

W A T E R F I R S T

DRINKING WATER PROGRAM RESOURCES

About our Drinking Water Internship Program

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Program Videos

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Much More Than Water Virtual Event, November 2022

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Program Updates

- [2022 Fall](#)
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- [2021 Spring](#)
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News Articles & Interviews

[“When Indigenous youth succeed, whole communities benefit,”](#) CareerWise, February 6, 2023

[“Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 6, Clean Water and Sanitation,”](#) Statistics Canada, September 28, 2022

[“North Shore Tribal Council to help train water treatment plant operators,”](#) The Sudbury Star, April 6, 2022

[“How two Indigenous water operators are helping to secure clean drinking water for their communities,”](#) Fresh Air, CBC Radio, November 6, 2021

[“‘In our culture, water is so much more. It’s sacred.’ New wave of Indigenous operators look to tackle drinking-water woes,”](#) Toronto Star, October 24, 2021



[“Training Indigenous water treatment plant operators,”](#) Up North with Jonathan Pinto, CBC Radio, September 16, 2021

[“Water treatment internship empowers Indigenous youth and their communities,”](#) National Post, June 2021

[“How a resilient group of young Indigenous water treatment interns become new water treatment plant operators despite 2020 challenges,”](#) Water Canada Magazine, May/June 2021

[“Indigenous youth are learning to become water treatment operators in northern Ontario,”](#) CBC News, December 2020

[“Indigenous water treatment plant operators,” Up North with Jonathan Pinto,](#) CBC Radio, December 2020

[Ending Long-Term Water Advisories on The Agenda with Steve Paikin,](#) TVO, December 2020

[Raw Talk Podcast,](#) University of Toronto, November 2020

[Canadaland podcast mentioning Water First,](#) November 2020

[“First Nations skills-training program has partnership at heart,”](#) CERIC, May 2020

[“New Internship Program Aims to Address Water Challenges in First Nations Communities,”](#) Water Canada, March 2020

[“NWO First Nations launch program to train water plant operators,”](#) CBC News, March 2020

[Profile by corporate partner, The RBC Foundation,](#) June 2019

[Water’s Next award recipient,](#) May 2019

[“Providing employment opportunities for First Nations youth to succeed in the water industry,”](#) Water Canada Magazine, January/February 2019

[“First Nation water guardians graduate from Water First pilot,”](#) Manitoulin Expositor, September 2018

[“Pilot project trains Indigenous youth to help tackle water challenges in their communities,”](#) CBC News, August 2018

[“Water alone won’t solve the water crisis in Indigenous communities,”](#) Macleans, March 2018

[“Reconciling Promises and Reality: Clean Drinking Water for First Nations,”](#) David Suzuki Foundation, 2018. This report singled out the Water First Internship Program as an example of a successful initiative addressing the issue.

Intern Profiles

Bimose Internship

- [Hunter Edison](#)
- [Jeremy Ledoux-Redsky](#)
- [Nathan Copenace](#)

Georgian Bay Internship

- [Bella Mcleod](#)
- [Lori Corbiere](#)
- [Nick Chapman](#)

NSTC Internship

- [Austin Waboose](#)

Documentaries

[PAIGE: A Short Film](#)

