

Grounds Keeper

Department: Public Works

Posting Date: December 5, 2025

Location: Nipissing First Nation, ON

Schedule: Full- Time – Up to 35 hours per week

Job type: Permanent Vacancies: One (1)

Reports To: Director of Infrastructure and Planning

Salary Wage: \$45,463.60 - \$59,987.20

Nipissing First Nation is seeking a highly motivated individual to join our team as a Grounds Keeper. This role will work alongside our Public Works Department and will be responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and safety of our Wellness Camp as well as our community!

What You'll Do in the Role

- Perform regular grass cutting, trimming, and brush clearing using lawn mower, whipper snipper, etc.
- Conduct seasonal maintenance: snow removal, salting/sanding walkways.
- Ensure yurts, trailers, and washroom facilities are clean, safe, and welcoming for participants.
- Monitor water, plumbing, and sanitation systems to ensure consistent operation and report any issues promptly.
- Operate and maintain wood stoves and sacred fires with attention to safety and cultural protocols.
- Repair and maintain structures such as yurt bases and arbours using appropriate tools and techniques.
- Support the setup and takedown of land-based programming and cultural events.
- Prepare and maintain culturally significant spaces (e.g., ceremonial grounds, sacred fire areas) in collaboration with Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- Harvest and handle natural materials (e.g., cedar, tobacco, sweetgrass) respectfully and in accordance with traditional teachings.
- Safely operate small engines and tools: chainsaw, snow blower, lawn mower, etc.
- Perform routine inspections and basic maintenance on all equipment.
- Manage fuel storage and usage safely.
- Keep accurate logs of equipment use, servicing, and maintenance activities.
- Support participants in learning safe tool use as part of life skills development, when appropriate.
- Ensure equipment used in cultural activities is maintained with care and respect
- Follow all safety protocols and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).



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- Promote and practice environmental stewardship in all land-based activities.
- Identify and report hazards, damages, or unusual occurrences promptly.
- Maintain records of maintenance, incidents, and safety checks.
- Support cultural and environmental values of the community in all tasks.
- Practice trauma-informed approaches in all interactions, especially with participants in withdrawal management or emotional distress.
- Participate in teachings and integrate traditional land stewardship into daily practices.
- Support the emotional and physical safety of participants by maintaining a calm, respectful presence and collaborating with Wellness staff.
- Act in accordance with Nipissing First Nation's Code of Ethics and maintain confidentiality to protect the privacy of participants, staff and community members.
- Perform additional duties aligned with the role and department objectives.
- Participate in cultural events, ceremonies, and required training (e.g., trauma-informed care, duty to report).
- Support participants in developing life skills related to home and land maintenance.
- Collaborate with Wellness staff to ensure participant well-being.
- Serve as a role model in demonstrating respect for the land, community, and cultural practices.
- Assist in emergency response or crisis situations in coordination with Wellness staff.
- Support intergenerational learning and cultural revitalization through mentorship and land-based teachings.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

Reasons to Join Nipissing First Nation (unchanged for every posting)

At NFN, we don't just offer a job, we offer a purpose-filled career in service to our community. Our workplace is one where learning is encouraged, growth is supported, and our culture is celebrated.

- ✓ Work with a passionate team rooted in community values
- ✓ Be part of an inclusive, supportive work culture
- Competitive salary and defined contribution pension plan
- ✓ Comprehensive benefits package medical, dental, vision, life, and disability
- ✓ Business Casual dress and modern workplace practices
- Training, mentorship, and ongoing development opportunities

T Vacation Time:

Start with three (3) weeks of vacation, plus enjoy a two (2) week paid office closure over the December holiday season – giving you time to rest, reset, and reconnect.



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Additional Leave:

We offer better-than-average leave benefits to support your health, wellness, and work-life balance.

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- Must have a Highschool Diploma
- Must have access to a reliable vehicle
- A diploma or trade certificate in maintenance or public works related field is an asset but not required.
- Must have a Class G Drivers License
- Must have a minimum of 3 years experience in General Construction Labour and/or Maintenance, demonstrating the ability to perform duties, including work in one or more building trades.
- Technical and Maintenance Competencies:
- Ability to assess maintenance and repair needs and determine when tasks exceed personal expertise or safety limits, requiring escalation to qualified professionals or supervisory staff.
- Ability to maintain and make minor repairs to operating equipment
- Operate cleaning, gardening and snow removal equipment
- Basic knowledge in trades including carpentry, plumbing, groundskeeping, pest management, and electrical wiring
- Experience operating wood stoves and managing firewood.
- Understanding of fire safety protocols and ability to teach safe fire practices to others.
- Knowledge of safe cleaning practices, maintenance, and sanitation procedures.
- Knowledge of or willingness to learn Nipissing First Nation cultural protocols, teachings, and landbased practices.
- Respect for sacred spaces, ceremonies, and traditional materials.
- Dependable and punctual with a strong work ethic.
- Commitment to maintaining confidentiality and upholding the Nipissing First Nation's Code of Ethics.
- Strong initiative, judgement and self-direction
- Effective communication, listening and public relation skills
- Strong observational and reporting abilities
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Capacity to take direction and work under minimal supervision
- Strong attention to detail
- Physically capable of lifting and moving objects up to 50lbs
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends



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Application Deadlines and How to Apply

Nipissing First Nation follows a structured and fair hiring process. Please identify your eligibility clearly in your application.

Round 1 – Closing December 19, 2025,

Only open to registered Nipissing First Nation members.

(Round 1 applicants will be considered at this stage.)

Round 2 - Closing December 26, 2025,

Only open to spouses and children of registered NFN members and registered members of other First Nations.

(Round 2 applicants will be considered at this stage.)

Round 3 - Closing January 2, 2026,

Open to all applicants (status and non-status).

Posting will remain open until the position is filled.

If you are excited by this opportunity and want to make a meaningful impact with Nipissing First Nation, please submit your cover letter and resume to:

- resumes@nfn.ca
- Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on the date assigned to your eligibility round

Are You a Member of NFN?

Nipissing First Nation is deeply committed to the training, development, and employment of our members. *We strongly encourage NFN members to apply*, even if you don't meet every qualification. Your lived experience matters, and we consider all aspects of your background in the hiring process.

As per Section 24(1)(a) of the Ontario Human Rights Code, preference will be given to First Nation applicants.

Miigwech to all applicants for your interest.

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.