

aets partnership

Anishinabek Employment and Training Services (AETS) Partnership

AETS is an incorporated, not-for-profit organization, celebrating its 21st year as part of a national network delivering an Indigenous Skills and Employment (ISET) Training Program. The objective of the national program and each of the regional agreement holders, is to increase the participation of Indigenous Citizens in the Canadian labour market. Within the North Superior Region, AETS delivers continuing education and training-to-employment programs which build capacity for First Nation citizens from the following nine communities, and sometimes beyond, under special circumstances:

- Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (Lake Nipigon Ojibway)
- Biigtigong Nishnaabeg (Pic River First Nation)
- Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay First Nation)
- Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (Sand Point First Nation)
- Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay First Nation)
- Michipicoten First Nation
- Pays Plat First Nation
- Pic Moberg First Nation
- Red Rock Indian Band

The AETS Board of Directors has a vision to develop the organization through various strategies, including enhanced co-operation with local, regional and national partners.

In collaboration with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg - Endzhigkinoohmaading (Pic River) Private High School, AETS is working co-operatively for the development of a skilled workforce through **Ontario Secondary School Diploma** credits (Land Based Fall 2018 Course and others). Another partnership is with Leadership Thunder Bay (LTB), for the delivery of an Aboriginal Youth focused community leadership program. The **Dinow-igehmin – Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program** will be implemented based on the LTB model within the framework of the Seven Grandfather Teachings, the Medicine Wheel, and **The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People**. The program is designed to contribute to participant's cultural, spiritual, mental, physical and emotional well-being.

A new key partnership is between the Thunder Bay Public Library (TBPL) and AETS. This partnership will enable AETS to accommodate its continued growth to empower the Anishinabek, and support the TBPL's Community Hub development, decolonization, relationship building and facilities renewal at both Waverley and Brodie. This partnership not only helps AETS in the delivery of services, but also serves as an example when it comes to inclusion and reconciliation. We trust that the recent Waverley renovation will result in an experience that enables people to learn, grow and be inspired.



Most of the major facilities renewal, including eight new shared computer workstations, is complete at Waverley, with some final touches expected to be done by mid-September. Please visit our website at www.aets.org for details and feel free to drop by in person to. Note that after September 3, AETS is open to the public on weekdays from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

On behalf of the AETS Board of Directors and Staff, we're excited about the move as we settle into the space. AETS has been graciously welcomed by the TBPL Board of Directors and Staff, and have already undertaken some internal meet and greet activities. AETS is looking forward to working collaboratively with the Library.

Miigwech,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John DeGiacomo". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

John DeGiacomo, Executive Director
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Library staff and AETS staff have a little fun at a recent meet and greet.