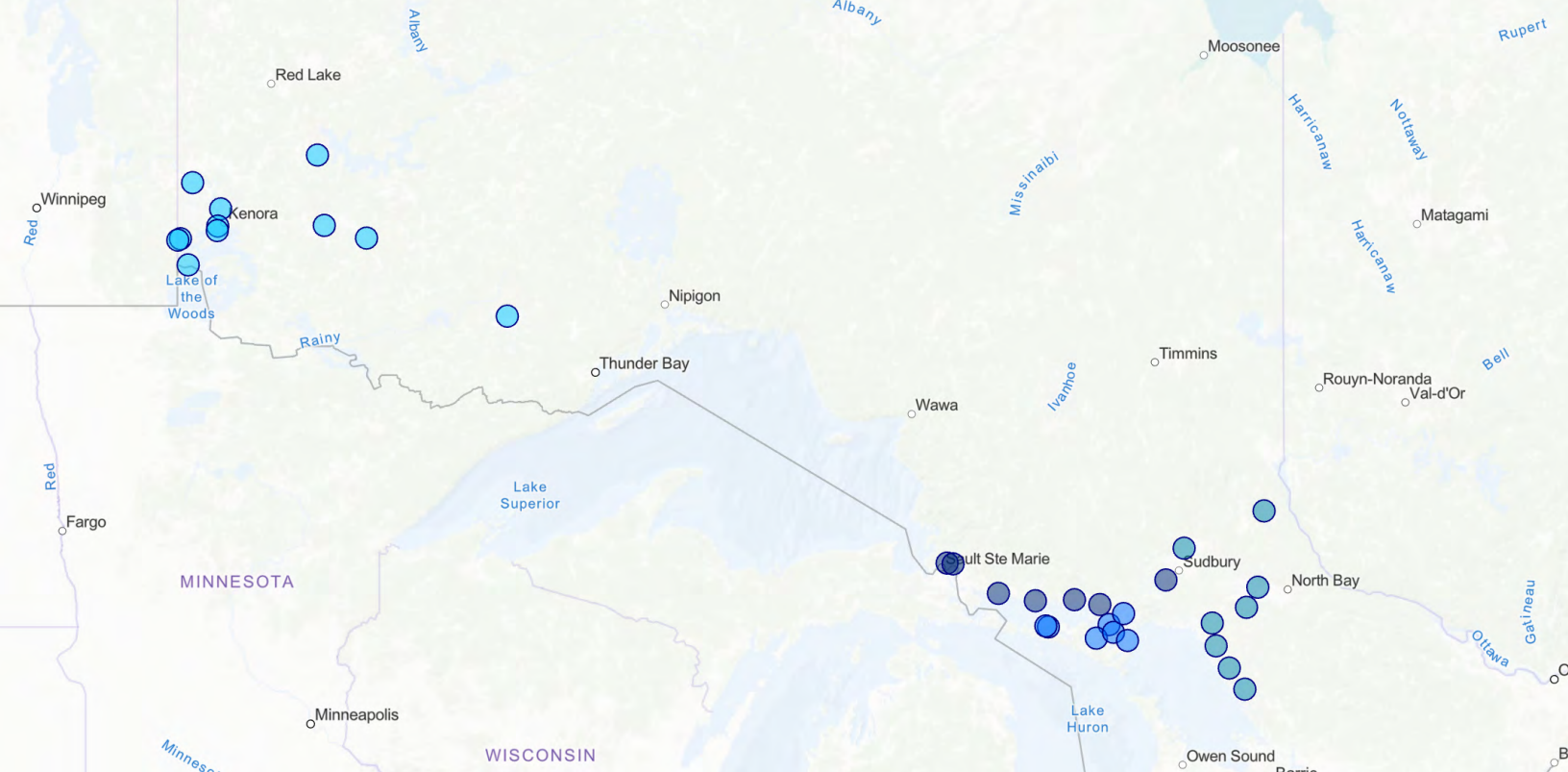
*Paige Manitowabi
Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory
Water First Graduate*

A Water Walker from Manitoulin Island and graduate of the pilot internship program, Paige has worked as an environmental field technician at Wahnapiatae First Nation while also pursuing a degree in Restoration Ecology at Laurentian University.

In 2021, Paige was hired on as the Project Coordinator for the Internship in Georgian Bay. From being an intern herself, to an active graduate in her community, to leading the next internship and supporting a new cohort of interns; Paige is dedicated to ensuring safe, clean water in Indigenous communities.

In 2022, PAIGE, a new short film by Water First and Untold Storytelling, follows the story of Paige as she inspires Indigenous youth to be water protectors.





THE COMMUNITIES

● **Manitoulin Internship (2017-2018)**

Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation
M'Chigeeng First Nation
Sheguiandah First Nation
Sheshegwaning First Nation
Whitefish River First Nation
Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory
Zhiibaahaasing First Nation

Bimose Internship (2020-2021)

● Eagle Lake First Nation
Iskatewizaagegan 39 Independent
First Nation

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation
Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation
Northwest Angle 33
Obashkaandagaang First Nation
Iskatewizaagegan 40 Independent
First Nation
Wabaseemoong Independent
Nations
Wabauskang First Nation
Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation
Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation

● **Georgian Bay Internship (2021-2022)**

Dokis First Nation
Henvey Inlet First Nation
Magnetawan First Nation
Nipissing First Nation

Shawanaga First Nation
Temagami First Nation
Wahnapiatae First Nation
Wasauksing First Nation

● **NSTC Internship (2022-2023)**

Atikameksheng Anishnawbek First
Nation
Batchewana First Nation
Garden River First Nation
Mississauga First Nation
Sagamok First Nation
Serpent River First Nation
Thessalon First Nation