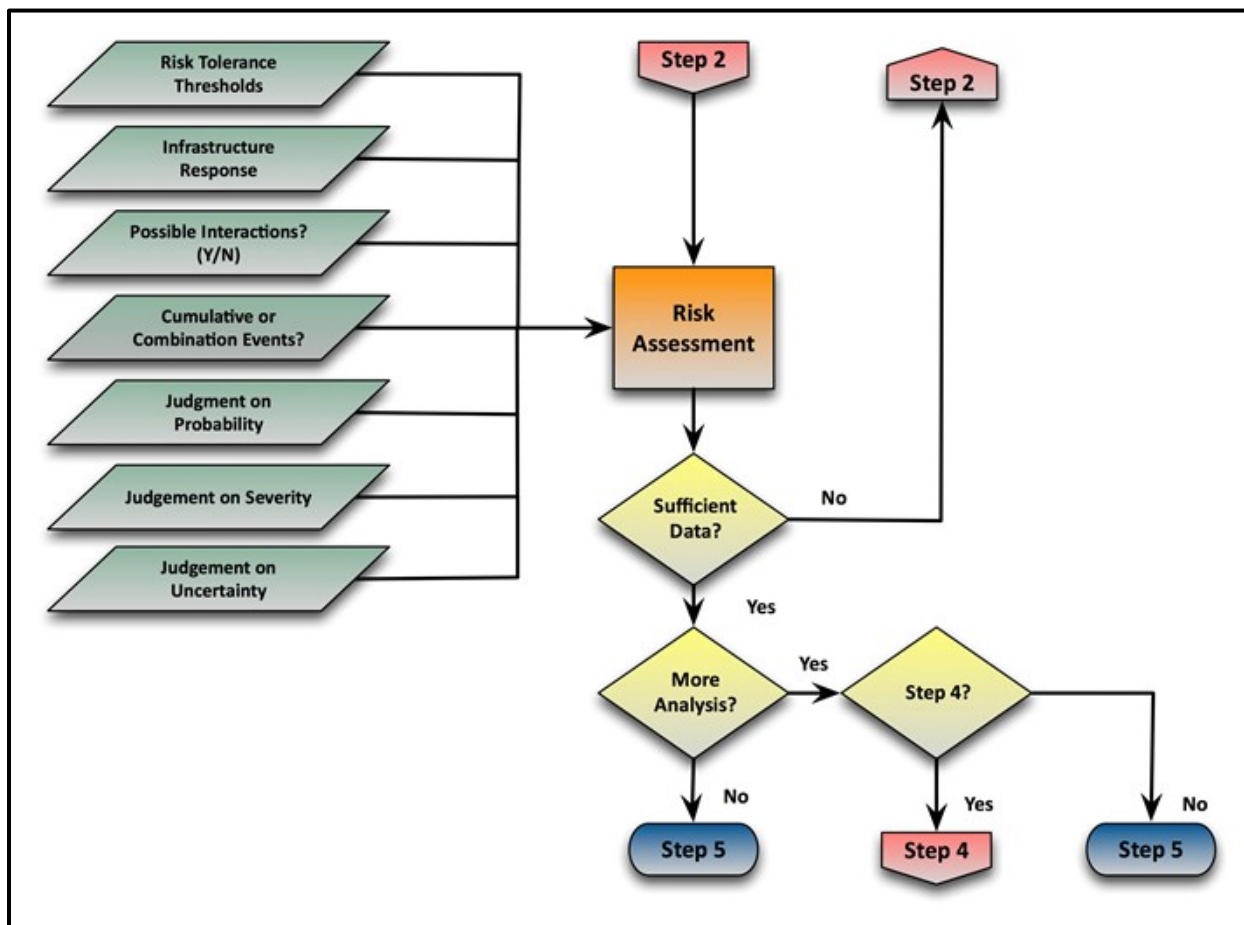


Figure 29: PIEVC Protocol Risk Assessment Process Flowchart

### 5.2 RISK THRESHOLDS

Risk is defined as the product of the Probability score multiplied by the Severity score. Since the probability and the severity scores are each rated from 0 to 7, the maximum risk score will be 49.

For this project, the risk thresholds shown in **Table 5.1** below were selected by the Project Team:

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.1: Selected Risk Thresholds**

| Score         | Description   |
|---------------|---|
| <12           | <b>Low:</b> no action required  |
| 12 to 20      | <b>Moderate:</b> monitoring recommended   |
| 21 to 34      | <b>High:</b> action may be required if threat materialises; a more detailed analysis may be needed.   |
| ≥ 35          | <b>Extreme:</b> action required; immediate attention if risk occurs in current climate; adaptation planning necessary if risk occurs in future climate projections                            |
| Special Cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Frequently recurring events - low single event impacts but accumulated effects</b></li><li>▪ <b>Low probability - High impact events</b></li></ul> |

### 5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE RESPONSE

During Workshop 2, the Project Team and PAC members present selected the infrastructure response criteria against which the infrastructure-climate interactions and risks would be evaluated. The reader is encouraged to study the details of the infrastructure responses selected that are provided in **Appendix B**. They are summarized below:

#### Infrastructure response

1. Structural design/capacity
2. Functionality
3. Serviceability
4. Watershed, surface waters and groundwater
5. Operations, maintenance and materials performance
6. Environmental effects

#### Community Impacts

1. Emergency response
2. Insurance and legal considerations
3. Policy considerations
4. Social and cultural effects
5. Impacts on the environment
6. Financial/fiscal considerations

### 5.4 CLIMATE PROBABILITY SCORING

Since statistical information for historical and projected event frequencies was available for most climate parameters, PIEVC's Method B (**Table 5.2**) was used to develop probability scores for



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

each parameter. The climate probabilities are converted from numerical probabilities, where possible, into PIEVC score categories ranging from 0 or “unlikely”, to 7, or “highly likely.”

**Table 5.2: PIEVC Probability Scoring Method B**

| Score | Probability |              |
|-------|-------------|--------------|
| 0     | <0.1%       | < 1 in 1,000 |
| 1     | 1%          | 1 in 100     |
| 2     | 5%          | 1 in 20      |
| 3     | 10%         | 1 in 10      |
| 4     | 20%         | 1 in 5       |
| 5     | 40%         | 1 in 2.5     |
| 6     | 70%         | 1 in 1.4     |
| 7     | >99%        | >1 in 1.01   |

**Table 5.3** to **Table 5.5** present the results of the climate analysis (current trends and future projections), and the corresponding PIEVC probability scores used in the risk assessment.

**Table 5.3: Probability Scores for Temperature and Fog**

| Climate Element   | Current (data to 2014 in some cases)                    | Score (Current) | Future climate to 2050s  | Score (Future) |
|---|---|-----------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Temperatures</b>   |   |                 |  |                |
| Days (per year) with Max Temps > 36°C   | 0.03 or once every 30+ years                            | 2               | 0.9 or Once every 1-2 years  | 5              |
| Very warm <b>August</b> Temps Mean >22.5°C (warmer than August 2012)                    | 0.06 or 3 times in last 50 years (1973, 2001, 2012)     | 3               | Almost every year (mean of 23.3°C)                                 | 6              |
| Days with <b>August</b> total precipitation ≤ ~51mm (equal to or less than August 2012) | 0.16 or 8 times in last 50 years (every 6-7 years)      | 4               | Slightly more often  | 5              |
| Combination August Warm Temperatures & low rainfalls                                    | << 0.16   | 3               | Common – Temps frequent; rainfall prob. ≥ 0.16                     | 4              |
| <b>Fog</b>  |   |                 |  |                |
| Visibilities below ½ statute mile   | ~ 6-7% probability during shipping season (for Massena) | 3               | Unknown, although some decreasing trends in parts of North America | 3              |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.4: Probability Scores for Precipitation**

| Climate Element   | Current (data to 2014 in some cases)                    | Score (Current) | Future climate to 2050s  | Score (Future) |
|---|---|-----------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Precipitation</b>  |   |                 |  |                |
| > 120 mm rainfall in 7 days                                       | 0.04 or once every 20+ years (2 in 45 years)            | 2               | Likely continue to increase  | 3              |
| Winter snowfall for Jan-Feb-Mar > 200 cm                          | 0.1 or once every 9+ years (4 years out of 35)          | 3               | Winter snowfall amounts appear to be increasing – but likely to decrease into future | 2              |
| Winter rainfall totals (DJF) > 120mm                              | 0.2 or once every 5 years (6 years out of 30)           | 4               | ? Might have decreased since 1981 – lots of missing data                             | 4              |
| March rainfall totals > 60 mm                                     | 0.1 or once every 10 years (3 times in recent 30 years) | 3               | Increasing   | 4              |
| Snowfall event > 25 cm/day  | 0.36 or once every 3+ years (18 years out of 50)        | 5               | Snowstorms may increase in intensity but shorter winters                             | 6              |
| Winter rainfall > 25mm/day  | 0.4 or once every 2-3 years (20 years out of 50)        | 5               | Increase; shorter snow season, warming winters                                       | 6              |
| Severe ice storms (≥ 20 mm freezing rain in one day)              | ~ Once every 10 years                                   | 3               | Expected to increase (~40+%), based on Cheng et al                                   | 4              |
| Extreme ice storms (≥ 40 mm freezing rain that isn't easily shed) | ~ Once every 50 years                                   | 2               | Expected to increase (assume ~40%)   | 3              |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.5: Probability Scores for Winds, Hail and Lightning**

| Climate Element   | Current (data to 2014 in some cases)                                       | Score (Current) | Future climate to 2050s                    | Score (Future) |
|---|--|-----------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Winds</b>  |  |                 |  |                |
| Days with gusts > 90 km/h (i.e., NBC 50-year return period design steady wind)  | 0.8 or ~ once every year – Based on recent 11 years of data for Massena    | 7               | Estimate ~25% increase                     | 7              |
| Days with gusts > 125 km/h (i.e., NBC 50-year return period climatic design gust with wind gust factor applied)                       | 0.45 or once every ~2 years – Based on recent 11 years of data for Massena | 5               | Likely increase (assume 25%)               | 6              |
| Days with gusts > 140 km/h (Massena, 50-year return period wind gust)   | 0.05 or once every 50 years based on U.S. wind extremes study              | 2               | Likely increase                            | 3              |
| Tornado frequency within 25 km area (Note: only have data for Canadian territory within 25 km. Probability doubled if considering US) | ~0.1 or once every ~10 years (4 in 30 years)                               | 3               | ? Could increase; Longer convective season | 4              |
| Tornado frequency – within 50 km area (Note: only have data for Canadian territory within 50 km.                                      | 0.3 or once every ~3+ years (9 in 30 years)                                | 5               | ? Could increase; Longer convective season | 6              |
| <b>Hail</b>   |  |                 |  |                |
| Hail storm >19mm diameter   | ~0.2 or 2 events in 10 years in Massena                                    | 4               | ? Could increase; Longer convective season | 5              |
| <b>Lightning</b>  |  |                 |  |                |
| Greatest yearly density for Cornwall area   | ~ 2 strikes /sq.km/yr.   | 7               | Unknown                                    | 7              |

## 5.5 INFRASTRUCTURE SEVERITY SCORING

The following rating system was used for the assessment of the severity of impacts on the infrastructure should a selected climate event took place.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.6: Infrastructure Severity Scoring**

| Score | Severity of Consequences and Effects                  |
|-------|---|
| 0     | Negligible<br>Not Applicable                          |
| 1     | Very Low<br>Some Measurable Change                    |
| 2     | Low<br>Slight Loss of Serviceability                  |
| 3     | Moderate Loss of Serviceability                       |
| 4     | Major Loss of Serviceability<br>Some Loss of Capacity |
| 5     | Loss of Capacity<br>Some Loss of Function             |
| 6     | Major<br>Loss of Function                             |
| 7     | Extreme<br>Loss of Asset                              |

## 5.6 RISK ASSESSMENT

### 5.6.1 Infrastructure components evaluated

The infrastructure assets considered in this assessment were divided into components to evaluate the impacts from the selected climate events. **Table 5.7** to **Table 5.9** below show the detailed lists of assets/components for each of the three districts: Cornwall Island, St. Regis and Snye.

# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.7: Cornwall Island Infrastructure Assessed**

| <b>Cornwall Island</b>                  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Water Supply System</b>              | <b>Wastewater System</b>  |
| Water Treatment Plant                   | Akwesasne Mohawk School - RBC and Control Building<br>Outfall in St. Lawrence River |
| Building structure                      | Building  |
| Building envelope                       | Equipment   |
| Roof                                    | Environment   |
| Process equipment                       | Cornwall Island Administration Complex - Pump Station                               |
| HVAC system                             | Building  |
| Foundations                             | Equipment   |
| Site services                           | Environment   |
| Storage and/or alternate use            | Cornwall Island Community Centre - Lift Station<br>Raised tile bed septic system    |
| Access road                             | Building  |
| Environment (plants, trees, animals)    | Equipment   |
| Environment (soil conditions)           | Environment   |
| Backwater disposal                      | Block 97 - RBC  |
| Biosolids/sludge disposal               | Building  |
| Communications / SCADA/Telemetry        | Equipment   |
| Back-up power (generator, fuel storage) | Environment   |
| WTP - High Lift Pumps                   | Arena - RBC   |
| WTP - Reservoir                         | Building  |
| WTP - Intake                            | Equipment   |
| WTP - Low Lift Pump                     | Environment   |
| Block 97b - Pump Station                | Biosolids/sludge disposal   |
| Building                                | Portable backup generators  |
| Equipment                               | <b>Administration/Operations</b>  |
| Environment                             | Vehicles and fleet  |
| Block 97b - High Lift Station           | Personnel   |
| Building                                | Records   |
| Equipment                               | Suppliers   |
| Environment                             | Communications  |
| Distribution pipes                      | Emergency procedures/personnel  |
| Fire Hydrants                           | Electricity   |
| Back-up power (generator, fuel storage) | General road network  |
| Water source (St. Lawrence)             | Bridges   |



# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.8: St. Regis Infrastructure Assessed**

| <b>St. Regis</b>                        |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Water Supply System</b>              | <b>Wastewater System</b>                    |
| Water Treatment Plant                   | Waste Water Treatment Plant                 |
| Building structure                      | Building structure                          |
| Building envelope                       | Building envelope                           |
| Roof                                    | Roof  |
| Process equipment                       | Process equipment                           |
| HVAC system                             | HVAC system                                 |
| Foundations                             | Foundations                                 |
| Site services                           | Site services                               |
| Storage and/or alternate use            | Storage and/or alternate use                |
| Access road                             | Access road                                 |
| Environment (plants, trees, animals)    | Environment (plants, trees, animals)        |
| Environment (soil conditions)           | Environment (soil conditions)               |
| Backwater disposal                      | Biosolids/sludge disposal                   |
| Biosolids/sludge disposal               | Communications / SCADA/Telemetry            |
| Communications / SCADA/Telemetry        | Sewage Treatment Building Lab & Shop        |
| WTP - GAC Tanks & Reservoir             | St. Regis - Geoform RBC's units             |
| Distribution Pipes                      | Building                                    |
| Fire hydrants                           | Equipment                                   |
| Water transmission line to Snye         | Environment                                 |
| Back-up power (generator, fuel storage) | PS3 Lift Station Waste Water Sewage         |
| <b>Administration/Operations</b>        | Building                                    |
| Vehicles and fleet                      | Equipment                                   |
| Personnel                               | Environment                                 |
| Records                                 | Cherry St. Pump Station                     |
| Suppliers                               | Building                                    |
| Communications                          | Equipment                                   |
| Emergency procedures/personnel          | Environment                                 |
| Electricity                             | St. Regis Daycare / Recreation Pump Station |
| General road network                    | Building                                    |
| Bridges                                 | Equipment                                   |
|   | Environment                                 |
|   | Collection pipes                            |
|   | Back-up power (generator, fuel storage)     |
|   | Portable backup generators                  |
|   | <b>Stormwater collection System</b>         |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.9: Snye Infrastructure Assessed**

| <b>Snye</b>                                 |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Water Supply System</b>                  | <b>Wastewater System</b>  |
| WTP - Storage Facility / Lift Station House | Pump Station 1  |
| Building                                    | Building  |
| Equipment                                   | Equipment   |
| Environment                                 | Environment   |
| WTP Reservoir                               | Sanitary Lift Station 2   |
| High Lift Station                           | Building  |
| Building                                    | Equipment   |
| Equipment                                   | Environment   |
| Environment                                 | RBC   |
| Distribution pipes                          | Building  |
| Environment (plants, trees, animals)        | Equipment   |
| Fire Hydrants                               | Environment   |
| <b>Administration/Operations</b>            | Lagoon  |
| Vehicles and fleet                          | Outfall   |
| Personnel                                   | Collection pipes  |
| Records                                     | Portable backup generators (from St Regis)  |
| Suppliers                                   | Back-up power (generator, fuel storage) - supports the Water supply and wastewater system |
| Communications                              | Wetland - treatment for sub-division (flow from septic tanks --> wetland --> marsh)       |
| Emergency procedures/personnel              |   |
| Electricity                                 |   |
| General road network                        |   |
| Bridges                                     |   |

### 5.6.2 Risk screening process

The first step in the production of the risk matrix is to evaluate whether there is an interaction between an infrastructure component and a climate event, also referred to as establishing the exposure of the infrastructure to the climate hazards. In the case an interaction exists, the Project Team identifies with respect to which infrastructure performance considerations the potential risk might exist (for example, impacts on the structural capacity or the functionality of the asset or component). The infrastructure performance considerations selected for this study were described in Section 5.3 of this report.

As the Project Team progressed through the project, it became evident that there were two types of impacts for the climate events: impacts on the performance of the infrastructure itself, and impacts on the service and the community should the infrastructure fail to deliver as designed. It was therefore decided to establish the risks with respect to the infrastructure assets considering the following performance factors:

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

1. Structural design/capacity
2. Functionality
3. Serviceability
4. Watershed, surface waters and groundwater
5. Operations, maintenance and materials performance

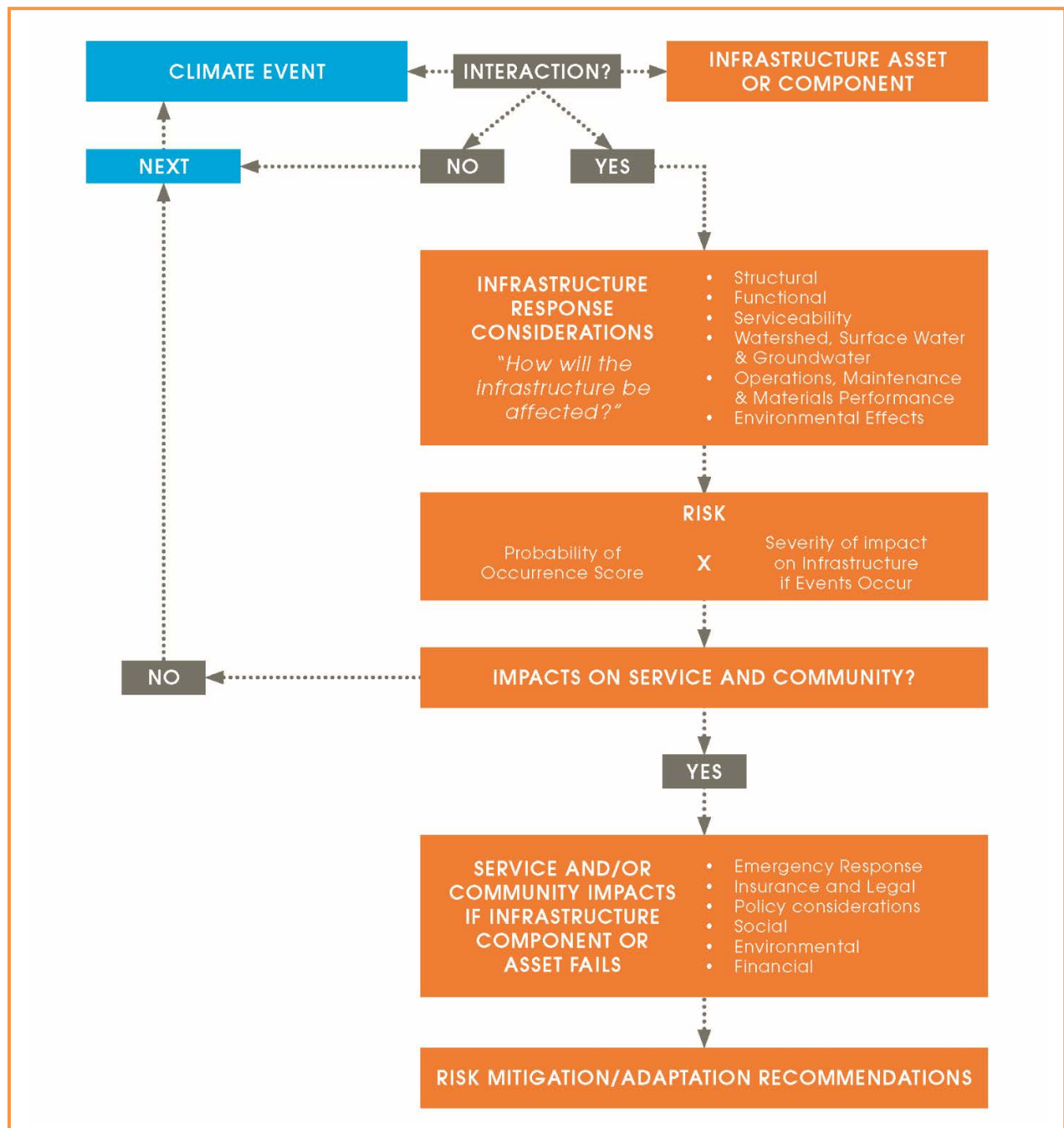
The analysis then considers the consequences on the service and/or the community should the risk materialize and the infrastructure fail to perform, using the remaining selected performance factors:

1. Emergency response
2. Insurance and legal considerations
3. Policy considerations
4. Social and cultural effects
5. Environmental effects
6. Financial impacts

This process is illustrated in Figure 30 following.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017



**Figure 30: Process Used to Establish Infrastructure Risks and Impacts on the Community**

Furthermore, the risks associated with future climate events were evaluated with respect to two (2) asset conditions: Condition 1 relates to assets that have been replaced at the end of their design life as per the ICMS data; Condition 2 relates to assets that reach the time horizon of this

study (2050) beyond their design life. This distinction is important since, as shown by the ICMS data illustrated in **Table 3.2**, many assets in the infrastructure system will reach their design life within the time horizon selected; Condition 2 thus presents a higher level of vulnerability for these assets. It should be noted that this analysis is not prescribed in the PIEVC Protocol; however, the Project Team felt it provides a more realistic assessment of the risks if the assets are not replaced or retrofitted in due time. Only assets for which high and extreme risks were evaluated with this dual condition process.

