

JOB DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS STORY 2014



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BNA bathroom repaired roof and signage to reserve lands from HWY 11/17

Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek (BNA) also known as Sandpoint First Nation, is a community of nearly 250 members. The First Nation is located on the southeast shores of Lake Nipigon. BNA just recently had its land returned to them in April 2010 following years of displacement at the hands of the provincial and federal governments. The community and its leadership are now forging ahead with major economic development initiatives, and re-establishing the community for the eventual return of the membership to their homeland.

BNA utilized the Job Development Program to focus on on the rehabilitation of existing community infrastructure and the maintenance and development of newly acquired reserve lands. BNA trained and employed three community members for 17 weeks during the summer season. By promoting team work, a strong work ethic, and safe use of basic tools and materials, the participants gained valuable skills they can use in their future endeavours. The participants worked closely with the youth cultural land workers to restore the main washroom roof, cutting of grass and brush, cleaning of facilities such as bunk houses, training centre, washrooms and maintenance garage, general cleaning of outdoor areas within reserve boundaries, garbage disposal, greeting and directing visitors and assisting at all land based community activities, ie band meetings and health activities.