

Technical Vocational Students Finish Year-Long Program

This year, seven Frontier School Division students, along with students from The Pas and Flin Flon, completed the year-long Technical Vocational Training Program. These students started last February in Building Construction and Heavy Duty Technician programs and received 8 high school credits as well as a number of credits from University College of the North.

In the Heavy Duty Tech program, Kristy Colomb (Pukatawagan) and Tanner Longmuir (Snow Lake) were placed in real on-the-job training with participating employers. Kristy did 10 weeks with Gordon Kosmenko in Cranberry Portage and 10 weeks in her home community with Ray Jorgenson (and her Dad). Kristy earned 6 high school credits and 2 Senior Years Apprenticeship credits.

Tanner worked in the heavy duty shop on surface at HBM&S for his first work practicum. Then in the summer he was hired at Northland Ford in Flin Flon to do some 'detailing' (washing and preparing cars for resale). Upon returning to the second half of the heavy duty program he and Northland Ford expressed interest in the Senior Years Apprenticeship Option in auto mechanics. Once he finished the second half of his technical training he was signed to the apprenticeship and is continuing on this path with Northland Ford.



From left: Jodie, Holden, Brett, Rodney, Kevin, Kyle, Warren, Calvin, and Maurice (BCP instructor)

Five Frontier students completed the Building Construction Program: Calvin Moise (Pukatawagan), Holden Saunders (York Landing), Jodie Leighton-Moose (South Indian Lake), Brett McCallum (Pukatawagan), and Warren Dumas (South Indian Lake). Three other students, Kyle Cordon and Rodney Ruckle from Flin Flon, and Kevin Shepard from The Pas were also successful in completing the program.

These eight young men worked on the FCI Campus for the entire program. In their first 10 week on-the-job work experience they assisted the Area 4 maintenance staff with a variety of projects. For their last 10-week experience project, they constructed a ready-to-move home to the insulation stage. (shown in photo)

A big thanks to all our co-operating journeyman for working with these young men and women. Without their help, this program would not be possible.

Some comments from the students:

"This program has helped me get better at math and fractions and I am thinking of making this program a life-time job. I like working with my hands and building things. It has helped my learn how to work on a jobsite and how to work as part of a team." - Calvin

"This carpentry program has been fun for me and I'm enjoying it so far. It has helped me in school with my math and my attendance. This program will give me skills for when I am finished high school. When I finish high school I hope to continue as a carpenter." - Holden

"This program helped me in many ways. It keeps me out of trouble. It improved my math skills and my attendance. It made me think of what I did before this program and what I am going to do in the future. I most likely think I will continue in my trade. My leadership skills are now pretty good." - Brett

"I enjoyed the hands on learning with the tools and construction work. The program increased my attendance this term. You can learn a lot of new skills when you take part in this carpentry program. I don't know whether or not I will continue with the carpentry work, but I wouldn't mind having it as a career for myself." - Warren