### 5.6.3 Summary of risk results

**Table 5.10** to **Table 5.12** below present a summary of the risk counts (moderate, high and extreme), the infrastructure assets or components affected, and the performance impacted if the risks occur. The general risk matrices created for this project consider infrastructure in a good state of repair, operating at the performance level it was designed for. This is addressed in **Section 5.6.1**.

Following are observations regarding the risks identified:

1. The highest risks are related to wind and precipitation events.

Tornados could be considered in the special risk category. The data analyzed shows a number of incidents within 25km and 50km of Akwesasne, although no site events have been recorded. Tornados can have devastating effects on the infrastructure located on their path, but generally cause "surgical" damage to above-ground infrastructure. The Project Team also identified downbursts and microbursts (strong convective downdrafts resulting in an outward burst of often damaging winds at or near the surface) as threats that can cause similar damage to tornadoes but over a wider area. Although members of the team indicated records of such events could be obtained from area farmers and forestry officials, this research was not completed as part of the project.

Long duration rain events can cause stormwater and wastewater problems in St. Regis and Snye, particularly due to the high groundwater level conditions in the area.

Hail greater than 19mm (0.75in) diameter can have damaging impacts on a number of infrastructure elements, including: building envelopes; light buildings such as the RBC shells, pumping stations buildings, etc.; vehicles; communication systems; etc. Although the data regarding hail under current and future climate is not conclusive, nearby (Massena, NY) hail storms warranted including this hazard and its impacts.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

2. Lightning is a threat to communications and the environment.

MCA staff indicated past damage to the SCADA and communications systems in Akwesasne. Local knowledge indicates that the lightning season is becoming longer and thus the risk of more cloud-to-ground strikes is expected to increase. Another infrastructure element susceptible of being affected by lightning are trees surrounding buildings and facilities. Indirectly, tall trees hit by lightning strikes may fall on a building or facility, potentially causing significant damage or disruptions.

3. Ice storms can cause severe disruptions and damage.

The Akwesasne community lived through the 1998 Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec that impacted electricity, communications, and transportation networks. Although the probability for similar events (>40mm of freezing rain) is low, the potential for less severe events (>20mm of freezing rain) can impact a wide range of infrastructure assets causing disruptions to services, response times, communications and electrical interruptions, etc.

4. Reliance on third-party services.

It is rare for a community to own and operate all the assets needed to provide services. Example of third-party services include: electricity (Cornwall Island is supplied by Cornwall Power; St. Regis and Snye are supplied by Hydro Quebec); communications (whether land lines or cellular); fuel and chemical supplies; etc. Risks to the MCA infrastructure will generally apply to those third-party organizations as well. It is therefore important that the community's risk management plan consider and involve those organizations.

5. Long periods of hot weather and low precipitation.

The summer of 2012 – and particularly August, was used as a reference since the extended hot temperatures and drought (low precipitation) conditions, particularly associated with high relative humidity, are likely to happen more often in the future. Consequences of such weather can include: damage to the environment (with potentially more wild fires); stress on the water system (higher demand, possible impacts on the water source and supply); personnel and indoor environment (HVAC) impacts; stress on the electricity supply (due to higher demand for cooling); etc. Furthermore, it is not unusual that these weather conditions are followed by intense and/or large rain events, thus potentially causing significant runoff that can lead to surcharging the drainage systems.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

### 6. The St. Lawrence water source.

The St. Lawrence River is a vast and reliable water source for the Akwesasne community. Fluctuations in the water levels, caused by natural events or human controls, may affect the intakes to the MCA water supply. For example, MCA staff indicated lower water levels in the River could expose the intake structures to boats and larger ships if there are changes in shipping channel corridors.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.10: Summary of risks for Cornwall Island infrastructure**

| Risk Score Counts  |     | Future<br>(2050s)<br>Climate | Main Climate Events   | Principal Infrastructure<br>Affected   | Infrastructure Performance<br>Impacted  |
|--------------------|-----|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Current<br>Climate |     |                              |   |  |   |
| Cornwall Island    |     |                              |   |  |   |
| Moderate           | 145 | 88                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li><li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li><li>• Snowfall event</li><li>• Severe Ice Storm</li><li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li><li>• Extreme Winds</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environment</li><li>• Personnel</li><li>• Suppliers</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Light buildings</li><li>• General roadworks</li><li>• Emergency response</li><li>• Vehicles and fleet</li><li>• Communications</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural capacity</li><li>• Functionality</li><li>• Serviceability</li><li>• Operations</li><li>• Environmental effects</li></ul> |
| High               | 47  | 135                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hail</li><li>• Tornados</li><li>• Strong winds</li><li>• Ice storms</li><li>• Snowfall events</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Light buildings</li><li>• Communications</li><li>• SCADA</li><li>• Environment</li><li>• Personnel</li><li>• Vehicles and fleet</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Suppliers</li><li>• General road works</li></ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural capacity</li><li>• Functionality</li><li>• Serviceability</li><li>• Operations</li><li>• Environmental effects</li></ul> |
| Extreme            | 28  | 34                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lightning</li><li>• Tornados</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All infrastructure</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All performance considerations</li></ul>  |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.11: Summary of Risks for St. Regis infrastructure**

| Risk Score Counts |                 |                        | Main Climate Events   | Principal Infrastructure Affected   | Infrastructure Performance Impacted   |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|---|---|
|                   | Current Climate | Future (2050s) Climate |   |   |   |
| <b>103</b>        |                 |                        |   |   |   |
| Moderate          | 135             | 103                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li> <li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li> <li>• Snowfall event</li> <li>• Severe Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li> <li>• Extreme Winds</li> <li>• Rain events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• General roadworks</li> <li>• Emergency response</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Stormwater system</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| High              | 46              | 96                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hail</li> <li>• Tornados</li> <li>• Strong winds</li> <li>• Ice storms</li> <li>• Snowfall events</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light buildings</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• SCADA</li> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Personnel</li> <li>• Vehicles and fleet</li> <li>• Electricity</li> <li>• Suppliers</li> <li>• General road works</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural capacity</li> <li>• Functionality</li> <li>• Serviceability</li> <li>• Operations</li> <li>• Environmental effects</li> </ul> |
| Extreme           | 23              | 28                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightning</li> <li>• Tornados</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All infrastructure</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All performance considerations</li> </ul>  |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.12: Summary of Risks for Snye infrastructure**

| Risk Score Counts  |    | Future<br>(2050s)<br>Climate | Main Climate Events   | Principal Infrastructure<br>Affected   | Infrastructure Performance<br>Impacted  |
|--------------------|----|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Current<br>Climate |    |                              |   |  |   |
| Snye               |    |                              |   |  |   |
| Moderate           | 99 | 60                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low Precipitation (Aug.)</li><li>• Combination - Aug. High Temp. with Low precipitation</li><li>• Snowfall event</li><li>• Severe Ice Storm</li><li>• Extreme Ice Storm</li><li>• Extreme Winds</li><li>• Rain events</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environment</li><li>• Personnel</li><li>• Suppliers</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Light buildings</li><li>• General roadworks</li><li>• Emergency response</li><li>• Vehicles and fleet</li><li>• Communications</li><li>• Stormwater system</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural capacity</li><li>• Functionality</li><li>• Serviceability</li><li>• Operations</li><li>• Environmental effects</li></ul> |
| High               | 37 | 80                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hail</li><li>• Tornadoes</li><li>• Strong winds</li><li>• Ice storms</li><li>• Snowfall events</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Light buildings</li><li>• Communications</li><li>• SCADA</li><li>• Environment</li><li>• Personnel</li><li>• Vehicles and fleet</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Suppliers</li><li>• General road works</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural capacity</li><li>• Functionality</li><li>• Serviceability</li><li>• Operations</li><li>• Environmental effects</li></ul> |
| Extreme            | 19 | 36                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lightning</li><li>• Tornadoes</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All infrastructure</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All performance considerations</li></ul>  |



### 5.6.4 Influence of the Infrastructure Condition

As indicated earlier in this report, the condition of the infrastructure is a key element to establishing risks. Estimating the future condition of the infrastructure is a complex process that requires predicting the operations, maintenance and capital investments to maintain the infrastructure in a state of good repair and replacing it when it has reached the end of its service life. This is the realm of sound asset management practices. While this analysis is not prescribed in the Protocol, it is worth noting that the Protocol offers flexibility to incorporate additional levels of analysis within its framework, as long as they are documented.

In the context of this study, the summary risk results, and the detailed risk matrices were established considering the infrastructure is in good condition, that is it is operating at the performance level it was designed for. It was beyond the scope of this project to do an analysis of each component affected based on condition assessment information.

The Project Team and PAC members, during Workshop 4, indicated a useful analysis would see risks assessed in a context where the infrastructure is past its design life and has not been replaced.

**Table 5.13** below present information extracted from the ICMS report provided by INAC. Note that the Project Team did not verify or validate this data and that blank cells indicate missing or inconsistent data. The purpose of this table is to illustrate the current condition of the infrastructure, its year of construction and the year of replacement if it were to end its service life at the same time as its design life. The Table shows that all assets would be due to be replaced within the time horizon of this risk assessment, i.e., the 2050s.

Without knowledge of long-term capital investment plans for this infrastructure, the worst-case scenario is that none will be replaced during the study time horizon and therefore it will be in worst condition in the future. This in turn results of a higher vulnerability to the climate hazards identified. Due to time constraints, only the Cornwall Island infrastructure was assessed using this scenario, which involved increasing the severity scores by one for each of the climate-infrastructure interactions. Also, only the MCA built infrastructure was adjusted, that is the environment, personnel and third-party infrastructure scores remained unchanged. **Table 17** presents the comparison between the risks to the infrastructure replaced at the end of its design life and the risks with deteriorated infrastructure (not replaced). The analysis did not consider low risks which may become moderate as a result of an increase in severity of the infrastructure.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

