



PROSPECTS

Yukon Mine Training Association Newsletter

Issue 4 - Winter 2009



On-The-Job Training Through YMTA

Opportunities With YMTA: Don't Miss Out

▶ **Millwright Apprenticeship Program:** After completing this program, students will have achieved a Level 2 Millwright Apprenticeship status. The program is five months long, and provides Level 1 millwright theory, safety tickets, and hands-on training. It is offered in cooperation with YMTA, Yukon College, Yukon Nevada Gold's Ketzka Project, and Capstone's Minto Mine.

▶ **Introduction to Exploration and Prospecting:** This two-week course introduces participants to Yukon geology and mineral deposits, map reading, the use of a compass, and offers information on mining laws and prospecting skills. The course is offered by the British Columbia Institute of Technology and funded by YMTA and Liard First Nation. It will be offered in Watson Lake from February 2-13, 2009.

Look inside for more opportunities and listings.

On-the-job training is the real deal: practical skills in an environment that fosters the development of new abilities. YMTA's First Nations Scaled Wage Subsidy Program offers industry and organizations the chance to build skills among local workers by offering worker training or to provide mentors and trainers for their employees.

The subsidy program could be coming to a company in your area. Any company in mining or resource-related fields can use the program.

YMTA supported Yukon Zinc's application for funding to help pay the wages of an office administration trainee. Now, a worker is learning how to run an office as part of a six-week program at the Wolverine Mine. Likewise, as part of the wage subsidy program, four First Nations employees are benefiting from training with Pelly Construction at the Minto Mine.

For more information about the YMTA's wage subsidy program, contact Dean MacKay or Jennifer Russell by phone at (867) 633-6463 or by email: dean@yukonminetraining.com or jennifer@yukonminetraining.com.

Listings From YMTA

- ▶ YMTA is looking for certified local trainers in the area of mining or resource-related activities to add to our database.
- ▶ YMTA is looking for First Nations individuals interested in public education who are working in the mining industry.



Competition Showcases Yukon Trades

Yukon is making its mark in the world of trades. For proof, look no further than the list of competitors at the upcoming international WorldSkills Competition in Calgary this September. For the first time, the list includes a Yukoner, Karl Loos.

YMTA has been pleased to offer funding for the local skills competition, which was the first step on the way to WorldSkills. Support funding of \$25,000 from YMTA for the 2008 Skills Yukon Canada Competition helped provide a venue for Yukoners to compete, as tradespeople from welders to equipment operators gathered at the Yukon College in Whitehorse to compete in their trades.

“Industry and business will certainly notice that a Yukoner is competing in WorldSkills and consider Yukon as a site where workers with a high level of skill can be hired locally,” said Dan Curtis, Executive Director of Skills Yukon.

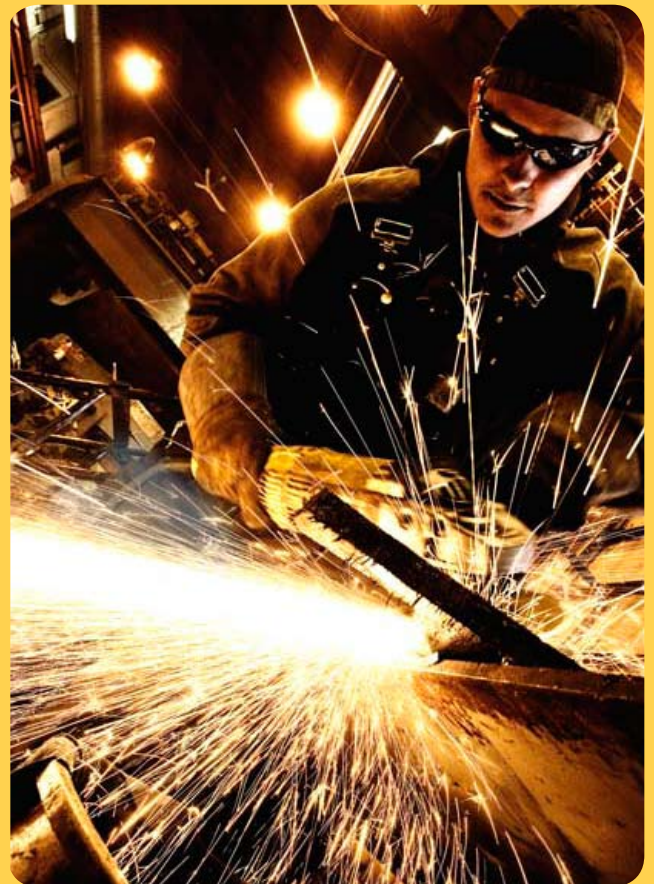
Loos was not the only competitor to have the skills to move to the next level of competition. Five other Yukoners have made their way to Vancouver for regional competitions.

