



Construction Craft Worker Training Program - April to August 2015

Here's a success story about 12 individuals who decided to take a chance and make some significant changes in their lives.

They come from a variety of communities in the area including Red Rock Indian Band, Rocky Bay, Gull Bay, Pic River and Michipicoten. They chose to leave their home communities and families for nine weeks and come to Thunder Bay to take part in the Construction Craft Worker Training Program offered by Anishinabek Employment and Training Services.

Their stories are different yet similar. Faced with a variety of barriers including living in an isolated area with few services, poverty, lack of transportation, lack of employment opportunities to name but a few, they took a chance on this training opportunity in order to begin to address and overcome their barriers.

They began the program with pre-employment skills training which included such things as goal setting, team building, communication and interpersonal skill, career exploration and effective decision making. They were also offered the opportunity to complete their gr 12 in the AETS classroom. A teacher was always available to offer one to one support and assistance with their lessons and many of the students decided to begin working towards the completion of their OSSD. They then had seven weeks of intensive construction craft worker training along with a two week exposure to the welding trade. Finally, an eight week work experience was made available to them so they could begin to develop and enhance the skills that they acquired during their training. They are all currently completing the work experience placement and two of the participants have already been offered full time employment.