



Atlantic First Nations Water Authority Inc.

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PRESS RELEASE – AFNWA CEO Announcement

FOR RELEASE JUNE 8, 2023 10:00AM AST - The Atlantic First Nations Water Authority Inc. (AFNWA) announces the retirement of Carl Yates, interim Chief Executive Officer since June 2020. His contributions and leadership of the AFNWA to date have been formative and profoundly influential. AFNWA represents the first of its kind in Canada with the mandate to transform water and wastewater service delivery for member communities across the Wabanaki territory.

To ensure a smooth transition, Mr. Yates has agreed to make himself available on a part time basis stating that “Serving the member communities of the AFNWA has been a privilege and the most rewarding experience of my working career”.

With Mr. Yates’ retirement, the AFNWA Board is pleased to welcome the next CEO, Mr. Susheel Arora. Mr. Arora will join AFNWA on July 4, 2023 from a distinguished career at Halifax Water. As the Director of Operations for Halifax Water, Mr. Arora is an expert in the field of water and wastewater utility operations. Beginning with the municipal utility in 2005, he has made his mark creating operational and financial efficiencies.

Mr. Arora played a critical role in the expansion of Halifax Water, specifically with the utility’s expansion to wastewater and stormwater services in 2007. He has led strategic programs such as wet weather management, biosolids management, treatment plant optimization, operations maintenance management and benchmarking. Susheel was also integral to several Halifax Water initiatives such as integrated resource planning (IRP), IT master planning, asset management and capital planning. His wealth of utility management and operations experience, combined with his engineering degrees positions him well for the leadership role and to continue to build on AFNWA’s success. Arora said “It is an honour to join the team at AFNWA as it continues to make waves across the industry. I am delighted to serve the communities and look forward to bringing my experience and knowledge to help the AFNWA’s continued growth by focusing on the next phases of operations, resource management, and the implementation of high regulatory standards. I am grateful to the Halifax Water team for their support over the years.”

The AFNWA Board of Directors was overjoyed with the volume and calibre of the applicants for the CEO Search. The Chair of the Board, Chief Wilbert Marshall stated that “it was a difficult decision to make with so many well accomplished candidates, however the Board is proud to announce the appointment of Mr. Arora. AFNWA’s vision is to be a leader in water and wastewater service delivery for First Nations in Canada. Mr. Arora’s extensive operational experience and leadership will be an integral part of the AFNWA realizing this vision.”

For further information, please contact Chief Wilbert Marshall (chiefmarshall39@gmail.com) or Carl Yates (carl.yates@afnwa.ca).

