

“We have face-to-face relationships with community members – it instills trust and mutual respect.”

Carey Kostyk, Valard President

VALARD’S REPUTATION FOR COMMUNITY & INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS

We have 45 years of history building strong partnerships and relationships with diverse communities across the country.

Valard employees are part of the communities in which they work – supporting local businesses and causes, as well as showing respect for project-related concerns and acting on them.



Valard was proud to donate \$10,000 to the University Hospital Foundation's 2023 Heart Pledge Day, to help raise the funds needed so the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute (Maz) can continue the live-saving work they do every day. The Maz is home to the most advanced technologies for cardiac patient care and groundbreaking research, and has some of the best and brightest doctors from around the world.

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

Corporate Donations

Valard's long standing corporate donations program responds to an average of 70 different causes, across Canada annually. A good cross section of community sectors are represented – from education to medical to Indigenous initiatives.

Recent (2023) examples of corporate giving:

- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation
- Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute
- Red Rock First Nation
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Alberta Cancer Foundation
- Kids Up Front

Local Economic Contributions

These encompass prioritizing the use of local businesses, suppliers and workers. This includes:

- Equipment suppliers and subcontractors
- Hotels and other local lodging
- Local land, facilities and shop rentals
- Vehicle servicing
- Restaurants, gas stations and grocery stores
- Local employment
- Facilities and waste management and;
- Catering, janitorial, and security services

This practice often leaves legacy benefits such as long term contracts with suppliers, allowing for capital equipment purchases; local labour with enhanced skills and long term, positive relationships with the community.

Valard's Indigenous relationships are based on a simple approach of respect, openness and fairness.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONSHIPS

Valard remains dedicated to finding ways to demonstrate our deep respect for Indigenous Peoples' rich history, vibrant culture and unique values.

Our employees work for and achieve a level of trust as a building block for our Indigenous partnerships. We maintain our partnerships by keeping our word.

Valard has many existing and planned community relationships across Canada:

- A partnership with Supercom Industries, a 100% Aboriginal-owned joint venture by the six First Nations proximate to the East-West Tie Transmission Line in Ontario
- The Kingsvale Transmission Line in British Columbia was "...the first electricity transmission line to be constructed, majority-owned, operated and maintained by an Indigenous group in Canada. This project will provide valuable economic benefits to the Lower Nicola Indian Band"
- Valard is working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project in Northwestern Ontario in collaboration with 24 First Nation communities to connect 17 remote communities.
- Valard has been awarded the contract by Hydro One as the sole contractor to build the Waasigan Transmission Line. This project will be a 50% partnership with nine participating First Nations partners.

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

"This experience has given me a deep appreciation for the vital role electricity plays in our daily lives, with the importance of precision and caution in this field. I am forever grateful to Valard for giving me the opportunity to earn a 309A Journeyman ticket; as I gain the skill, the experience, and the knowledge associated to this career."



Stephen Wynn, Wataynikaneyap Project, Bearskin Lake First Nation

"I've worked with Valard for 3 years, on the Wataynikaneyap project. I am currently on my first project in the USA with Valard as an assembler. The Gateway project is a new experience for me as I've never worked or been this far west in the USA. Working as an assembler is a great experience in the USA, and I enjoy working safely with the crew I'm on. I am upgrading my career path with Valard in the near future. Thank you, miigwech."



Dillan Strickland, Wataynikaneyap Project, Wunnumin Lake First Nation

We are serious about our obligation and commitment to Canada's Indigenous communities and will continue to set the standard in each province and territory in which we operate.