

Achimowin

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KEISHA AWARDED FIRST KEEYASK WORKERS' OPPORTUNITY FUND BURSARY

Pictured here at the June 10 award presentation are (starting from left): Nathan Neckoway, Councillor, TCN and KHLP Board member; Dave Bowen, Director, Keeyask Project; Chief Doreen Spence, Tataskweyak Cree Nation and KHLP Board member; Keisha Wastesicoot, award recipient; and her aunt, Theresa Henderson.

Congratulations to Keisha Wastesicoot, community member of Tataskweyak Cree Nation, who was awarded the first bursary from the Keeyask Worker's Opportunity Fund.

Keisha started at Keeyask in 2016 as an Emergency Medical Responder Cadet (EMR) in an On-The-Job work experience with Cree Nation Partners/Criticare EMS Joint Venture.

"When this opportunity came up, I ended up really loving it," said Keisha, who always knew she wanted to work in the health field and had considered nursing. "The medics I worked with at Keeyask were great, getting to know them and learning from them; as well as interacting with different patients and different types of calls every day."

Keisha successfully completed the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course and obtained Provincial EMR licensure - a pre-requisite for the Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) Program, which Keisha recently graduated from. She aims to use the bursary to continue advancing her training and complete the final steps

to become a licensed paramedic by writing the Provincial Licensure exam this coming August.

"One of my dreams is to open an Emergency Medical Services system in Split Lake in the future," said Keisha, who was excited and happy upon hearing the news she had been awarded the bursary. "But for right now, I'm going to focus on my studies coming up for success on the exam in August."

As well as a great work experience, Keisha also enjoyed camp life.

"I loved working at Keeyask. It was really convenient having things like a gym at the camp and really good food, and I still got to see my family every weekend."



KEYYASK WORKER'S OPPORTUNITY FUND

The Keeyask Workers' Opportunity Fund was created to provide opportunities to support education, training, and employment for members of the four Keeyask Cree Nation (KCN) partner communities - Tataskweyak Cree Nation, War Lake First Nation, York Factory First Nation and Fox Lake Cree Nation.

After almost six years of project construction, employees have contributed over \$160,000 to this fund by purchasing clothes at the on-site commissary.

The remaining funds will be transitioned into a legacy fund during operations.

To apply for the scholarship, individuals can contact their community Job Seeker Manager, supervisor, Keeyask Cree Nation site representative, or Manitoba Hydro Site Liaison.

Bears are always in search of food, and motivated by sights, sounds, memories, and particularly odours.

When bears find an easy source of food, they begin to associate this food source with people and dwellings, and become nuisances.

Unfortunately, relocating or destroying bears does not resolve the problem. Rather, we should try to prevent bears from being attracted to these areas.

You can help by:

- Double bagging garbage and placing it in a bear-resistant container, secured building, or fenced area.
- Cleaning garbage containers regularly with bleach or ammonia.
- Storing all food inside your vehicle, and out-of-sight.
- Never feeding a bear, whether intentionally or inadvertently.



**Contact Manitoba Hydro's Environmental team
if you spot a bear on-site at: 204-451-4670**



ONE TEAM. ONE MISSION.

The Manitoba Hydro Safety Team is here to look out for all Keeyask workers and see to it that they have the opportunity to end their day safe from harm. Not only will you see them around looking out for safe practices, but they are also available to listen to your concerns and questions – look for one of their green hard hats or stop by the safety trailer in the Service Bay parking lot, or fill out a Safety Observation Card. Pictured left-to-right: Jordan LeSage, Uton Drysdale, Corrie Vallis, Jonathan Pylypiw, Kyle Kulbaba, and Eric Lubig.



Rose Connell accelerates in her chosen career

As Rose Connell gained more experience as a rock truck driver for BBE, she kept looking ahead to bigger things. Within one month of starting, she progressed to driving a 773-rigid frame rock truck in full production – an achievement it normally takes a student three months to complete. In 2018, Rose advanced to operating a 777 (100 ton) rock truck.

Rose, a community member of Tataskweyak Cree Nation, started at Keeyask in 2015, working for Sodexo in janitorial and bartending. Her previous automotive experience led her to working for BBE, and obtaining her class 1 driver's license – one of her career goals.

In her future, Rose would like to continue working in construction, and drive a tractor trailer gravel truck when Keeyask ends.

On the construction site – Powerhouse activities moving to mechanical

In the powerhouse, the final draft tube liner was installed in June. The installation of the remaining stay rings by late 2019 will signal the completion of the embedded parts of the seven generating units. Work will soon begin to shift to the non-embedded and other mechanical systems.





Blanket Exercise offers insight into Indigenous experience

The Blanket Exercise is an interactive way to walk through Indigenous history unlike the normal ways we learn or are taught the subject. Participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples in Canada, standing on blankets that represent the land as history progresses.

The Blanket exercise was presented for the second time at Keeyask on May 29, and once again the strength of the experience was apparent to the participants.

“I was most surprised at how emotional the experience was,” said Megan Anger, Site Environmental Lead, Manitoba

Hydro. “It really drew people in and got people thinking about how it would feel to go through some of the hardships Indigenous people endured.”

Labour Relations Advisor, Manitoba Hydro, Kimberly Kelly added, “More than a week after the exercise, I still am thinking about how people were forced to have their children taken away from them, and forced to learn another language, and forced to live a different way.”

Kim also made the point that she was surprised to see others who were in attendance state, “they had no idea this happened or they had no idea people were treated like that.”

Kim said, “Learning history from a text book is one thing, but participating in the exercise you feel it personally, you feel as though you are walking in their footsteps.”

On why it is important to take the time and attend the Blanket Exercise, Megan said, “I thought that I had learned a lot about the history of Indigenous people in Canada while I attended university courses, but this exercise was very eye-opening and taught me a lot of things that I did not know.”

To learn more about Indigenous culture, history or the Blanket Exercise, drop-in to the Employee Retention Support (ERS) Services offices, located next to the main camp check-in desk.

FOR VIDEOS AND MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Keeyask.com

Send your feedback and suggestions to:

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