“The success of the Skills Canada Yukon Competition proves that when worker training is offered, local people are eager to learn,” said Bill Dunn, Chair of the Yukon Mine Training Association. “YMTA is cooperating with organizations across the territory to build up expertise in the trades.”

“The training supported by YMTA is helping create a growing base of skilled tradespeople in Yukon,” said Curtis. “YMTA is working to ensure that Yukon will be recognized around the world as a place where industry can count on a skilled workforce.”

“The success of the Skills Canada Yukon competition proves that when worker training is offered, local people are eager to learn.”

- Bill Dunn, Chair, YMTA





Your Training Liaison Workers

To increase employment and training opportunities across the territory, the YMTA has hired three training liaison workers.

The workers are responsible for identifying training needs and building links between industry, educators, and First Nations to create opportunities for training in mining and mining-related industries.

Training liaison workers can provide assessment, career counselling, and referrals. One worker will be based in each of Teslin, Watson Lake, and Whitehorse.

For more information, contact YMTA at (867) 633-6463 or please go to our website www.yukonminetraining.com.

Nesta Hager – Whitehorse Training Liaison



Pelly Crossing was the backdrop for Nesta Hager's childhood. As an adult, Hager has taken an active role in her community, serving as a Crow Councillor and working in the communications department of the Selkirk First Nation.

Nesta sees mine training as valuable education in Yukon and will be working with

the communities of Whitehorse, Haines Junction and the Champagne-Aishihik First Nations, Burwash Landing, Destruction Bay, and Beaver Creek.

Drop by and see Nesta at the YMTA Whitehorse offices, or call (867) 456-8315. She can be reached by email at central@yukonminetraining.com.

Brad Stoneman – Teslin Training Liaison



After 20 years of managing a regional development corporation for a consortium of 13 First Nations in Manitoba, Brad Stoneman is bringing his knowledge to Teslin, Yukon.

Over the years, Brad's innovative spirit has led him to develop Canada's first outdoor guide training institute; to run a fly-in four-season resort offering fishing, hunting, and wilderness adventures; and to take home awards for his work from Tourism Manitoba

and Manitoba's Culture, Heritage, and Tourism Minister.

We're proud to have him on the Yukon Mine Training Association team. Brad will be working with the communities of Carcross, Tagish, Atlin, and Teslin.

Drop by and see Brad at the Teslin Tlingit Council offices in Teslin, or call (867) 390-2532 ext. 387. He can be reached by email at southwest@yukonminetraining.com.

Jean Gleason – Watson Lake Training Liaison



Jean Gleason has always been a strong force in Aboriginal governance. She has been Chair of the Kaska Dena Council and President of the Native Women's Association of Canada.

Jean has devoted her life to working toward economic and social equality for First Nations people in Yukon and Canada. She considers her greatest professional success to be her part in getting the Indian Act changed to reduce discrimination against Aboriginal women.

Jean's goal as the training liaison worker with YMTA is to help create training opportunities in the workforce and encourage local hiring for First Nations people, including youth and women. She is the training liaison worker for Watson Lake, Ross River, Faro, and Dease Lake.

Drop by and see Jean at the Kaska Tribal Council Offices in Watson Lake, or call (867) 536-2805. She can be reached by email at southeast@yukonminetraining.com.



Upcoming From YMTA

- ▶ **Underground Mine Training**
- ▶ **Driller Training**
- ▶ **Pre-employment and Job Readiness Skill Development**
- ▶ **Instructor Training**
- ▶ **Pre-trades Training**



For more training opportunities, please go to our website www.yukonminetraining.com or contact Dean MacKay or Jennifer Russell at (867) 633-6463.

Address

Suite 120-205 Black Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2M8

Phone

(867) 633-6463

Fax

(867) 633-2605

Staff

Executive Director	Tracy Thomas
Training Manager	Dean MacKay
Training Coordinator	Jennifer Russell
Office Manager	Leo Boon
Executive Assistant	Sarah Lindstein
Training Liaison	
Workers	Jean Gleason
	Nesta Hager
	Brad Stoneman

The Yukon Mine Training Association Board of Directors

Chair	Bill Dunn
Vice-Chair	Al Doherty
Secretary-Treasurer	Justin Himmelright
Directors	Paul Birckel
	Greg Charlie
	Dave Keenan
	Mike McDougall
	Harlan Meade
	Alex Morrison
	Wade Stogran
	Tom Lie

