



# Employment & Training

# NEWSLETTER



PHOTOS BY AVERY A. HENDRICK

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## **Upcoming News**

Employment & Training is still open for those who require assistance with Resumes, Cover Letters, Printing, and FREE Internet Use.

### Hours of Operation

**Monday ~ Friday**

**8:30am - 4:30pm**

Employment & Training's upcoming events are as follows

- **Resume & Cover Letter Workshop ~ January 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**
- **First Aid & CPR ~ January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**
- **CMO Job Fair ~ January 27<sup>th</sup>**
- **Youth Leadership & Budgeting Training ~ January 31<sup>st</sup>**

### Contact us:

**Kim Smith**

Director of Employment & Training  
ksmith@cottfn.com

**Amy Henry**

Transportation Coordinator  
transportation@cottfn.com

**Avery Hendrick**

Administration Assistant  
etadmin@cottfn.com

**\*Scan QR code to visit our Website\***



[www.cottet.ca](http://www.cottet.ca)



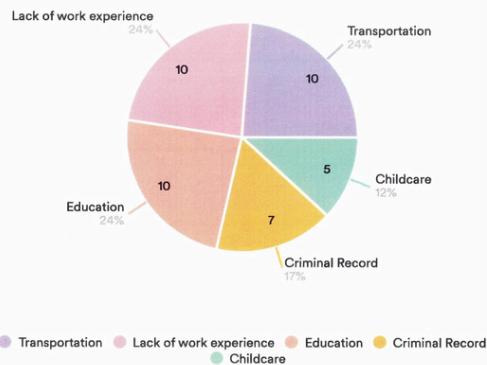
# 2025 E&T Community Survey Results

Employment & Training would like to thank everyone who participated in our community survey, your insights and recommendations were immensely helpful and will help shape the future of training in COTTFN.

## 2025 Community Employment & Training Survey

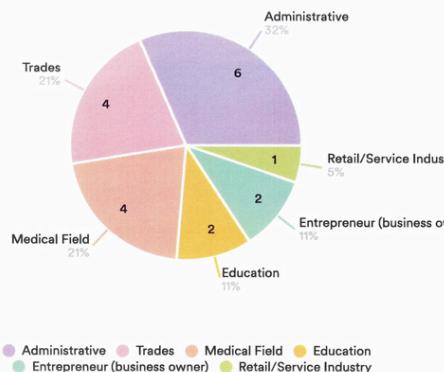
### What Barriers do you face when seeking employment?

42 Responses- 4 Empty



### What sector are you currently employed/Previously employed?

19 Responses- 1 Empty



### What type of training would you like to see brought to COTTFN? (list all training you would like to see)

17 Responses- 2 Empty

Data	Responses
Artifical Intelligent	1
training for construction jobs and in the service and retail industry	1
Electrical, upgrading, hands on training for youth,	1
more hands on learning skill trades	1
Building homes	1
Small business, trades	1
Small certificate training like office admin	1
Educational Assistant, construction, electrician, plumbing, youth workers, land surveyors, house inspectors, language teachers	1
Would just like the chance to put my name in for some of the training. I don't respond in time or I am working.	1
Other entries	8

### What type of supports/resources would best help you overcome the barriers you face?

14 Responses- 5 Empty

Data	Responses
Childcare help and transportation like help with G1 and G2	2
Place to live on reserve.	1
more local jobs and band employment	1
transportation, guidance counselling	1
computer training for seniors	1
More help	1
Upgrade to education have been out of education system for manyyears	1
Drivers license or transportation around the reserve. Adult Education or alternative education. Land based and immersion school. Computer training. AI training.	1
My past does not defy who I am today. Took the PSW course and was upfront of my past. Had top marks and then told on site of the seniors home I could not enter because I had a record.	1

\*Survey Results Preview\*



# 2025 E&T Community Survey Winners

Employment & Training would like to congratulate our survey winners!



## 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Wanda Stacey

**\$500.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Stephanie French

**\$250.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card**



# CMO JOB FAIR

Your Future Starts Here!

**01.27.2026**

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

328 CHIPPEWA RD., MUNCEY  
ON, N0L 1Y0



DISCOVER YOUR LIMITLESS  
CAREER POSSIBILITIES AND GET  
CONNECTED WITH TOP  
EMPLOYERS AT OUR  
UPCOMING CMO JOB FAIR!



## PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS



LONDON &  
MIDDLESEX  
COMMUNITY HOUSING

**LiUNA LOCAL 1059**

voyago

**transdev**  
the mobility company

**WBF**<sup>TM</sup>

WOMEN BUILDING FUTURES<sup>®</sup>



**NOKEE KWE**

If you are an employer who would like to be apart of this event,  
please register with the email below before January 9<sup>th</sup> 2026

**EMPLOYER REGISTRATION:**

[etadmin@cottfn.com](mailto:etadmin@cottfn.com)



# 2026 COTTFN CASUAL LABOUR LIST UPDATE/INFORMATION SESSION

Starting January 2026 all members of the CLL will be asked to submit an updated resume, a list of preferred fields/roles, and an employee info sheet. All members of the CLL will be required to sign the COTTFN oath of confidentiality and code of conduct. All members of the CLL who would like to work in the Daycare, Antler River Elementary, or the Health Centre MUST state this in their list of preferred fields/roles. A letter will be provided to those members by the Human Resources Department which can then be used to acquire a CPIC/Vulnerable Sector Check. A CPIC/Vulnerable Sector Check MUST be provided in order to work in the daycare, Antler river elementary school, or the health Centre.

