

Daawinan Nibwaakaawinan Community Learning



People with a vision to achieve



Little Jackfish Rapids – Proposed Site of the Hydro Electric Project

On March 24th, 2011 Confederation College signed an agreement with Waaskiinaysay Ziibi Inc. (WZI) as the training service provider to deliver a historical initiative referred to as the Little Jackfish Pre-employment Training Program.



The AZA Classroom in Beardmore

WZI, with Confederation College as a partner, submitted a proposal for pre-employment training to the Northern Training Partnership Fund. This fund was created by the Province of Ontario, administered by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities, in September 2010. Prior to the 2010 year end, WZI received approval of their submission.

WHAT IS WZI?

WZI is a development corporation wholly owned by five First Nation communities surrounding Lake Nipigon, including Whitesand, Lake Helen (Red Rock Indian Band), Animibiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek (AZA), Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (BZA), and Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinabek (BNA). Their goal is to prepare their community for employment opportunities during the construction of the Little Jackfish Hydro Electric Project.

LITTLE JACKFISH PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The Little Jackfish pre-employment training program is an opportunity that comes around once in a life-time. It is a multi-year, multi-faceted pre-employment training program to increase the literacy skills, workplace essential skills, and life skills prior to individuals pursuing opportunities in the skilled trades related to construction.

Individuals seeking to benefit from this training initiative participate in an intake and assessment process which establishes a starting point based on their personal career goals. The next step on the pathway to entering the skills training opportunities is pre-employment training. Pre-employment training classrooms are set up in Whitesand, BZA, Lake Helen, Thunder Bay, the Confederation College Greenstone Campus in Geraldton and, very shortly, in Beardmore.

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TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The training opportunities that follow pre-employment training include trades preparation courses such as Construction Techniques. This is a one-year Ontario College Certificate program designed as an introduction to the employment realities of working in the trades.

CofQ PREPARATION PROGRAM

The Certificate of Qualification or CofQ Preparation Program allows Aboriginal people who have worked in the Carpentry trade, to prepare and challenge the provincial qualification exam. A provincial CofQ and inter-provincial or "Red-Seal" certificate will be granted to those scoring over 70%. Entry into this program is based on prior approval of the required 7200 hours experience by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities.

SKILLED TRADES

Trades training combines classroom theory with practical training using the equipment and tools specific to a particular profession. Through this program participants may have an opportunity to enter a trade as an apprentice. Some of the trades in this initiative include Cook, Electrician, General Carpenter, Heavy Equipment Operator, Millwright, and Plumber.

CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT TRAINING

Construction Support Training is for those individuals interested in non trade's related training. This includes such possibilities as Security Guard and Office Administration which consists of up to six months of in-school training followed by on-the-job training.

As a member of one of the WZI communities, you are eligible to participate in this exciting opportunity.

The training Initiative has a Coordinator located at the WZI office in Lake Helen. (Milton Wawia.)

Each community has a Retention Support Worker that also helps individuals get involved. They are: *Hope Tibishkogijig* – Whitesand, *Line Clarke* – BNA, *Dorothy Cheesequay* – AZA, *Monique Becker* – BZA, and *Marilyn Michelle* – RRIB. Each of the Retention Support Workers can be contacted at the Community Band Office.

Don't hesitate, start now!

Michael Cameron
Director | Eastern Campuses
Confederation College



AZA Success Stories



TESSE MORRISSEAU

I love my teacher Gloria; she pumps me up and makes coming to school a whole lot of fun. I enjoy the school work. I just finished my math level three which took me a month and a half. My self esteem is great for I feel I'm working towards getting my grade 12 equivalency and hopefully move into a full-time well paid job when I'm done. It was kind of scary at first when I started the homework, but as time goes by I feel more comfortable and confident that I can succeed.



LEON MCCRADY

I'm excited to go back to school. I've always wanted to be a cook and now I have a chance to become one. My brother is my inspiration and I want to be just like him. My future goal is to finish the cooking program, as well as my english/math, computers and life skills course. Then hopefully get off ODSP and get a full-time job working in either a camp or restaurant. I've been out of school for many years and now I have this great opportunity to go back.



TRACY HEAD

I have a full-time job and family responsibilities but I attend class as often as I can. I enjoy coming to school for I feel that I'm bettering myself in many ways. I'm writing my final exam for level three math and almost done level three English. I plan on finishing the program and continuing on to a post secondary program. I would like to express to the AZA members that I was kind of scared at first, but I feel more confident in myself and my self esteem is right up there. You now have a chance to go back to school and get your grade 12 equivalency and get a second career for FREE! This is a chance of a life time and there is a well paid job at the end of the tunnel when you are done.



