

OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Equity and Opportunity for Indigenous Youth



Presented by: OYEP National Manager, Mark Kmill

OYEP Supervisor, Meghan Jourdain

OYEP Founder, Dave Bradley



WHAT IS OYEP?



The Outland Youth Employment Program is a national network of education, training, and work opportunities for Indigenous youth that includes our award-winning six-week land-based summer program.

OYEP wrap-around support services are available across Canada and summer-based programs are currently available in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia.

OYEP has worked towards equity and opportunity for Indigenous youth and communities since 2000.

OYEP CONNECT

OYEP is all about making connections



Youth
+
Their existing
support
networks

Early Job Connect Skills:
applications online at
www.oyep.ca

Transportation to and from the
job site

A Safe environment and safety
responsibilities and
expectations

Connect to the land and the
companies and people working
on the land

Connect to the training and
resources needed to get the
jobs and careers of their dreams

OYEP

2000 - Where it all started





25 YEARS!

2000 - OYEP's inaugural year in Northern Ontario with one camp, with the goal of supporting the involvement of Indigenous Youth in forestry and on their traditional lands.

2015 - Expanded to 2 camps - Mink and Sandbar

2018 - 2 more additional camps, with OYEPs first camp outside of ON, in Prince George BC

2019 - 2 more additional camps in Egg Lake, MB and Lubicon Lake, AB

2022 - 2 more additional camps in Kamloops BC and Amos, QC.

2023 - 1 site starting in Southern Alberta

Today, OYEP has expanded across the country and has included mining, education, forestry, commercial fisheries, and much more into our curriculum



OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

2024 LOCATIONS



QUESNEL, BC

LITTLE BUFFALO,
AB

SWAN RIVER, MB

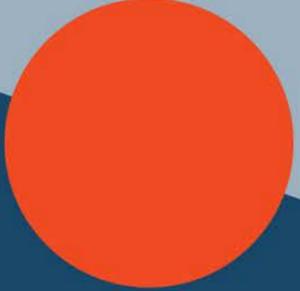
Kananaskis
and Crowsnest Pass, AB

ATIKOKAN, ON

WAWA, ON

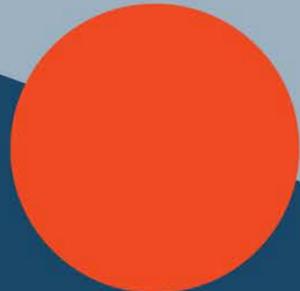
KIRKLAND, ON

LEADERSHIP PROGRESSION



1ST + 2ND YEAR RANGER

- Earn valuable tickets and certifications
- Gain work experience
- Earn a wage throughout the summer
- Develop professional and life skills



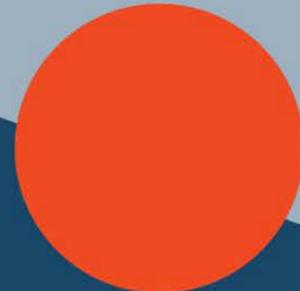
CREW LEADER IN TRAINING

- Develop management skills
- Lead the OYEP participants
- Develop skills at public speaking
- Develop leadership skills



CREW LEADER

- Ensuring Health and Safety rule are being followed
- Leader within camp
- Responsible for participants and ensuring daily activities is attained



SUPERVISOR

- Responsible for full operations of camp



OUTCOMES

Stats from 24 years of OYEP in operation:

- X** 958 TOTAL GRADUATES
- X** 140+ COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED
- X** 1700+ HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS EARNED
- X** 490,000+ HOURS WORKED
- X** 255+ PROGRAM PARTNERS
- X** 2.6+ MILLION TREES PLANTED

OYEP GRADUATES



MEGHAN JOURDAIN

"I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH OYEP FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND IT HAS BEEN A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE.

OYEP HAS SHAPED ME TO BE MORE CONFIDENT WITH MYSELF, AND TO BE A MENTOR TO THOSE AROUND ME.

WITHOUT THE PROGRAM, THE SUPPORT OF MY COMMUNITY AND THE PEOPLE I HAVE MET ALONG THE WAY, I WOULD NOT BE WHERE I AM TODAY.

