

Atlas Dewatering Corporation – Showcasing the Potential of Thunder Bay Area

Northwestern Ontario is blessed to have numerous rivers, lakes, and mining areas all around it. Atlas Dewatering Corporation, based on Concord Ontario entered the ground watering business back in 1946. For over seventy years, this family-owned business has been providing a long list of unique service offerings to its clients in ground and surface water control, and industrial pumping needs. Drawing from the local labour talent pool we have been able to develop a skilled and trained work-force in the water management industry. Atlas Dewatering Corporation opened its Thunder Bay location in 2013. Stephan Kokeza, Director of Corporate Development at Atlas Dewatering Corporation, currently oversees the company's Branch operations in Ontario & Quebec. We had a chance to speak to Stephan Kokeza, to get a better idea of the growing community and opportunities within Thunder Bay.

“Thunder Bay and North Western Ontario's diversified economy has provided our company the opportunities to develop and deliver our service solutions across a broad range of industries, including; construction, mining, municipal treatment, pipeline, road construction, and public utilities to name a few” stated Stephan Kokeza

Mining is good business in Thunder Bay and will be larger in future. Atlas Dewatering has taken full advantage of delivering its services to this segment, including open pit mine dewatering, tailing dam construction, existing mine tailings management, water transfer, and new mine construction such as the most recent new mine in Rainy River. We have even made significant equipment capital expenditures for equipment specific to the local mining needs.

The City of Thunder Bay and region is preparing for exponential growth associated with the Ring of Fire mining development, and with it the need to build out its provincial projects such as roads to access the mines, municipal infrastructure upgrades, power infrastructure etc.

On our radar in 2012/2013 were the Energy East pipeline conversion, and the Ring of Fire. Despite their cancelation and delays respectively, the work from the region we were able to secure; provincial highway upgrades, municipal projects, and support from the mining, & pulp & paper has allowed Atlas Dewatering to establish itself in Thunder Bay and be ready “ahead of the growth and work to come”.

Thunder Bay's success played a big part in becoming the launching pad for Atlas Dewatering's further growth and development, following with expansion in Sudbury, London and Ottawa, and most recent expansion into Quebec, with operations in Montreal and Quebec City. The Thunder Bay branch acting as a hub overseeing a good part of the administration for the newer company locations, and training of new employees.

Atlas Dewatering most recently completed the largest combined sewer bypass project in Canadian history with their full turnkey approach of Design, Deliver, Install, Commission, Operate, & Rig Out. Atlas Dewatering's expertise has and continues to be a market leader in the water management industry with Projects from Alberta to Halifax in the last year.

"Thunder Bay's business and other contractors were always willing to help us out when starting up. Thunder Bays affordable costs of housing, 15-minute commutes to work, and under 1-hour drives to fishing and camp, has easily allowed us to attract new team members from Southern Ontario and Western Canada."