If you are interested in being apart of CLL please forward your updated resume to [etadmin@cottfn.com](mailto:etadmin@cottfn.com) to be registered for the CLL update/information session.

**CLL Update/Information Session:**  
Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 2 p.m.  
328B Chippewa Rd., Muncey, ON



# UPCOMING TRAINING

Pg. 6

DECEMBER 2025



VOL. 4

**Deshkan Ziibing**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation Employment  
and Training

**FIRST & CPR**

**London Training**  
CENTRE

\*Community Development\*  
2-day training

These skills are essential for  
those looking to become  
babysitters as well as for  
employees, first responders,  
instructors and training  
partners.

Accidents and emergencies can  
happen anytime, anywhere.  
Get Certified. Save a life.

**Space is limited  
to 10 people.  
Register today!**

**HOW TO REGISTER:** ETADMIN@COTTFN.COM OR 519-962-8688  
**\* PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#\***

**Deshkan Ziibing**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation Employment  
and Training

**RESUME WORKSHOP**

**Monday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

at Portable-2 beside the  
Chippewa community center  
from 9:00am-12:00pm

**Community Development\***  
Employment & Training will  
be offering a Resume and  
Covering Letter workshop for  
anyone who would like  
assistance in updating or  
creating their resume.

**Training includes:**

- Resume Basics
- Cover Letter Basics
- What to include and not  
include
- Formatting
- How/when to update
- Professional wording

**DROP INS WELCOME!  
No appointment  
necessary**

**QUESTIONS?: ETADMIN@COTTFN.COM OR 519-962-8688**

# UPCOMING TRAINING / ACE LBS UPDATE

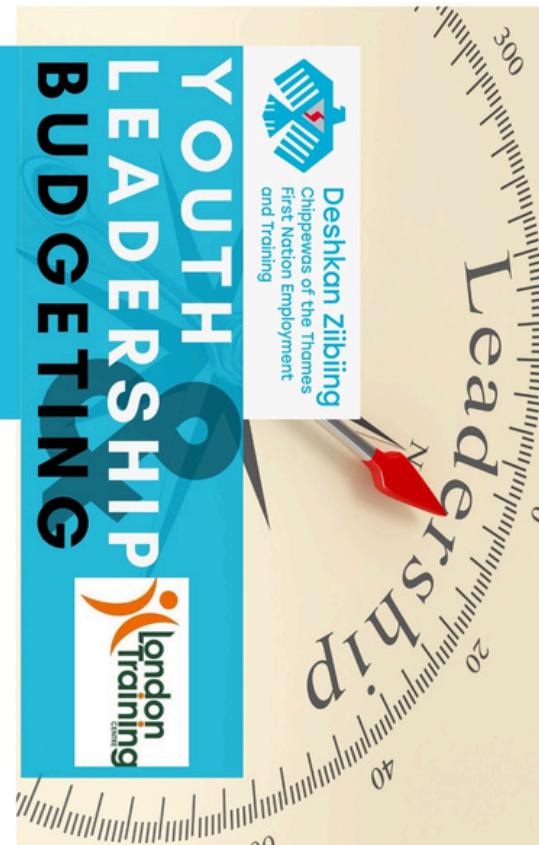


DECEMBER 2025

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP BUDGETING**



**Deshkan Zibiling**  
Chippewas of the Thames  
First Nation Employment  
and Training



**\*STUDENT ONLY TRAINING\***

Employment & Training will be hosting London Training Centre for Youth Leadership & Budgeting training.

Students will learn the techniques and skills needed to be an effective leader while also learning budgeting fundamentals.

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
**10 spots available**

**HOW TO REGISTER:** ETADMIN@COTTFN.COM

**\*PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE#, STATUS#\***



**How to Register:**

- Fill out registration form (can be picked up at E&T office)
- Complete Assessments
- Create your training plan
- Start your individual program
- Learning options
- Scheduling options
- Program length
- Re-evaluate training plan

The academic upgrading instructor will assist with each step of registration and support you with your customized plan

**What we offer:**

- Literacy Basics Skills
- Essential Skills
- Canadian Education Credential (formerly G.E.D)
- Academic & Career Entrance Program (ACE)
- Ontario Secondary School Diploma Support

**Create your path to:**

- Independence
- Post-Secondary
- Skilled Trades
- Entrepreneurship
- Employment

**Welcome John Leonard, our new ACE Program teacher!**

"Hello, my name is John Leonard. I'm very excited to have found a role within the COTTFN community as an LBS/ACE teacher, working alongside the Employment & Training Department.