**Table 5.13: Summary of Asset Information from ICMS**

| Asset Category                       | Asset Name                              | Year Constructed | Design Life | Date Replacement required | Estimated Remaining Life | General Condition Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>WATER SUPPLY/TREATMENT</b>        |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | KAWENOKÉ WEST LOW LIFT STATION BUILDING | 2005             | 40          | 2045                      | 30                       | Good                     |
|                                      | ST. REGIS SEWAGE TREATMENT              | 2001             | 20          | 2021                      | 30                       | Good                     |
|                                      | KANEKI:IO WATER PLANT                   | 1998             | 30          | 2028                      | 25                       | Good                     |
|                                      | TSI SNAIHNE WATERPLANT                  | 1978             | 30          | 2008                      | 25                       | Good                     |
|                                      | KEWENOKÉ WEST WTP BLDG                  | 2005             | 40          | 2045                      | 35                       | Good                     |
| <b>WASTEWATER TREATMENT DISPOSAL</b> |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | SEWAGE TREATMENT BUILDING               | 1991             |             |                           | 25                       | Good                     |
|                                      | RBC CONTROL BUILDING - AMS              | 1991             | 30          | 2021                      | 25                       | Good                     |
| <b>WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM</b>        |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | KAWENOKÉ WEST WATER TREATMENT           | 2005             | 20          | 2025                      | 25                       | Good                     |
|                                      | WATER TREATMENT SYSTM@KENEK:IO          | 1998             | 30          | 2028                      | 15                       | Good                     |
| <b>WATER STORAGE</b>                 |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | RESERVOIR CI WTP                        | 1989             | 25          | 2014                      | 20                       | Good                     |
|                                      | RESERVOIR KANE'KI:IO H2O                | 1997             | 30          | 2027                      | 20                       | Good                     |
|                                      | RESERVOIR                               | 1991             |             |                           | 10                       | Good                     |
|                                      | RESERVOIR CI WEST WTP                   | 2005             | 30          | 2035                      | 20                       | Good                     |
| <b>HIGH LEVEL LIFT STATION</b>       |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | HIGH LIFT STATION 1                     | 1991             | 15          | 2006                      | 15                       | Good                     |
|                                      | HIGH LIFT STATION 2                     | 1991             | 30          | 2021                      | 15                       | Good                     |
| <b>LOW LEVEL LIFTSTATION</b>         |   |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                                      | KANE KIIO-LOW LIFT STATION              | 1998             |             |                           | 25                       | Good                     |
|                                      | KAWENOKÉ WEST LOW LIFT PUMPS            | 2006             | 30          | 2036                      | 20                       | Good                     |

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

| Asset Category              | Asset Name                       | Year Constructed | Design Life | Date Replacement required | Estimated Remaining Life | General Condition Rating |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>STORM MAIN</b>           |                                  |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                             | STORM MAINS - ST. REGIS          | 1960             | 60          | 2020                      | 15                       | Fair                     |
|                             | STORM MAIN CI EAST               | 2003             | 30          | 2033                      | 30                       | Good                     |
|                             | STORM MAINS - C.I. WEST          | 2001             | 0           |                           | 25                       | Good                     |
| <b>RBC/TRICKLING FILTER</b> |                                  |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                             | RBC UNIT                         | 1991             |             |                           | 5                        | Fair                     |
|                             | 16 UNIT RBC ST. REGIS            | 2001             | 7           | 2008                      | 10                       | Good                     |
|                             | BLK 97 SEWAGE RBC EXPANSION      | 2001             | 0           | 2001                      | 10                       | Good                     |
| <b>LIFTSTATION</b>          |                                  |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                             | SANITARY LIFT STATION SNYE PH. 2 | 2009             | 40          | 2049                      | 25                       | Good                     |
|                             | LIFT STATION SEWAGE PS2 CHERRY   | 1998             | 30          | 2028                      | 20                       | Good                     |
|                             | SEWAGE LIFT STATION, SR-PS5      | 1994             | 30          | 2024                      | 10                       | Good                     |
|                             | PS3 LIFT STATION -SEWAGE         | 1999             | 30          | 2029                      | 20                       | Good                     |
|                             | LIFT STATION - SEWAGE            | 1991             |             |                           | 20                       | Fair                     |
|                             | CI ADMIN.PUMP STATION            | 2002             | 20          | 2022                      | 20                       | Good                     |
|                             | LIFT STATION - SEWAGE            | 1960             |             |                           | 10                       | Fair                     |
|                             | CI COMMUNITY C&R LIFT STATION    | 2000             |             |                           | 10                       | Good                     |
| <b>OTHER</b>                |                                  |                  |             |                           |                          |                          |
|                             | LAGOON - CHENAIL SCHOOL          | 1960             |             |                           | 5                        | Good                     |
|                             | COMMUNAL SEPTIC FIELD BED        | 2001             | 30          | 2031                      | 15                       | Fair                     |

**Table 5.14: Summary of Risks for Cornwall Island Infrastructure Replaces at the End of its Design Life and Deteriorated**

| Risk Rating | Future Climate Risk Score Counts<br>Cornwall Island Infrastructure |  |                                 |
|-------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
|             | Infrastructure replaced at end of design life                      | Infrastructure deteriorated (not replaced) | Percentage change in risk count |
| Moderate    | 88   | 59   | - 33%                           |
| High        | 135  | 143  | + 6%                            |
| Extreme     | 34   | 44   | +29%                            |

The table illustrates the value of maintaining the infrastructure in a state of good repair and capital investments at the end of its service life, an important measure to mitigate risks.

## 5.7 COMMUNITY IMPACTS FROM INFRASTRUCTURE RISKS

Infrastructure loss of performance or function has impacts on the community as a whole. Resilient infrastructure is necessary to provide resilient services that, in turn, contribute to the resilience of the community. The community impacts selected for this study are as follows:

1. Emergency response services can be impacted in following manners:
  - a. Increased demand due to higher number of emergencies or broad area covered by the event;
  - b. Impacts to the facilities, equipment and personnel that are used to provide emergency services; and
  - c. Loss of functionality of roads or other routes to access the locations where emergencies occur
2. Insurance and legal impacts may result from a failure in the services or damages from the collapse of public assets. For example: basement flooding due to loss of stormwater system capacity; fallen public trees on private property; failure of wastewater systems resulting in temporary facilities' closures or environmental damage; etc.
3. Policy considerations relate to the processes, procedures and guidelines that affect the performance of the infrastructure in providing services. As indicated in the previous section, maintaining and operating the infrastructure in a state of good repair and re-capitalizing the assets in a timely manner can be part of a risk mitigation strategy.
4. Social and cultural effects result from the loss of services provided by the infrastructure. In the particular case of water and wastewater services, the impacts are multiple and varied, and can range from mere inconvenience to health and safety issues. These will compound to the hardships experienced by the community in the event of extreme climate events.

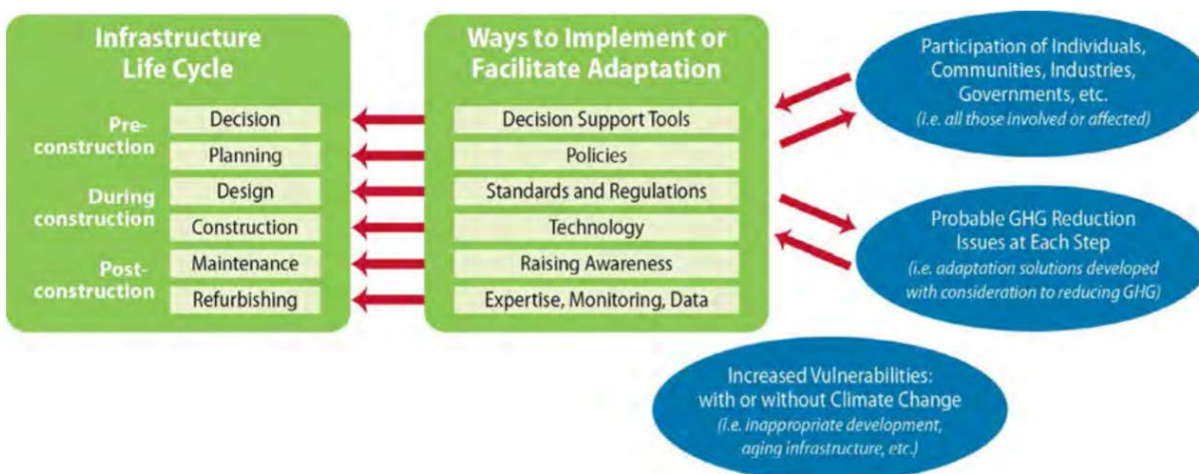
## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

Step 3 - Vulnerability and Risk Assessment  
June 21, 2017

5. Environmental impacts may result in short or long-term stress to the community, for example, in the event of the loss of key environmental features on a temporary or permanent basis.
6. Financial impacts may redirect resources from other planned investments or priority areas in the community. With limited sources of funding available, the Community may have to take extraordinary measures to address its financial situation. This could be in the form, for example, of lowering levels of services.

## 6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Infrastructure in a community exists to provide a service. Since many of the components or assets within infrastructure systems have long service lives, there are many opportunities to introduce climate change adaptation measures throughout this life-cycle, as illustrated in **Figure 31** below.



**Figure 31: Adaptation in the Infrastructure Life Cycle (Source: Larrivée and Simonet, 2007)**

In general, and if maintained in a state of good repair, the water and wastewater infrastructure considered in this study appears to be in sufficiently good condition to withstand some increases in frequency and intensity of the climate events retained for this PIEVC analysis. In regard to extreme events, for example tornadoes and ice storms, a loss of function is generally expected and Community risk mitigation and recovery measures are incorporated in Emergency Management and Response Plans. Within their resources constraints, the staff of MCA's Technical Services are providing safe and reliable water to the Akwesasne community, and protecting the health of people and the environment through the wastewater collection and treatment system.

Adaptive and risk mitigation measures were identified by the Project Team and PAC members present during Workshop 4. Since the intent of the study is to provide an overall risk profile of the infrastructure owned and managed by the MCA in Cornwall Island, St. Regis, and Snye, the recommendations do not address specific infrastructure issues. The recommendations below are not listed in a priority order.

- Evaluate the financial constraints and resources needed to maintain the infrastructure in a state of good repair and to invest in a timely manner in the replacement of infrastructure



## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Conclusions and Recommendations

June 21, 2017

when it reaches the end of its service life, which can effectively decrease the extreme risks by more than 25%. This can be done through the life-cycle analysis and investment planning processes of an asset management plan.

- Improve the weather alert system to support operational staff and emergency first responders allowing them to be pro-active in anticipation of severe weather, for example, ensuring back-up power (fixed and portable) units are ready for use.
- Identify risk mitigation or risk avoidance measures for strong to extreme wind events, such as securing (anchoring) asset components such as roofs, light structures, etc. Select tree locations and species to minimize risks of property damage in case they would fall.
- Review and improve, as required, policies and procedures – for example:
  - Operations and Maintenance: this could include inspection cycles, practices to maintain the performance of the assets, etc.
  - Climate related events in emergency response measures and plans, etc.
- Install weather stations on Cornwall Island and in St. Regis to ensure relevant local data. These stations should have the capability to at least provide hourly records. Note that the data from the Cornwall station only provides daily averages, thus representing a gap where short duration/high intensity events may be missed. This data will allow an evaluation of whether the climate changes projected in this study have materialized.
- Continue maintaining the high level of staff competencies and the knowledge the MCA staff has about its infrastructure. The knowledge and experience of the MCA staff are critical to continue providing services during normal and severe weather conditions.
- Provide the opportunity to MCA staff to access external subject-matter expertise and advice to deal with specific risk mitigation issues. This could include identifying key climate-infrastructure risks for which a more detailed analysis would be beneficial.
- Review land use planning policies to avoid authorizing construction in high-risk areas of the community.
- Communications, outreach and training to prevent, mitigate and respond to risks, for example: tree pruning to reduce the damage from broken branches; what to do in the case of an extreme event, etc.
- Creative problem solving: use processes such as “key personnel analysis” to bring staff from different services identify risk prevention and mitigation solutions. Use MCA Focus Groups and other community processes as well.
- Ensure lightning protection for sensitive equipment, particularly the SCADA systems.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AT AKWESASNE

### Conclusions and Recommendations

June 21, 2017

- Include the risks identified through this study in planning work for infrastructure renewal, future design and construction, and include climate change considerations in best management practices and bylaws. This also involves keeping track of new developments regarding changes to practices and regulations – for example, under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change<sup>5</sup>.
- Plan for reduced mobility of operators and suppliers due to severe or extreme events, including warning, stock-piling, etc. This could include coordination at border crossings to accelerate passage during emergencies.
- Anticipate and plan collaborations for high risk weather events, such as interactions with emergency and community services, external agencies, and the community itself.