I HAVE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, COMPLETED THE GENERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE PROGRAM AND IN APRIL OF 2021, I WILL COMPLETE THE NATIVE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AT CONFEDERATION COLLEGE."



JUDAH BERKAN

LAC DES MILLE LAC FIRST NATION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT LIAISON - GOLDER ASSOCIATES

Judah works for Golder Associates as the Environmental Assessment Liaison in Thunder Bay. He is a key member of both Golder's Indigenous Engagement team and field crew for the Waasigan Transmission Project's environmental assessment.

"THE EXPOSURE TO A WIDE VARIETY OF DISCIPLINES AND CAREERS WITHIN NATURAL RESOURCES DURING MY TIME WITH THE OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM INSPIRED ME TO PURSUE FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES AS A CAREER. WITHOUT THAT INFLUENCE, I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN WHERE I AM TODAY." -JUDAH BERKAN

CAT LANGILLE

SEINE RIVER FIRST NATION PROJECT LEARNING TREE - INDIGENOUS YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES INTERN

"I AM CURRENTLY STUDYING ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & NATURAL RESOURCES. OYEP HAS GIVEN ME A FOOT IN THE DOOR FOR ALMOST ANY FORESTRY JOB I COULD POSSIBLY DREAM OF. THIS PROGRAM CONNECTED ME TO THE #MYGREENMENTOR PROGRAM THAT PROJECT LEARNING TREE CANADA PILOTTED, WHICH I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FOR AS AN INDIGENOUS YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES INTERN WITH PLT CANADA. THESE POSITIONS HAVE GIVEN ME A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IT IS LIKE TO LIVE IN THE FOREST, WORK HARD, AND SUSTAIN THE FUTURE IN FORESTRY".
-CAT LANGILLE



NOT FOR PROFIT

OYEP



MISSION

To support individuals working towards their full potential through experiential learning, training and work.



VISION

Equity and Opportunity for Indigenous Youth.



VALUES

Respect for land and culture; Listening to understand, engage and collaborate.

OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

How we try to impact the lives of OYEP participants:

- Safety and setting high expectations
- Goal setting
- Employment readiness
- Essential skills development and Workplace Etiquette
- Developed awareness of career and employment opportunities
- Developed awareness of Education and Training opportunities
- Building connections

And have fun doing it!



OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

CONNECTED TO CULTURE: A SHARED EXPERIENCE ON THE LAND



**JEFFREY WHITE NAOTKAMEGWANNING
FIRST NATION ELDER**

“It is very important that these young adults learn about who they are, where they come from and know their place in this world. OYEP is a place where they can learn to be who they are without fear or shame. I hope I can continue to come here and help these young Anishinaabe, through songs, stories, history, and our ceremonies.”

OUTLAND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



SIX WEEKS ON THE JOB



SAFETY



FORESTRY



**SCIENCE
WEEK**



ENERGY



MINING



**FIELD
WORK**

KAYLEE, WEBEQUIE FIRST NATION

"I was an OYEP participant in 2019. I learned a bunch of valuable skills, earned a bunch of certifications, and developed my awareness of all of the natural resource projects occurring around where I live. I learned about Musselwhite Mine while I was at OYEP and now I work for Newmont!"



OYEP DELIVERABLES



EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS YOUTH THROUGH EDUCATION, TRAINING AND HANDS-ON WORK OPPORTUNITIES ONE CAMP AT A TIME.



Cultural Connections

- On The Land
- Cultural Workshops
- Elders involved
- Culturally relevant connections
- Networking Opportunities
- Medicine Walks
- Developing and Identity



Education

- Two Co-Op Credits
- Science Week
- Resume Development
- Financial Literacy
- Career Talks & Field Tours
- Networking Opportunities
- Volunteer Hours
- Exposure to Post-Secondary Schools



Training

- WHMIS
- First Aid
- Workplace Safety
- Drivers Licence Testing
- Canoe Safety
- Sp102 &
- Chainsaw Training
- GPS/GIS
- Brush-saw Training



