



KI-LOW-NA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES DIVISION

2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The *Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society* (the Centre) was established in 1974 and is still active in the community today after 38 years of service! The Centre provides a wide variety of programs and services, including Employment Services. Many of the programs focus towards the urban Aboriginal population and provide opportunities for persons of Aboriginal Ancestry to make meaningful connections with culture and traditions; however, the services provided are not restricted to Aboriginal persons.

The same philosophy applies to the *Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society* Employment Services Division and we turn no one away.



Caroline Bechtel, Employment Assistant (left) and
Lavana Fox, Employment Coordinator (right)

The *Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society* Employment Services Division, with a staff of 2, continues to be busy each year as our services are well known.

The 2011 – 2012 Statistical Reporting shows an increase in some areas and a decrease in others with an average in “people-served” at 250 per month. These totals include new and repeat people walking through our doors; not all become clients. The Stats are broken down into 5-categories and then into sub-categories. Fiscal year-end totals are: status 2,030, non-status 79, métis 78, other 1,563; male 2,240, female 1,512; youth 621, adult 2,869, elders 262; in-person visits 3,294, telephone consults 408; resume service 314, workshops 3, career change 85, job search 1,064, certificate or other training 257, career assessment consults 199, funding application consults 181, and other services 1,649. Overall, we helped 3,752 people this fiscal, which is down somewhat from last fiscal, but still significant!

In 2010, funding switched from AHRDA to ASETS and the *Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society*, Employment Services Division, continues to offer the standard employment services, such as Course Seat Purchases, Workplace Training, Youth/Student Development, Job Development, Wage Subsidies, Delivery Assistance and, of course, Employment.

The Employment Coordinator's counseling appointments still remains at 5 per day; however, a number of shorter “walk-in” appointments on any given day are also accommodated; making it a full work day. The Employment Assistant's workload continues to be busy with the resumé service, which still is a popular word-of-

mouth service and includes new client resumés and/or resumé updates or changes.

With ASETS we still offer OTDC short term and long term funding. We send a number of clients on short term courses such as First Aid, BST (Basic Security Training), Flagging/Traffic Control, Construction Safety Training (CST) and Oil Rig Certification courses, such as H2S Alive, Petroleum Safety (PST), and WHMIS. Hospitality Certification courses, such as Food Safe, Serving It Right and Bartending continue to be popular “entry-level” training. Every year, with different trends we will see different patterns in the series of courses we offer. We assisted 35 clients with short term funding this fiscal!

One OTDC short term funding success story was Christopher Setah. Chris came to us in October, needing his Basic Security Guard Certification. He got an on-call job working at Cheetah’s Nightclub but needed this training in order to work full-time. He took the training, in November, at Focus Training

Institute, but it took another 3-month period of waiting to get his License from Victoria. He is still “happily” employed at Chetah’s Show Lounge and still “loves” his job.



(Chris Setah)

We have also had long-term “Success Stories” this fiscal as well.

One such long term funding success story was Kenton Lengyell. We were able to secure OTDC funding for him to take Electrician Pre-Apprenticeship at Okanagan College, Salmon Arm, in August. Kenton has a “passion” for electricity and actually built his own solar panels and VAWT



(Kenton Lengyell)

(vertical access wind turbines). He plans to join the IBEW union so that he can put his “passion” to work in a very lucrative career and he is willing to travel “north” to get that experience! There is no doubt his career will take him places!

Another OTDC long term funding success story was David Gloade. We were able to secure funding for David to enroll at the Interior Heavy Equipment School (IHES) in Winfield to take Heavy Equipment Operator with Class 1 Truck Driving. Due to the significant cost of this training we were able to split-funding with his Band, the Indian Brook

First Nation in Nova Scotia. His plan is to join the IUOE union so he can work on projects such as Mica Creek Dam, near Revelstoke, or pretty much anywhere “up north”. Having the Class 1 will allow him to travel where the work is.



(David Gloade)

“Passion” continues to be our drive to succeed and that still reflects onto our clientele with incredible results!



Lavana Fox
Employment Coordinator
Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
Employment Services Division