

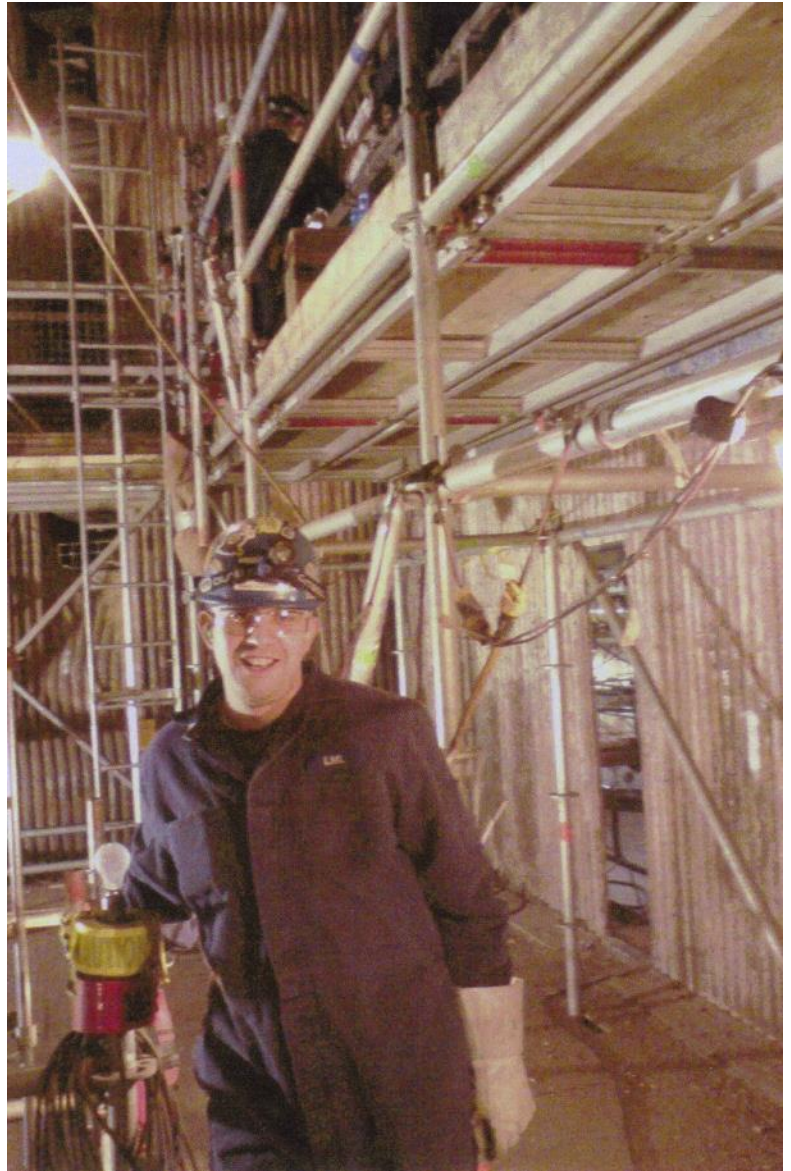
COURSE PURCHASE

Claude Courtemanche

Kiashke Zaaging Anishinabek

Red Seal Boilermaker

Claude Courtemanche is a member of Kiashke Zaaging Anishinabek and resides in Thunder Bay. After graduating from Westgate Collegiate Vocational Institute, Claude enrolled in Confederation College and graduated with a Diploma in Human Resources. After graduation, Claude worked as a temporary mail carrier for Canada Post. He always had a technical curiosity and was very interested in the skills and knowledge involved in the Boilermaker trade as well as welding. In 2008, Claude became a member of the Boilermaker's Union and his journey to becoming a certified Boilermaker started. This year marks his completion and is now a Red Seal Journeyman. Claude had some barriers that he overcame. Like most Apprentices, finding accommodations when attending school was problematic. Working away from home was another challenge he



was prepared to overcome. When you belong to a union, you often have to leave home and go where the work is. At times, when work was slow or projects completed, saving money was a challenge as he knew he would have to attend school to complete the practical portion of his apprentice. Through programs offered by Anishinabek Employment and Training Services (AETS), he received assurance and was able to continue and complete his journey to becoming a Boilermaker. Claude is grateful for the financial assistance AETS provided to help offset the cost of transportation and accommodations. He is also pleased with the level of service he received while accessing the Resource Centre and positive reinforcement he received over the phone and when dealing one on one with staff. Claude states that he likes the constant change and challenges involved in his work as a Boilermaker. He likes working with different people and the unknown of where his employer is going to send him. Needless to say, he has overcome working away from home and likes the challenge. He likes that he is continuously learning new techniques to accomplish difficult tasks. He states "which makes for a very exciting career and an excellent decision to enter into his chosen path of success".