Finally, this application of the PIEVC Protocol contributed two new elements to the methodology which should be considered in future versions of the Protocol:

3. The separation of the infrastructure response considerations into two categories as follows (Section 5.6.2):
  - a. Impacts on the infrastructure (or service) to assess the risks
  - b. Consequences on the community should those risks materialize
4. The analysis of risks based on the future condition and replacement (as guided by asset design life) of the infrastructure (Section 5.6.1).

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<sup>5</sup> See: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/pan-canadian-framework.html>

## **Appendix A** **CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS – PRESENTATION BY RSI**



## Climate Change Guidance for the Akwesasne Water and Wastewater PIEVC Vulnerability Assessment

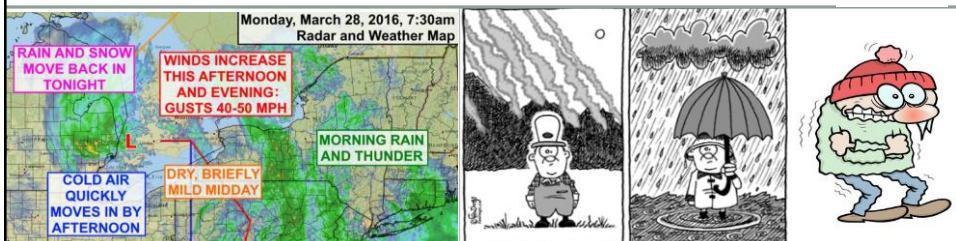
Cornwall, May 25,  
2012 Chris Derouchie



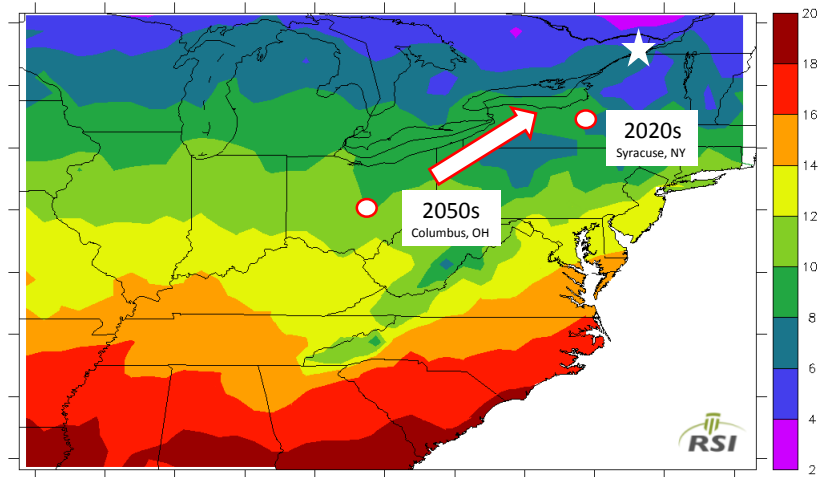
**Heather Auld**  
*Risk Sciences International*

### Akwesasne Area's Unique & Challenging Climate

- Many storm tracks meet here – even an Atlantic Ocean influence
- Unique valley climate – St Lawrence River, some Ottawa valley influence
- Summer heat & humidity; air quality issues; drought some years
- *Severe thunderstorms/tornadoes; heavy downpours, soggy periods*
- *Windy – winds mainly up and down the valley, funnelling*
- *Potential for big ice storms, snow storms*



## 2020s (2010-40) and 2050s (2040-70): Projected Future Mean Annual Temperatures for Cornwall (IPCC AR5, RCP8.5)



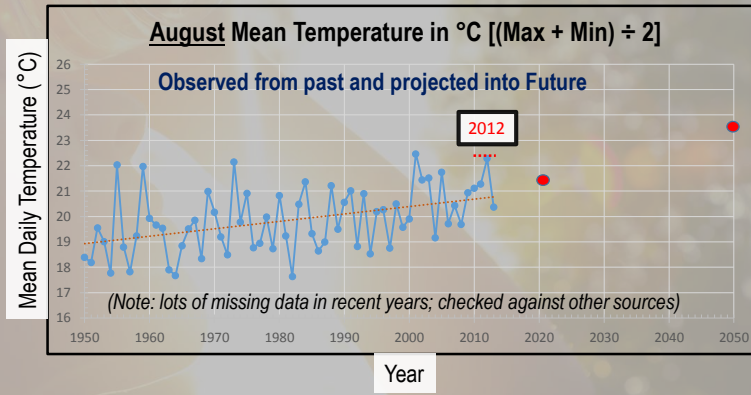
Equivalent Climate Patterns (Columbus, OH → Syracuse → Cornwall)



## Warmer Temperatures, Wetter and Drier too



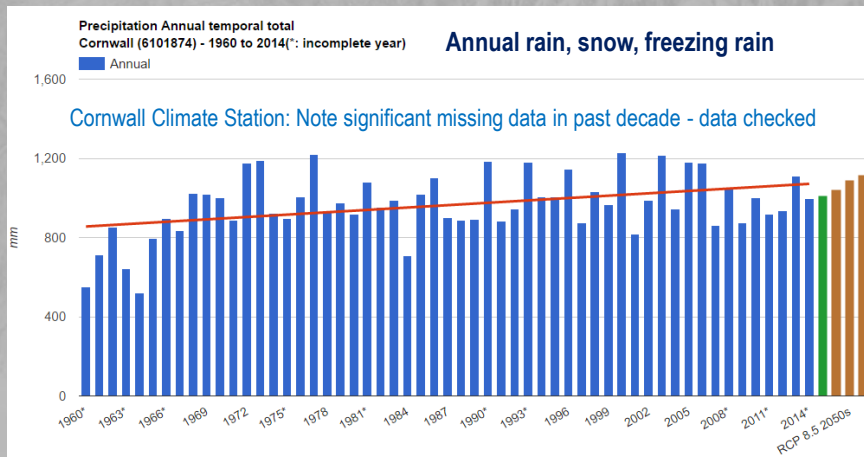
## Warmer Seasons – Risks from heavy downpours and more summer drought?



### Implications:

- Warmer temperatures, longer summers; drought risks
- Some signs Great Lakes warming at faster rate than land temperatures

## Likely Increasing Total Precipitation of all Types.... AND variable



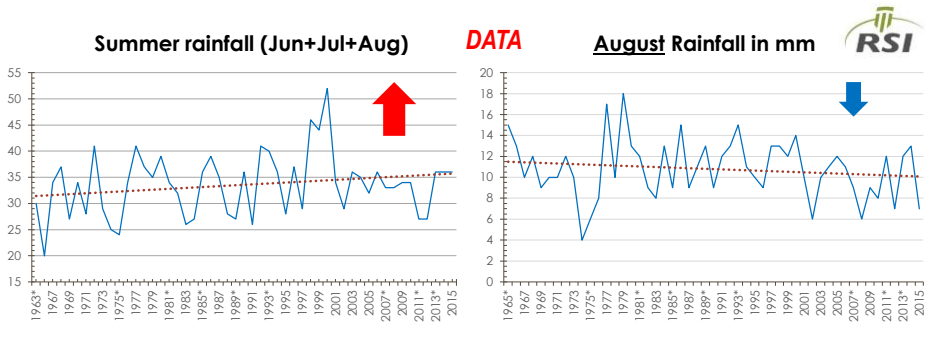
Extremes expected to increase faster than the averages or totals



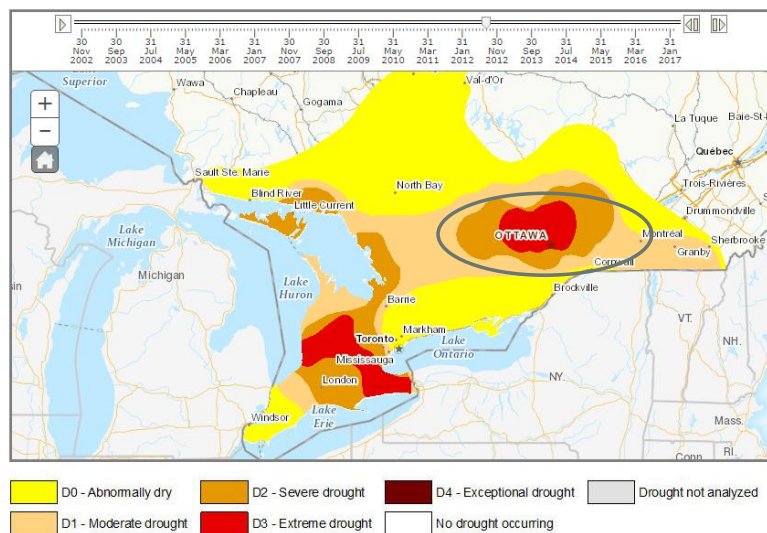


## August rainfalls decreasing?? BUT other rainfall amounts increasing *(Note: missing data in recent years, record checked)*

- Mid-late summers appear to be changing – less rainfall some summers? drier?
- Meanwhile, increasing rainfall totals for June, July and September
- Climate change models for future not clear – slight summer increases
- Take spring and summer 2012: ; very dry – Level 2 Low Water in Raisin River CA and Level 3 in parts South Nation CA; hot



## Mixed with Drought Seasons (Summer, 2012)



## Warming Temperatures, Runoff... Local Algae Growth Risks



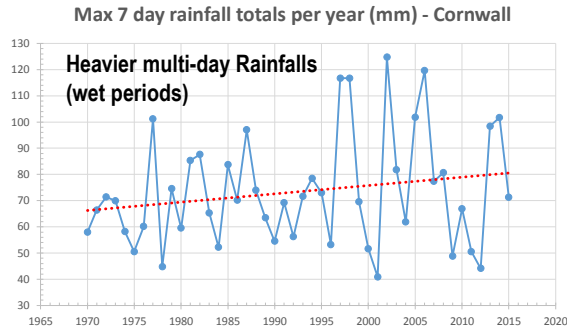
### Implications:

- Warmer temperatures, heavier rainfall events... risks of local algae growth (in slower flow areas, lakes)
- Algae growth, water taste issues increase for warmer water temperatures
- Some signs Great Lakes warming at faster rate than land temperatures

## Heavy Rain Downpour, Snowfalls, More Winter Melting, Rain on Snow



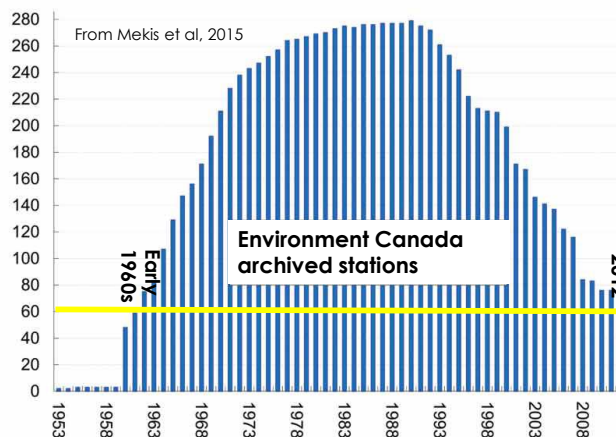
## Multi-day Rainfalls: Rainfalls Totals over 7-days (mm)



