

G·R·E·A·T



SIX NATIONS

# G · R · E · A · T

## UPDATE

"Employment for Onkweh'on:we regardless of residency"

December 2012 - January 2013

Please visit our website at [www.greatsn.com](http://www.greatsn.com)

## Ryan Henry: the road to a successful career

By L.M. VanEvery



Struggling through high school, Ryan Henry, 28, admittedly had no direction for his life in terms of a career. He knew he was interested in the electrical field but didn't know where to take that interest.

Ryan dropped out of school in grade 12 and moved to Chicago to work. Finding work as a forklift operator at a big box store proved to be just the incentive for Ryan to return home after a year and begin to find a way to turn his interest in electricity into a career. His first step was to obtain his high school equivalency diploma.

In 2006, Ryan visited **GREAT** for assistance in preparing to write the General Educational Development (GED) tests necessary to earn his high school equivalency. Once successful in earning his diploma, Ryan enrolled in a one-year pre-trades technology course offered through Mohawk College/**OSTTC**. "It was a way to get a feel for the type of work I liked," says Ryan.

The following summer, Ryan took a chance and applied as a summer student at Hydro One. He was successful and spent that summer as a labourer learning about the company and educating himself on what types of careers were available there. **GREAT** helped Ryan with acquiring work boots and basic tools he needed for his job. The second summer, he applied to work at Hydro One again and focused on working with the linemen. "Building lines and setting poles, I realized that's the job I wanted," he says.

In September 2009, Ryan enrolled in a pre-electrical apprenticeship through **GREAT**. He also upgraded to earn his grade 12 English, Math and Physics qualifications through **GREAT**. Once complete, he worked at a local manufacturing firm to gain work experience in the electrical field. In September 2011, Ryan felt ready to apply to Hydro One for a full-time position as a Powerline Technician Apprentice which is a four-year apprenticeship. He knew he had all the personality traits to succeed in the position. "I always liked outside work. I don't mind heights and I'm willing to travel," he says.

From 7,000 applications, Ryan was part of 100 who earned an interview in November. **GREAT** helped him prepare for the interview suggesting possible interview questions and tips for learning about the company. Two weeks later, he was told he had gotten the job. Ryan began his career with Hydro One in February working his first year in Orillia. Having just completed Level I, Ryan looks forward to beginning Level II in January when he moves to Lindsay. Hydro One moves their apprentices all over Ontario in order to gain experience working in all landscapes and climates that comprise Ontario. The best part of Ryan's job is the ability to travel and see the beautiful province of Ontario. The most challenging part is being away from his family.

Ryan looks forward to completing his apprenticeship with Hydro One. He plans to earn his AZ license and eventually become a lineman journeyman. "I see myself staying with Hydro One," he says. After finding his dream career, Ryan has this advice for those still searching. "Stick with it. Keep going no matter what."

For more information about Apprenticeships, contact **GREAT** today.

**GRAND RIVER EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING • OPPORTUNITIES CENTRE, OHSWEKEN, ON • 519-445-2222**

"In Partnership with Service Canada"

# DID YOU KNOW?

## OGWEHOWEH SKILLS AND TRADES TRAINING CENTRE 2013 Program Calendar

PROGRAM	DATE
GED	6 Week-Full day Jan. 7 – Feb. 15/13 (tentative) May 6 – June 15, Oct. 28 – Dec. 7, 2012 – Official Test – TBD 2012
Employment Readiness	September 9 - October 19, 2013
Academic Upgrading Gr. 12 Math/Sr. Physics	January 7 – February 15, 2013 July 8 – August 17, 2013
Horticulture Technician	April 1, 2013 ( <b>Tuition Free</b> )
Electrical Level 1	April 15, 2013 ( <b>Tuition Free</b> )
Plumbing & Residential Construction Worker	April 2013 ( <b>Tuition Free</b> )
Renewable Energy	April 22, 2013 ( <b>Tuition Free</b> )
Welding Level 1	Assessments completed daily 9 am – 12 pm April 15 – July 27, 2013 ( <b>Tuition Free</b> )
Pre-Media & Entertainment	Pre-Media & Entertainment January 7, 2013 (Tentative )
Driver's Education	February 2013
Computer Basics – Word, Excel and Power Point	Summer 2013
7 Week Business Plan	October 15 – November 30, 2013

## GRAND RIVER EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

### SIX NATIONS WOMEN OF THE GRAND RIVER PROJECT A GREAT and Community Partners Initiative ~ TWO EVENTS ~ COMING SOON ~

**FREE BREAKFAST AT GREAT ~ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2012 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AT GREAT ~ SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2013  
Watch and Listen for Details! Vendors welcome.**

Listen while the Bingo Ladies hilariously present their issues for gaining employment.  
Open Discussion to follow ~ Participate in a planning survey  
Lots of Parking behind GREAT and in the Welfare Parking Lot.

For more information about either of the events or the project contact  
Barb at 519 445-2222, Ext. 3119, or toll free at 1-888-218-8230, or barb@greatsn.com

**Vendors for the Women's Conference contact: Karen at 226-920-6365 or email: kmilmine@hotmail.com.**

## FREE WORKSHOPS FOR DEC 2012-JAN 2013, CALL to Register (519) 445-2222

Workshop Name	Dates	Times	Location
Resume / Cover Letter	Dec. 11, 18, 2012 Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2013	10 – 12 Noon 10 – 12 Noon	GREAT'S CIC
Surviving The Interview	Jan. 10, 2013	1 – 3 pm	GREAT'S CIC
Jobs, Jobs, Jobs Hidden Job Market • Develop a self-marketing package • Apply for 10 Jobs now hiring	Dec. 20, 2012 Jan 24, 2013	1 – 3 pm 1 – 3 pm	GREAT'S CIC
Self-Marketing Your Skills	Jan. 3, 2013	1 – 3 pm	GREAT'S CIC

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website: [www.greatsn.com](http://www.greatsn.com) • email: [info@greatsn.com](mailto:info@greatsn.com)