PAULINE KELLY

I started off in the Ace program for English and I have two more projects to do then I'm done. I finished of my level three math and I am going into level four. I started the program in August and I've dedicated every day possible to attend class. I work full-time and it's been hard but I feel so great about myself knowing I can do it. I really enjoy my teacher, for she is so much help when needed. She makes me feel welcome and important. When I grow up I will be well educated and have a real great paying job, for I plan on finishing this program and moving into a post secondary program a choice that I will make once I'm closer to being finished.

GEORGINA NAYANOOKEESIC

I started my class homework at home, for I work full-time and I am looking forward to the classroom being set up in Beardmore to access the teacher on my breaks, lunch hour and hopefully evenings. I'm also a full-time mom and would like to be able to have a great paying job when I'm done my schooling. There is a lot of homework to be done, but I'm going to give it my all. This is a great chance for our First Nation members to get the schooling they need to better themselves and be self sufficient. Many of us don't have a grade 12 education and a lot of places won't hire anyone without one. I'm giving it a shot and you can too!



RACHEL HEAD

I'm working full-time right now and I'm excited to be going back to school. I want to better myself and get a better job for I know I can succeed and move forward with my career of choice. I really enjoy seeing the teacher for she makes me feel so welcome. I was scared at first, but I feel a whole lot comfortable now. I'm in the level 4 English and can't wait to finish it off. I'm on the level three math and hopefully once I can attend more often, I can move into level four.



TYLER FUCILE

I'm the part-time Classroom Assistant at Confederation College in Geraldton and I enjoy spending my time there and meeting new people. If anyone wants to come to the College, just come in and visit me and I will take you over to the classroom.



GLORIA RICHARDSON (TEACHER FOR THUNDER BAY)

I love the program, I think this program is necessary, functional and a perfect fit for the First Nation members. Students mentioned that they have excelled far better here than any other upgrading program. I look forward to seeing the students graduate, for I'm confident that all my students will do so.



ART SANTALA (TEACHER FOR GERALDTON)

I enjoy teaching Tracy who is my Little Jackfish student. She proves that she can go to school, work and at the same time, be a full-time mother. I commend her for her hard work ethics and successes so far. I look forward to meeting more students and helping them out, so come on down and start the program.

The classroom atmosphere is fantastic and students can rely on their very professional teacher, she gives them all the help they need to achieve their tasks.



Line Clarke, BNA/RSW

Hello everyone.
My name is Line Clarke. I have been the Retention Support Worker at the BNA satellite office since last March.

I had about three groups of assessments and a total

of approximately twenty-two members have participated. Now I have 12 members signed up to earn their high school diploma.

We have a classroom at the Labour Centre. For anyone wishing to attend upgrading, it is not too late. Come and see me. We will get you assessed and start you where you need to be. The students are doing very well and are accelerating at a very good rate.

I am located at our satellite office, 146 South Court Street, Thunder Bay and can be reached by phone at 623-2724 ext. 20 or email lclarke@shawbiz.ca.

The Little Jackfish Project will offer a lot of great opportunities to all with the right education and training. Now is the time to get serious and get the skills that you will need for the upcoming positions that will be offered.

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Line Clarke, BNA/RSW

Thunder Bay Classroom

Retention Support Worker/BNA



Margaret Grimard had her grade 12 diploma, but she has been out of school for many years. She wanted to refresh her mind. She will then go on in a course at the College that will suit her needs for a new career. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavour.



Kari Esquega is in upgrading to obtain her grade 12; she is very determined to do it and is in the right direction. After obtaining her grade 12, Kari wants to take native social work. Kari will achieve her goals; she is determined to do so. We are supportive of your achievements.



Wilfred Potan working hard at his grade 12 wants to challenge the Certificate of Qualification in electricity and maybe enter the electrician course at Confederation College. He will achieve his educational goals.



Daniel Debassige working to obtain his grade 12, he wants to take a trade at Confederation College. He is very eager to achieve. Go for it Daniel, you can do it.



Danelle Clarke will obtain her grade 12 and will continue on to a course of her choice at Confederation College. She knows that you need a good education to achieve a certain level of economic stability in your life. Keep up the good work you will get rewarded.



Rosalyn Desmoulin. She is the mother of 2 little babies and will be educating herself to enable her to help her kids with a healthier environment. Through her education she will be able to help her children with home-work when they start school. She wants to take a trade after her upgrading. Good luck and keep up the good work.

For more information on the Little Jackfish Pre-employment Training Program contact the Retention Support Workers at your community Band Office. Don't hesitate, start now!



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COLLEGE



WAASKIINAYSAY ZIIBI INC.