Work Experience

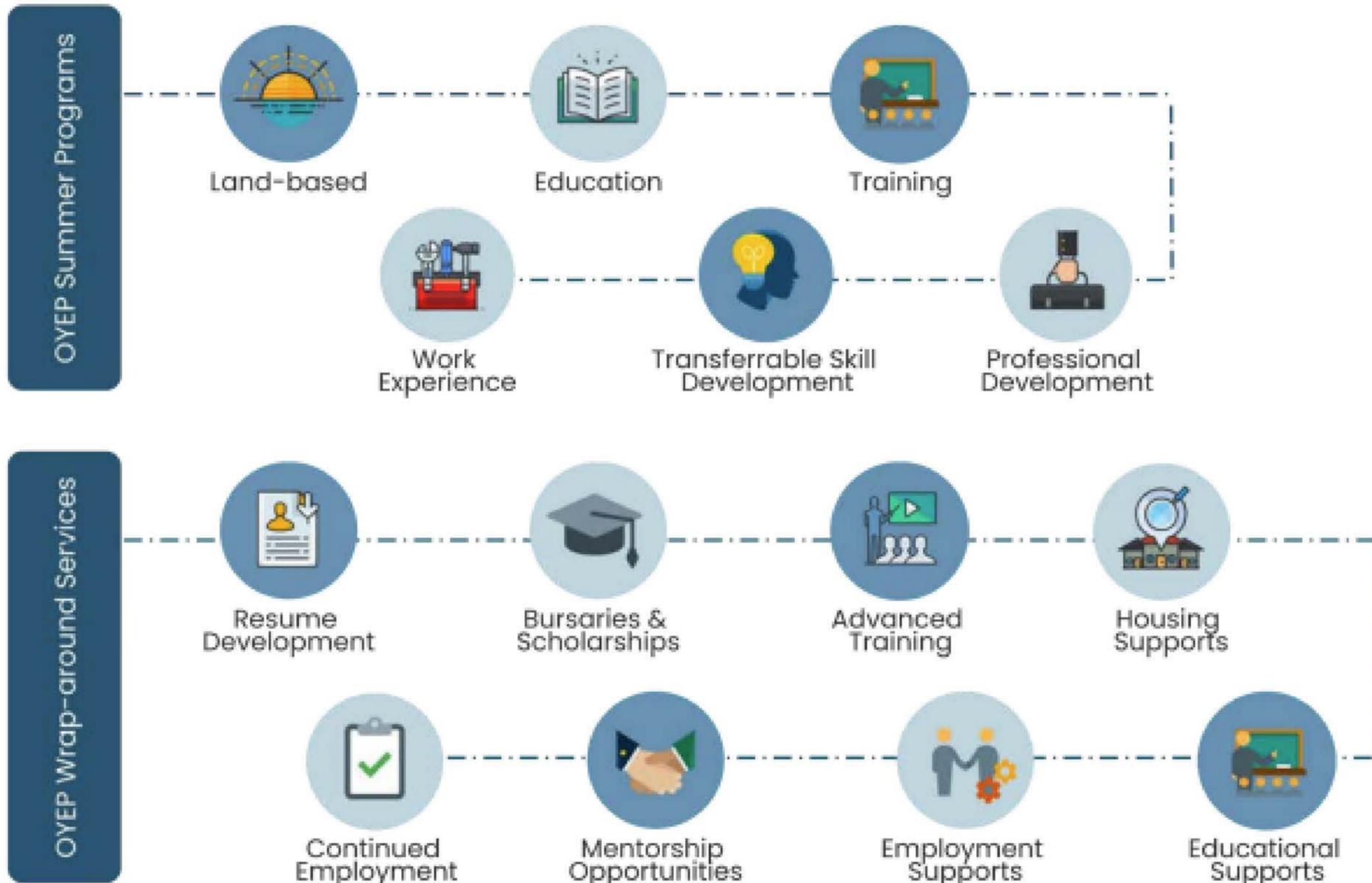
- Tree Planting
- Pre-Commercial Thinning
- Trail Clearing
- Community Based Projects
- Landscaping
- Camp Maintenance
- Small Engine Maintenance
- Partner Projects
- Cone Picking
- Tree Nursery sorting



Personal Development

- Leadership
- Confidence
- Communication Skills
- Self Motivations
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Independence
- Problem Solving
- Time Management
- Conflict Resolution

OYEP WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT SERVICES



Blaze Head
Opaskwayak Cree Nation, MB
Crew Leader, MB

“Being an OYEP crew leader always amazes me to watch the youth participants mature and build confidence over the six weeks. It’s incredible how much growth can happen in such a short amount of time – I love it.”



