

“The re-imagined curriculum will allow young, emerging leaders to develop critical leadership skills needed to engage with their communities, come together for experiential gatherings, complete self-assessments, form planning committees for community development activities including a Youth Summit, and lead community initiatives on a local priority,” says Gabrielle Ferguson, ROI Leadership Programs Director.

Recruitment for the new RCM cohort will begin June 2023 with the selection process commencing in July 2023 when up to 36 motivated young adults will be selected by application to join the experience. [Follow us](#) to stay up to date on program details and the opening of RCM program applications!

Support for the Rural Change Maker Program has been generously provided in part by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership.

“The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership is excited to support the Rural Change Maker program and to see how our regional youth hone their leadership potential,” says Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership CEO Dan Taylor.

About ROI:

The Rural Ontario Institute is a non-profit organization committed to developing leaders and facilitating collaboration on issues and opportunities facing rural and northern Ontario communities.

About Opiikapawiin Services LP:

Opiikapawiin Services LP (Opiikapawiin Services) was established by and is 100% owned by a partnership of 24 First Nations in Northwestern Ontario. The 24 First Nations are also majority owners of Wataynikaneyap Power: a power transmission project currently undertaking the construction of approximately 1800 km of transmission lines and 22 substations to connect 17 remote First Nations to the Ontario power grid. Opiikapawiin Services is primarily responsible for administering projects and programs for Wataynikaneyap Power relating to community engagement, community readiness, education and training, business readiness, stakeholder engagement, communications, and capacity building. Opiikapawiin Services also supports the First Nations’ partnership in the management of its investment in Wataynikaneyap Power. Learn more about Opiikapawiin Services here: www.oslp.ca.

“The Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project is the largest First Nations-led infrastructure project in Canada,” says Eliezar McKay, First Nation LP Board Chair. “Our leaders have come together on a regional issue and found a solution. First Nation ownership will ensure responsible development of infrastructure on our homelands and maximize benefits to communities.” (August 2022 news release).



About TYWH:

The Timmins Youth Wellness Hub (TYWH) is a safe, inclusive and welcoming space for all youth aged 12-25 to access mental health, addictions and wellbeing services, resources and support. The TYWH is part of a network of Hubs, called Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario (YWHO). YWHO is a network reaching 22 communities with over 30 locations in Ontario that provide integrated co-designed services for youth and families. The TYWH has been a pioneer of the rotational hub model, utilizing multiple community partner locations across the City to ensure youth can easily access programs and services. Learn more about the vital work of YWH-Timmins (<https://ywhtimmins.ca/about/>).

ASSOCIATED LINKS

- [RURAL CHANGE MAKERS](#)
- [YOUNG RURAL AND RESILIENT PROJECT](#)
- [RURAL ONTARIO INSTITUTE](#)
- [OPIIKAPAWIIN SERVICES](#)
- [TIMMINS YOUTH WELLNESS HUB](#)

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