COURSE PURCHASE



**Glen Hephner (top left) – Red Rock Indian Band
Surface Diamond Driller Assistants Program – Northern College**

Recently laid off from his Site Security contract position and on EI, Glen entered into a Course Purchase training program in Surface Diamond Driller Assistants (partnered with AETS and Matachewan Aboriginal Access to Training). With the next economic boom in the region being mining and in particular the Ring of Fire, Glen felt this would be a great time to gain some skills in the mining sector. Along with ten other aboriginals, he enrolled in the Northern College Surface Diamond Driller Assistants Program. A ten hour drive from home Glen had to overcome being away from his wife and three children while attending school for 10 weeks. Sometimes it's difficult to see past the present, but if you can put things in perspective and look down the road even a little bit, chances are it will make the here and now a whole lot easier. Short term pain for long term gain. "This program is the greatest training I've ever participated in...The placements (in the industry) was also very great and very good learning experience". Glen is also the recipient of the Len Webster award recognizing a student that exemplifies good people skills and respect for other cultures. Upon graduation in March 2011, Glen is now employed full time as a Surface Diamond Driller Helper with Cabo Drilling. He "enjoys working outdoors and in the end it's all about the money, being able to provide for my family". He works 12 hour shifts, 28 days on and 14 days off...plenty of time to relax in between work shifts.

COURSE PURCHASE



Ray Sasines Jr – Animbiigoo Zaagi’igan Anishinaabek Ironworker Program (Structural & Ornamental) – Sault College

Ray Sasines is a member of the Animbiigoo Zaagi’igan Anishinaabek and lives in Thunder Bay with his fiancé and two daughters. Ray has lived in various places across North America, and in various occupations, ie bartender, commercial painter, with most other jobs in the construction field. He obtained his GED certification, moved to Thunder Bay and joined the International Association of Bridge, Ornamental & Reinforcing Ironworkers Union – Local 759 in Thunder Bay on a six month probation period. With the assistance of the union, Service Canada and Anishinaabek Employment & Training Services, Ray was able to complete the Ironworker Program (Structural & Ornamental) at Sault College and well as Level 1 and Level 2 of the Red Seal Welder trade. While in training in Sault Ste Marie, the support he received “both financially and mentally” from AETS helped contribute to his success....”by allowing myself not to stress about bills/money for my family while in school equals more time for study and better grades”.

We asked him what he likes about his present job:

- “A day’s pay for a day worked”
- “A demanding career – hard work for those who enjoy it”
- “The possibility to travel to different parts of North American through work”

WAGE SUBSIDY



**Tiffany Haskell – Red Rock Indian Band
Assistant Band Administrator**

Tiffany Haskell, a Red Rock Indian band member with two children completed a two year Business Accounting program at Confederation College through Contact North. She was employed at The Beer Store in Nipigon as a sales associate when finally an opportunity came up to train and gain experience in her occupational field. Tiffany entered into a Wage Subsidy training program at Red Rock Indian Band funded by Anishinabek Employment and Training Services. She was assistant to the Band Administrator and was trained in all aspects of First Nation financial administration. “What we learned in school had absolutely nothing to do with First Nations. It was a huge learning curve for me.” Tiffany has had excellent success upon completing her 52 week wage subsidy training program as she is now employed by the Red Rock Indian Band as the Band Administrator. “I still learn something new every day in my new position. I have a great working environment, great co-workers and am so busy there are not enough hours in the day.”

GROUP COURSE PURCHASE



Mining Essentials - Ojibways of the Pic River and Pic Mobert First Nations

Anishinabek Employment and Training Services in co-operation with the Assembly of First Nations and the Mining Industry Human Resources Council launched the Mining Essentials Pilot Program in November 2010, one of three sites in Canada. Mining Essentials enhances relationships and co-operation among Aboriginal communities, education and industry by supporting training and hiring goals outlined in many formal and informal agreements (i.e.: Impact Benefit Agreements). This initiative is the only national work readiness program for Aboriginal peoples in mining. The program aims to ensure Aboriginal peoples have the essential skills and work-readiness training needed to enter mining and to provide industry with a local, employment-prepared workforce. The AETS pilot site is in partnership with the Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation, Pic Mobert First Nation, Barrick-Hemlo and Confederation College. Each of the graduates completed Grade 12 (or equivalency) and has the following certification approved:

- Environmental Monitor Training - Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) Canada Building Environmental Aboriginal Human Resources (BEAHR) Project
- Surface Miner Common Core (Work Safely in Job Environment - U5030, Lock Out/Tag Out - U5031, Operate Hand/Power Tools - U5032)
- Underground Common Core (Barrick - Hemlo Basic - U0000, U0001, U0002)
- Mining Essentials - Mining Industry Human Resources Sector Council, including over four weeks of experience in up to ten different departments at Barrick - Hemlo
- First Aid and NORCAT General Safety Awareness
- Mining Plus (Exploration/Drilling Awareness at Bending Lake Iron Group)

On March 24, 2011, nine of the ten participants graduated and presently seven of the nine are working full time in a mining related organization or position with the following employers:

- Barrick-Hemlo, Stillwater Canada Inc., Entourage Metals, Goldcorp, Bending Lake Iron Group and Pic River Development Corporation