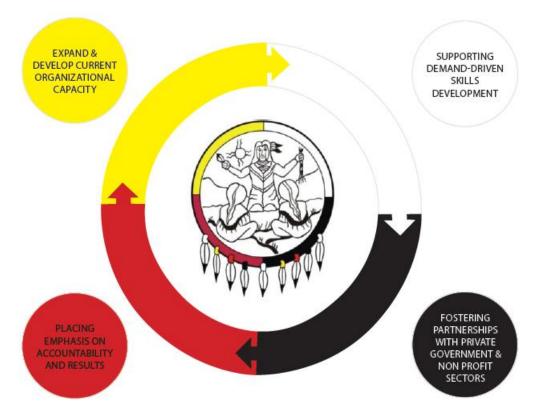
## John DeGiacomo Appointed Executive Director for Anishinabek Employment and Training Services (AETS)

As one who walks between Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures, I am humbled by the trust that the AETS Staff/Board Members, Partners as well as the First Nation Citizens/Leaders/Elders have honoured me with in the last four years as the Proposal & Partnership Development Officer. It has been and continues to be an exciting journey with AETS, and a great deal has been accomplished with the past leadership of a First Nations Mentor who I am proud to call a friend.

The future presents a number of opportunities. I sense that with the strength of the existing staff and the expanding team we will work hard towards securing additional accomplishments based on the following four pillars of the three year Strategic Plan:



The Strategic Plan has already begun to resonate with success in and throughout the nine First Nation Communities that AETS serves in the North Superior Region. I believe when we stand together, as has already been demonstrated with recent projects and now the Strategic Plan, even larger goals can be secured. I invite the Citizens of each of the First Nations to offer AETS feedback via <u>aets@aets.org</u>, in order to ensure we continue to evolve as an organization to reach our vision "to lead in the development of a skilled Aboriginal workforce empowering the Anishinabek, respectful of our culture and heritage".

Thank you/Miigwetch, John