## Declines in Rainfall Data: Difficult to Detect Trends



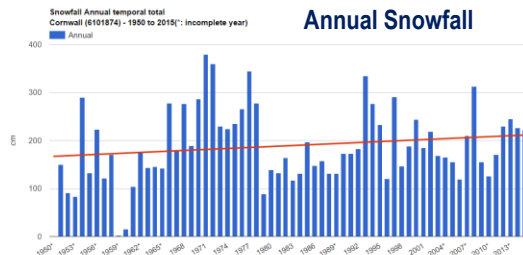
*Rate of Rainfall Data Networks – used for drainage, reservoirs, roads, stormwater, wastewater, etc.*



Municipalities, province have additional climate data – Need to integrate with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Network of

(note \* indicate missing data in recent years)

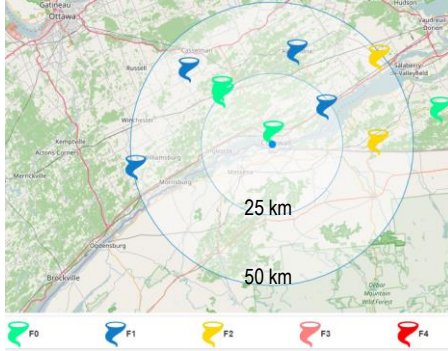
- Winter snowfalls – variable each year; Annual totals may be increasing
- Winter rainfall amounts also increasing
- Warmer winter air holds more moisture – whether snow, rain, freezing rain
- Under climate change – shorter winters, more winter rain, snowfall totals should decrease, BUT...
- *Potential for bigger snowstorms*
- *Potential for more ice storms (damaging type, could increase ~40% by 2050s)*
- *Potential for more winter flooding*



## More Thunderstorms, Longer Seasons

- Longer thunderstorm seasons likely
- Heavy downpours, high winds, lightning, risk of tornadoes
- Frequency of heavy rainfall downpours ... increasing

**Total of 9 tornadoes within 50 km (Canadian side) from 1980-2009;  
4 within 25 km**



Weakest F0 = 3 tornadoes  
Damaging F1 = 4 tornadoes  
Stronger F2 = 2 tornadoes

*Manufactured building:*

*F0 ... loss roof deck, roofs*

*F1 ... complete destruction of roofs, some walls*

*F2 ... complete destruction of unit*

## High Winds

- Winds typically blow up and down the St Lawrence River valley; Funnelling
- Windy area – Many causes of extreme winds
- Best dataset – Massena Airport, New York State
- Wind Gusts at Massena A > 90 kph occur almost every year
- Wind Gusts > 100 kph occur almost every other year
- Could increase in future (one study, ~25% by 2050s)
- National Building Code (Cornwall)... ~ 125kph designs may not be high enough – needs more study



Casselman, May 29, 2013





## Droughts, Heavy rainfall, Snow storms, Ice storms...

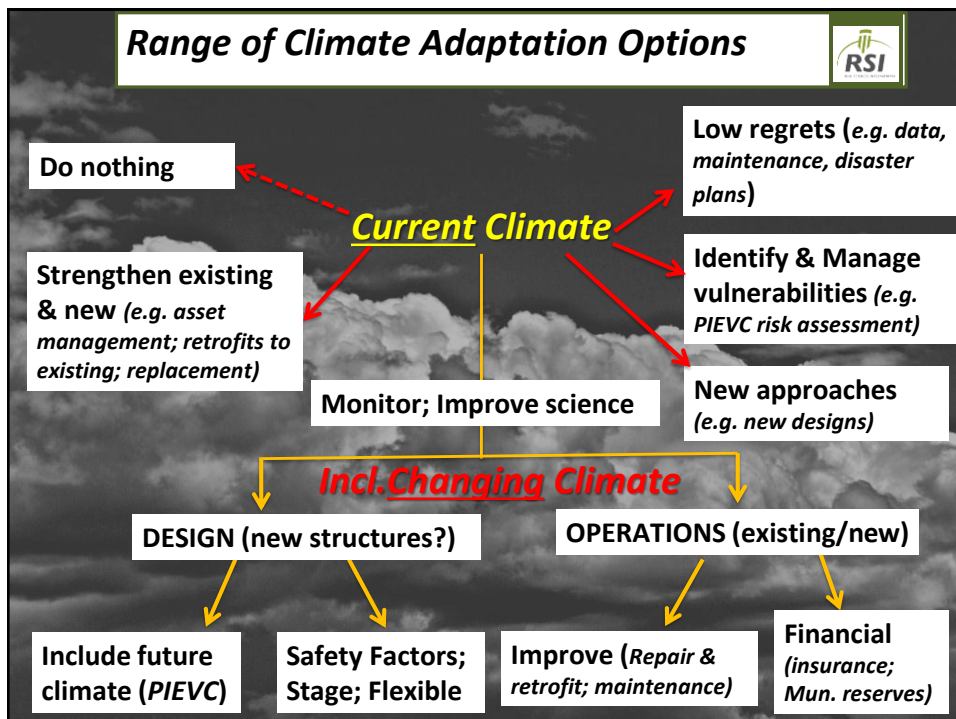




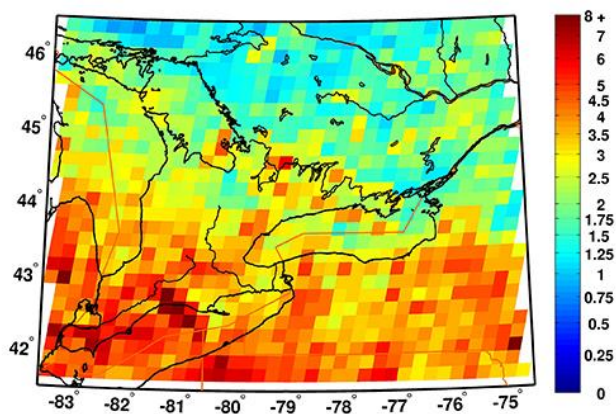


Photo Credit: Don MacLean, Cornwall  
7 WeatherChannel

# Thank You!

For further information, contact:  
Heather Auld Risk Sciences International; 905-737-6026.

**Greatest single-year lightning flash density (flashes per square kilometre per year) for southern Ontario**



Appendix B Workshop #3 Presentation – March 1, 2017  
June 21, 2017

## **Appendix B      WORKSHOP #3 PRESENTATION – MARCH 1, 2017**



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## PIEVC Vulnerability Assessment Process

**Dr. Guy Felio, P.Eng., FCSCE, IRP[Climate]**  
Senior Advisor, Stantec

Wednesday March 1, 2017  
OFNTSC-MCA PIEVC Vulnerability Study  
Infrastructure Risk Workshop



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## Yesterday - Workshop #2

| Time                | Description   |                                       |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 9:00am – 9:15am     | Welcome and introductions   | Mohawk Council of Akwesasne<br>OFNTSC |
| 9:15am – 10:00am    | Review of PIEVC Protocol steps and discussion                     | Engineers Canada and Consultant       |
| 10:00am – 10:30am   | Review and validation of infrastructure components to assess      | All                                   |
| 10:30am – 10:45am   | Health break  |                                       |
| 10:45am – 12:00noon | Description, identification and selection of performance criteria | All participants                      |
| 12:00pm – 12:45pm   | Lunch   |                                       |
| 12:45pm – 3:15pm    | Site visit  | All participants                      |
| 3:15pm – 3:30pm     | Review of Workshop # 3 agenda                                     | Consultant                            |
| 3:30pm              | Adjourn   |                                       |





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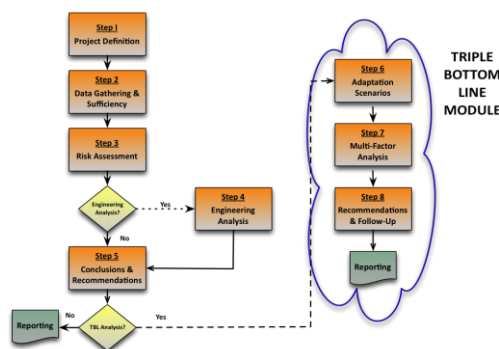
## Today - Workshop #3

| Time                | Description   |                                    |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 9:00am – 9:15am     | Welcome and introductions   | Mohawk Council of Akwesasne OFNTSC |
| 9:15am – 9:45am     | Review of Workshop # 2 findings, site visit and PIEVC Protocol steps and discussion | Consultant                         |
| 9:45am – 10:30am    | Presentation of preliminary climate parameters and selection                        | Consultant; All                    |
| 10:30am – 10:45am   | Health break  |                                    |
| 10:45am – 12:00noon | Risk matrix: infrastructure and climate interactions                                | All participants                   |
| 12:00pm – 12:45pm   | Lunch   |                                    |
| 12:45pm – 3:15pm    | Risk matrix: climate events' probabilities, severity rating and risk scores         | All participants                   |
| 3:15pm – 3:30pm     | Review and next steps   | Consultant                         |
| 3:30pm              | Adjourn   |                                    |



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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PIEVC PROCESS







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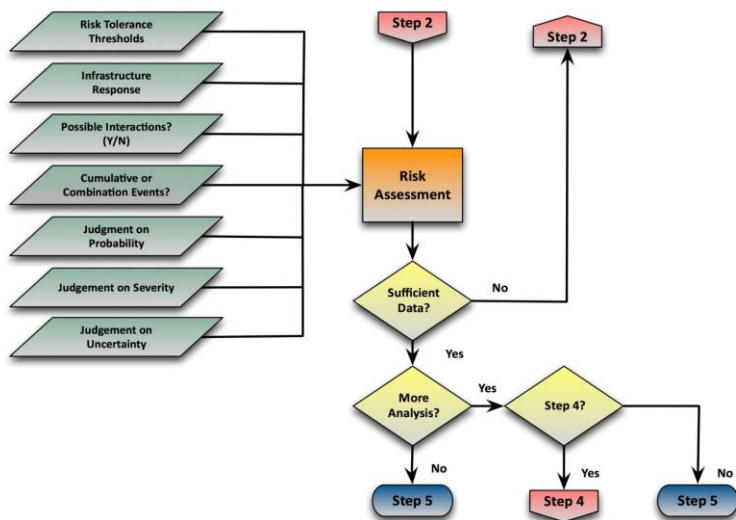
## PERFORMANCE CRITERIA WORKSHOP #2 FEBRUARY 28, 2017



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### Step 3 - Risk Assessment







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# 1. Structural Design/Capacity

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Load carrying capacity
- Fracture / Collapse
- Fatigue
- Access
- Deflection / Permanent deformation
- Cracking and deterioration
- Foundations



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# 2. Functionality

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Effective Capacity of the infrastructure to provide the intended service
  - Short term
  - Medium term
  - Long term





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### 3. Serviceability

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Ability to conduct routine and/or planned maintenance and refurbishment activities
  - Short term
  - Medium term
  - Long term
- Equipment service life - component replacement frequencies



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### 4. Watershed, Surface Water, and Groundwater