Alexis Nanibush-Pamejewong
Shawanaga First Nation, ON
Crew Leader, MB

“Being an OYEP Leader was one of the best experiences I’ve had. I can’t wait to be laughing and sharing stories again with the best people I’ve ever met.”



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The Outland Youth Employment Program Participant Survey was conducted in partnership between Outland and the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) from June to October of 2018. The objective of the OYEP Participant Survey is to explore and demonstrate the economic, social and employment impacts that OYEP has provided to graduates and current participants of the program.

100%

of OYEP graduates surveyed "strongly agree" or "agree" that OYEP provided tools for employment that they would not have been able to access otherwise.

96%

of OYEP graduates surveyed "strongly agree" or "agree" that OYEP provided tools and resources that were valuable to them in building their employment or career path

47%

of OYEP graduates are the first in their family to finish high school

92%

of respondents have either completed high school or an equivalency program

52%

of OYEP graduates reported to work or to have worked in the Agriculture, forest, fishing or hunting industry

97%

of OYEP graduate surveyed agree that attending OYEP has put them on a positive path in life that they not have found if they had not participated

73%

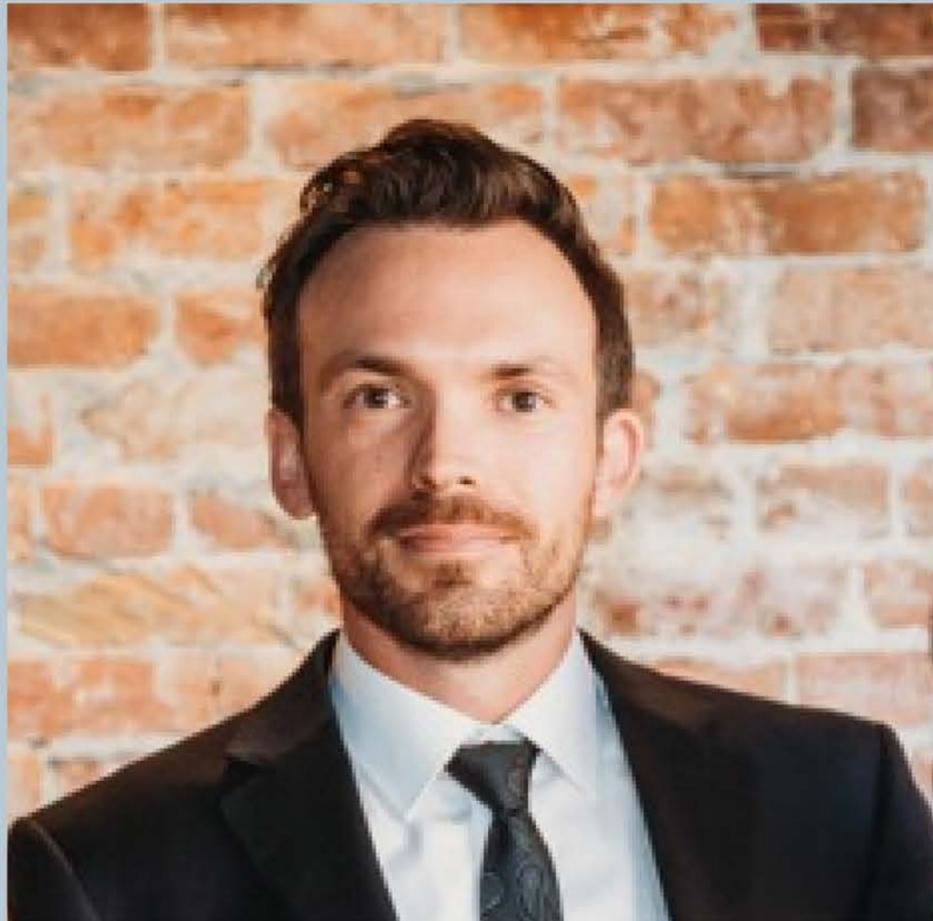
of OYEP graduates are currently employed.

100%

of OYEP graduates surveyed "strongly agree" or "agree" that OYEP provided opportunities for personal development

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