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Erosion along streams, rivers, and ditches
- Erosion scour of associated or supporting earthworks
- Slope stability of embankments
- Sediment transport and sedimentation
- Channel realignment / meandering
- Water quality
- Water quantity
- Run off





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## **5. Operations, Maintenance, and Materials Performance**

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Occupational safety
- Access to worksite
- Equipment performance
- Maintenance and replacement cycles
- Electricity demand
- Fuel use
- Materials Performance
- Changes from design expectation



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## **6. Emergency Response**

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Procedures and systems to address:
  - Severe storm events
  - Flooding
  - Ice dams
  - Water damage





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## 7. Insurance and Legal Considerations

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Insurance rates
- The ability to acquire insurance
- Insurance policy limitations and exclusions
- Legal impacts and liability



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## 8. Policy Considerations

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may affect:

- Codes
- Guidelines
- Standards
- Internal operations and maintenance policies and procedures
- Levels of Service policy
- Land use planning





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## 9. Social Effects

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component, being assessed climate loading may affect:

- Accessibility to critical facilities such as hospitals, fire and police services
- Energy supply to a community
- Dislocation of affected populations
- Provision of basic services such as potable water distribution and wastewater collection
- Closure of schools and other public services
- Destruction or damage to heritage buildings, monuments, etc. or historically important resources



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## 10. Environmental Effects

With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may cause:

- Release of toxic, controlled or deleterious substances
- Degradation of water quality
- Damage to sensitive ecosystems
- Physical harm to birds and animals
- Contamination of potable water supplies
- Public perception and interaction





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## 11. Fiscal Considerations

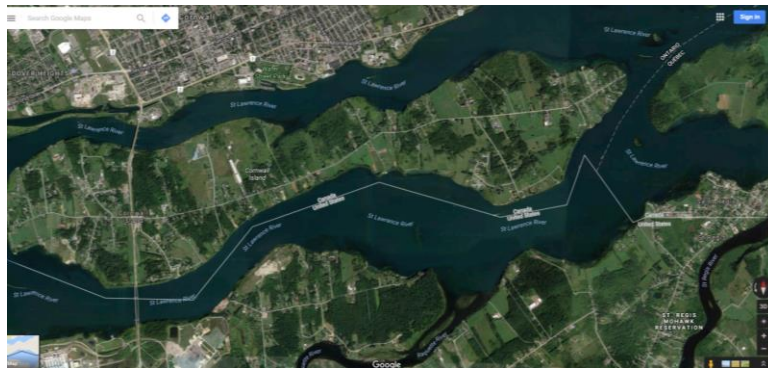
With respect to the infrastructure or infrastructure component being assessed, climate loading may cause:

- Drain on current/future financial resources to deal with unplanned repairs, maintenance and/or replacements
- Shifting financial resources from other community priorities
- Impacts on services and/or levels of service
- Community economic impacts and/or hardships



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**RISK ASSESSMENT – CLIMATE  
CONSIDERATIONS  
MARCH 1, 2017**







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## Some climate information

### MOTHER EARTH

*"We are all thankful to our Mother, the Earth, for she gives us all that we need for life. She supports our feet as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she continues to care for us as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she continues to care for us as she has from the beginning of time. To our Mother, we send greetings and thanks. Now our minds are one."*

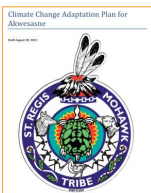


### Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Akwesasne

Draft August 30, 2012



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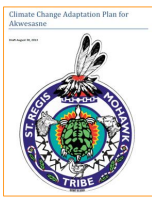


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- Observed climate trends over the past few decades indicate a changing climate. Since 1970, trends that have been observed include **rising temperatures, more frequent hot days, longer growing seasons, less snowfall and more winter rain, reduced snowpack, and earlier ice and snowmelt resulting in earlier peak river flows.**
- At Akwesasne, the **drought of summer 2012** affected many of nature's cycles on all of creation. The changes came about in the way of hot and humid temperatures, high winds, heavy rainfall, hail, low water levels, and fish and wildlife reproductive cycles were out of sync. The downpour of rainfall, hail, and strong high winds destroyed gardens at a time when it was late to restart gardens to get a good crop. Some areas had 6 inches of hail in July. Thunderstorm warnings were also issued.

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- Thunderstorm warnings were also issued. As a result of the dry conditions, residents who planted gardens needed to work extra hard to keep gardens from drying up. Heavy rainfall has been more frequent, downing corn stalks and other tall plants, and heavy cloud cover and cloud formations with high winds have been observed to have become more frequent as well.
- A tornado hit in Summerstown in summer 2012, just miles from Akwesasne. Akwesasne had high winds on that day.
- On December 27th, 2012, there was a winter storm warning in Akwesasne and many businesses and offices were closed. Schools were out on Christmas vacation. Thirteen to 17 inches of snow fell within 24 hours.

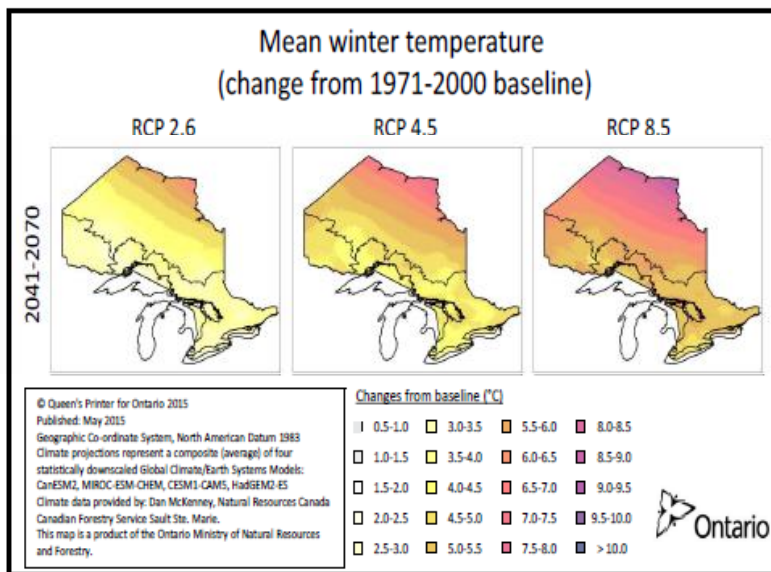


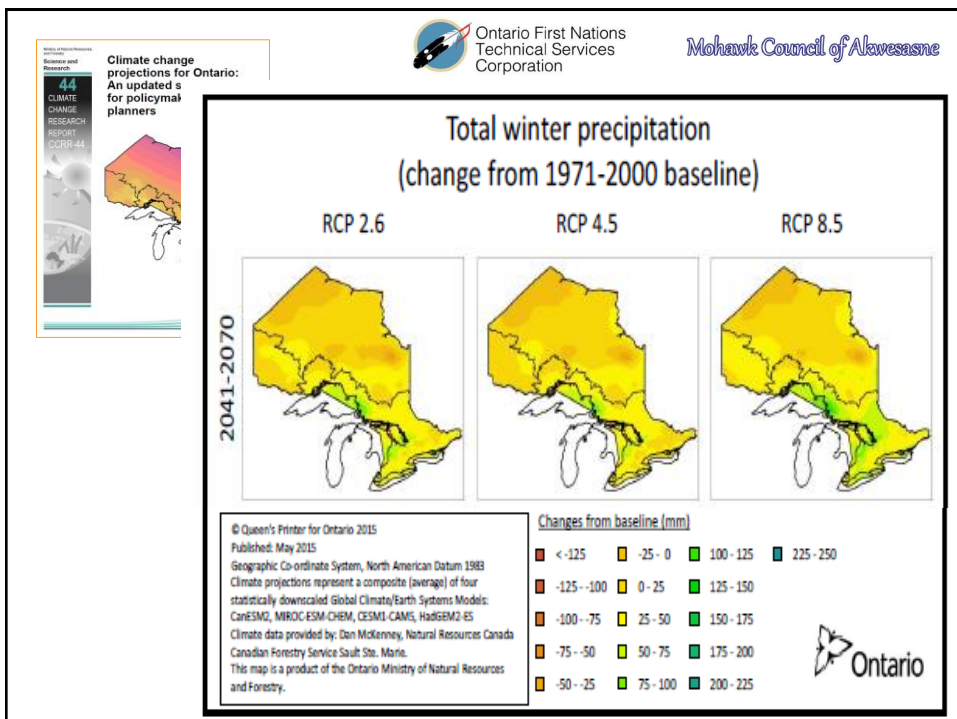
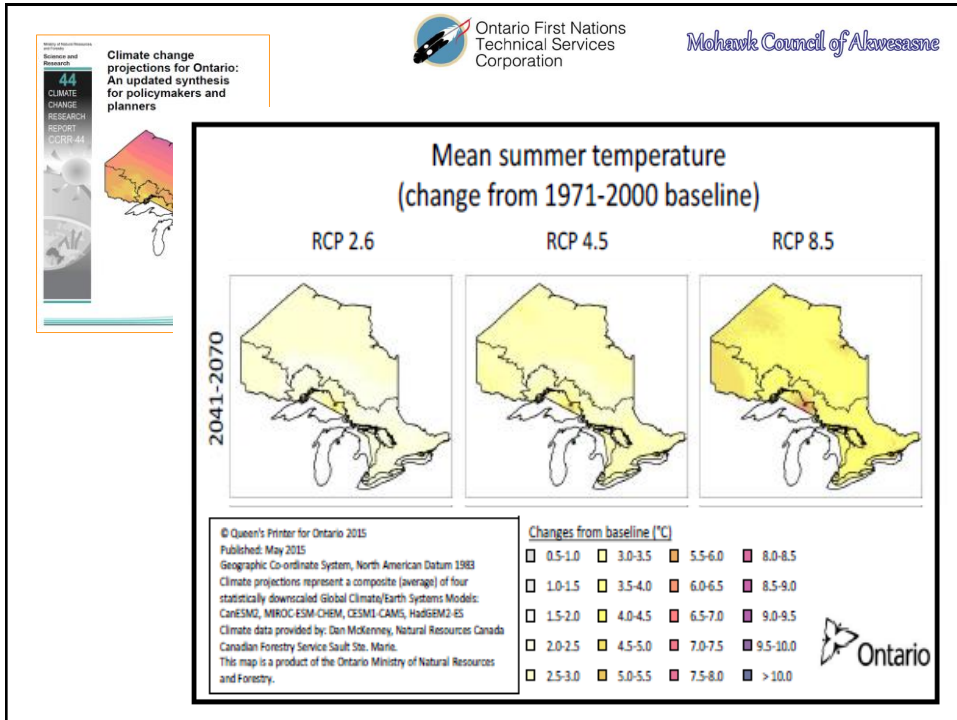
Climate change  
projections for Ontario:  
An updated synthesis  
for policymakers and  
planners

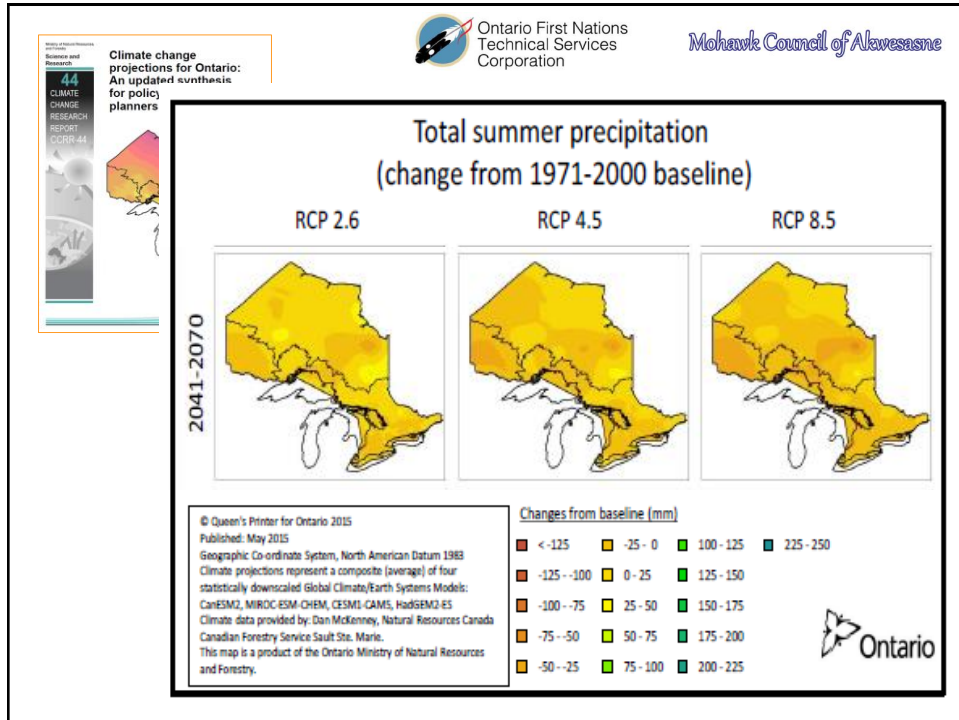


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**Western University - ICLR**

IDF for: CORNWALL ONT HYDRO ID:6101901

Station Info    IDF, historical data    IDF under climate change

Station name: CORNWALL ONT HYDRO

ID: 6101901

Latitude: 45.03

Longitude: -74.80

Starting year: 1957

Ending year: 1992

Number of years (with data): 33

- <https://www.idf-cc-uwo.ca/>

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IDF for: CORNWALL ONT HYDRO ID:6101901

Current

Station Info

IDF, historical data ?

IDF under climate change ?

Tables

Plots

Interpolation Equations

Total precipitation amounts are presented in mm and precipitation intensity rates are presented in mm/h for different return periods (T) presented in years

☒ Total PPT (mm) ☐ Intensity rates (mm/h)

| T (years) | 2     | 5     | 10    | 25    | 50     | 100    |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 5 min     | 7.94  | 11.03 | 13.08 | 15.66 | 17.58  | 19.49  |
| 10 min    | 11.58 | 16.49 | 19.74 | 23.85 | 26.90  | 29.92  |
| 15 min    | 14.11 | 19.51 | 23.09 | 27.61 | 30.97  | 34.29  |
| 30 min    | 17.90 | 24.35 | 28.62 | 34.02 | 38.02  | 41.99  |
| 1 h       | 21.74 | 28.61 | 33.16 | 38.91 | 43.18  | 47.41  |
| 2 h       | 26.95 | 35.92 | 41.86 | 49.36 | 54.92  | 60.45  |
| 6 h       | 36.19 | 49.54 | 58.38 | 69.55 | 77.84  | 86.07  |
| 12 h      | 42.51 | 60.65 | 72.66 | 87.84 | 99.09  | 110.27 |
| 24 h      | 47.02 | 66.46 | 79.33 | 95.60 | 107.66 | 119.64 |



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IDF for: CORNWALL ONT HYDRO ID:6101901

2050

Station Info

IDF, historical data ?

IDF under climate change ?

Climate Model Selection

Scenario RCP 2.6 ?

Scenario RCP 4.5 ?

Scenario RCP 8.5 ?

Comparison Graphs ?

Tables

Plots

Interpolation Equations

Box Plot - Uncertainty ?

Total precipitation amounts presented in mm and precipitation intensity rates presented in mm/h for different return periods (T) presented in years

☒ Total PPT (mm) ☐ Intensity rates (mm/h)

| T (years) | 2     | 5     | 10    | 25     | 50     | 100    |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5 min     | 9.56  | 12.97 | 15.30 | 18.18  | 20.29  | 22.48  |
| 10 min    | 14.21 | 19.58 | 23.25 | 27.77  | 31.13  | 34.56  |
| 15 min    | 17.01 | 22.92 | 26.95 | 31.92  | 35.62  | 39.39  |
| 30 min    | 21.48 | 28.49 | 33.28 | 39.13  | 43.59  | 48.01  |
| 1 h       | 25.34 | 32.95 | 38.15 | 44.59  | 49.31  | 54.19  |
| 2 h       | 31.51 | 41.51 | 48.34 | 56.84  | 62.96  | 69.40  |
| 6 h       | 43.15 | 57.91 | 67.98 | 80.46  | 89.59  | 99.07  |
| 12 h      | 51.92 | 71.99 | 85.69 | 102.68 | 115.07 | 127.98 |
| 24 h      | 57.33 | 78.67 | 93.25 | 111.24 | 124.54 | 138.20 |





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## Some references

- <http://www.farmzone.com/statistics/suncloud/cl6101874/so071>
- <http://www.eldoradocountyweather.com/canada/climate2/Cornwall.html>
- <https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/canada/cornwall/climate>
- <https://www.worldweatheronline.com/cornwall-weather-averages/ontario/ca.aspx>
- <https://en.climate-data.org/location/3545/>
- Ontario Climate Data Portal: <http://www.ontarioccdp.ca/>



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## Selecting the Climate Parameters

- Modified from the suggested PIEVC Protocol list







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### Suggested Climate and Infrastructure Threshold Parameters

| Climate Parameter     | Infrastructure Threshold Parameter   |
|-----------------------|--|
| Temperature           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate of change</li> <li>Mean values</li> <li>Extremes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High summer</li> <li>Low winter</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| Precipitation as Rain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency (One-Day, Short Duration Less than 24 hours, Multi-Day)</li> <li>Total annual/seasonal precipitation and rain</li> <li>Intensity of rain events (One-Day, Short Duration Less than 24 hours)</li> <li>Proportion of annual and seasonal precipitation as rainfall</li> <li>Drought conditions</li> <li>Winter rain</li> </ul> |
| Precipitation as Snow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency</li> <li>Total annual/seasonal precipitation and snow</li> <li>Magnitude of snow events (e.g., blizzards)</li> <li>Proportion of annual and seasonal precipitation as snowfall</li> <li>Frequency and intensity of rapid snow melt events</li> <li>Rain on snow events</li> </ul>   |
| Wind Speed            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mean values (one hour mean winds)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly</li> <li>Seasonal</li> <li>Annual</li> </ul> </li> <li>Extremes/gusts</li> <li>Thunderstorm winds</li> <li>General wind patterns/gradients</li> <li>Changes in hurricane and/or tornado event frequency/intensity</li> </ul>             |



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### Suggested Climate and Infrastructure Threshold Parameters

| Climate Parameter            | Infrastructure Threshold Parameter   |
|------------------------------|--|
| St Lawrence Water Levels     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in mean value</li> </ul>   |
| Fog                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency</li> <li>Visibility</li> </ul>  |
| Ice                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>River or lake ice build up</li> <li>Changes in ice build up patterns</li> </ul>                                 |
| Hail                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency of events</li> <li>Magnitude of events</li> </ul>   |
| Frost                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freeze thaw cycles</li> <li>Change in frost season</li> </ul>   |
| Lightning                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Density/frequency of lightning strikes</li> <li>Change patterns</li> </ul>                                      |
| Ice Accretion                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in frequency/intensity of ice storm events</li> <li>Ice build up on infrastructure components</li> </ul> |
| Freezing rain and ice storms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freezing rain events: frequency and magnitude</li> <li>Ice storms</li> </ul>                                    |
| Other                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other climate factors as relevant to the infrastructure under consideration</li> </ul>                          |





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## PIEVC Ratings

- Climate occurrence
- Severity of impacts



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| Score | Probability                              |                         |
|-------|--|-------------------------|
|       | Method A                                 | Method B                |
| 0     | Negligible<br>Not Applicable             | < 0.1 %<br>< 1 in 1,000 |
| 1     | Highly Unlikely<br>Improbable            | 1 %<br>1 in 100         |
| 2     | Remotely Possible                        | 5 %<br>1 in 20          |
| 3     | Possible<br>Occasional                   | 10 %<br>1 in 10         |
| 4     | Somewhat Likely<br>Normal                | 20 %<br>1 in 5          |
| 5     | Likely<br>Frequent                       | 40 %<br>1 in 2.5        |
| 6     | Probable<br>Often                        | 70 %<br>1 in 1.4        |
| 7     | Highly Probable<br>Approaching Certainty | > 99 %<br>> 1 in 1.01   |





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| Score | Severity of Consequences and Effects |   |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---|
|       | Method D                             | Method E  |
| 0     | No Effect                            | Negligible<br>Not Applicable                          |
| 1     | Measurable                           | Very Low<br>Some Measurable Change                    |
| 2     | Minor                                | Low<br>Slight Loss of Serviceability                  |
| 3     | Moderate                             | Moderate Loss of Serviceability                       |
| 4     | Major                                | Major Loss of Serviceability<br>Some Loss of Capacity |
| 5     | Serious                              | Loss of Capacity<br>Some Loss of Function             |
| 6     | Hazardous                            | Major<br>Loss of Function                             |
| 7     | Catastrophic                         | Extreme<br>Loss of Asset                              |



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## Identification of interactions

| Infrastructure Components                                | Infrastructure Response Considerations |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    | 1<br>Rain 1              |                       |                |                       | 2<br>Rain 2                    |  |                                |                                | 3<br>Temperature Extremes (HS) |                                |                                |                                |
|--|--|---------------|----------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | Structural Design                      | Functionality | Serviceability | Waterlogged, Surface Water & Groundwater | Drainage & Flood Protection | Materials Performance | Emergency Response | Insurance Considerations | Policy Considerations | Social Effects | Environmental Effects | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Rationale for Infrastructure Threshold | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Infrastructure Threshold Value | Infrastructure Threshold Value |
|  | Mark Relevant Responses with ✓         |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    | Y/N                      |                       |                |                       | Y/N                            |  |                                |                                | Y/N                            |                                |                                |                                |
| Sewer Sewer / Culvert Sections<br>(Banner → Leslie Park) |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Manholes   |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Catchbasins  |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Open Channel Sections                                    |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Outfalls into Graham's Creek                             |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Road Crossings   |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Cutfield Rd  |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Banner Rd  |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Mistery Drive  |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Pathway near Leslie Park Public School                   |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
| Pathway near Leslie Park                                 |  |               |                |  |                             |                       |                    |                          |                       |                |                       |                                |  |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |

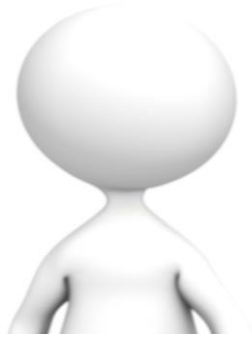






Ontario First Nations  
Technical Services  
Corporation

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Dr. Guy Felio, P.Eng., FCSCE, IRP[Climate]  
Guy.Felio@Stantec.com