I was born and raised in London, Ontario, where I began peer tutoring in Grade 10, and I've been involved in coaching and leadership roles ever since. I also have a long history of playing and coaching basketball. I am truly honoured to have the opportunity to work with you, and I'm committed to supporting community members in achieving their educational and career goals. I feel very privileged to experience and learn from such a close and caring community. I look forward to meeting as many people as I can during my time here and learning from all of you." ~ John Leonard

**Hours of Operation:**

Tuesday	9:30am – 2:30pm
Wednesday	9:30am – 2:30pm

**Contact:**

John Leonard  
LBS/ACE Teacher  
Fanshawe College – Chippewa Site  
[jleonard@FanshaweC.ca](mailto:jleonard@FanshaweC.ca)

**ACADEMIC UPGRADING CHIPPEWA SITE**  
In partnership with  
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation  
Employment & Training





## SERVICE CANADA IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Service Canada provides Canadians with a single point of access to a wide range of government services and benefits.

Service Canada will be in your community to help you apply for the programs and services listed below.

**What to Bring:** Visit Canada.ca for a complete list of required documents.

Programs and Services	How to Register	Date	Time
CDCP - Canadian Dental Care Plan – Application Old Age Security (OAS) Canada Pension Plan (CPP) My Service Canada Account (MSCA) Social Insurance Number (SIN)	To register for this clinic, please visit or contact:  etadmin@cottfn.com 519-962-8688	January 19th, 2026	1:00PM - 3:00PM

Information on Service Canada's programs, services and benefits can be found online at Canada.ca or by calling 1 800 O-Canada.

Service  
Canada

**Location: 328B, Portable-2, Chippewa Rd., Muncey, ON**



# SUCCESS STORY

## TYLER KECHGO'S - A-Z LICENSE JOURNEY

### **What motivated you to take part in the trucking opportunity with Verspeeten Cartage?**

“Mostly to support my family. But I was also looking to start a new career, and just try something different. I was always interested in trucking, and being with the fire department for about 19 years now, I wanted to upgrade to A-Z so I could drive bigger trucks.”

### **How would you describe your overall experience throughout the process?**

“Overall experience was EXCEPTIONAL. The Ontario Truck Driving School is very thorough with the theory and all the practical knowledge. It was an exceptional experience the whole way through.”

### **What Challenges did you face, and how did you overcome them?**

“The biggest challenge was the 90° reversing. The backing up is the hardest part. But to overcome that you just need to keep practicing and don’t give up, keep your head up. Stay confident and you’ll get there.”

### **What supports or resources were most helpful for your success?**

“My biggest resource was Employment & Training. Kim and Avery helped me and guided me to hook up with Verspeeten Cartage in Ingersoll. From there everything just started going. I got into school, got my drive test and license. There are really no words to express the gratitude and appreciation I have for Employment & Training.”

### **What personal or professional achievements are you most proud of from this experience?**

“Definitely graduating truck driving school. And being able to meet my goals of supporting my family.”

### **How has this opportunity impacted your future goals or career direction?**

“It has motivated me to keep going in this career and support my family along the way to help us all get where we would like to go in the future.”

**This success story was written prior to Tyler's passing.  
Employment & Training sends the sincerest heartfelt wishes  
to Tyler's family during this difficult time.**

**In memoriam of Tyler Kechego  
1986 - 2025**





# FIRST NATION BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Name:	Contact:	Sector:
A.E.I - Munsee	519-289-0777	Education
Ambrose	519-652-1248	Variety Store
A.I.A.I	519-434-2761	Education
Atlosha	519-438-0068	Non-profit
Bear Creek Gas Bar	519-289-3663	Variety Store/Gas Bar
Brilliant Solutions	519-494-8598	I.T Support
Cactus Grill	519-289-2711	Restaurant/Catering
Elph's Restaurant	519-652-0581	Restaurant/Catering
Inkfluence by Nate	519-808-8059	Private Tattoo Studio
Maitland Gas Bar	519-264-3243	Variety Store/Gas Bar
Mike's Pizza	519-264-2309	Restaurant
Mnaasged	519-289-1117	Family Services
Munsee Bingo Hall	519-289-0004	Entertainment
N'Amerind Friendship Centre	519-672-0131	Non-Profit
Nokee Kwe	519-667-7088	Education
Pharmasave - Chippewa	519-289-3500	Health
Ska-Nah-Doht	519-264-2420	Education/Recreation
SOAHAC - Chippewa	519-289-0352	Health
SOAHAC - London	519-672-4079	Health
S.F.N.S	1-800-668-2609	Non-Profit
Subway - Bear Creek Gas Bar	226-225-1950	Restaurant/Catering
Tecumseh Development Corp	1-888-433-1533	Non-Profit
The Store	519-264-1144	Variety Store

## COTTFN BUSINESS DIRECTORY CALL-OUT

Are you a First Nation's business owner/operator? Employment & Training would like to dedicate a page in our quarterly newsletter to the promotion of your First Nation owned business. If you would like to be included on this page please forward a copy of your business card, contact information, hours of operation, and location.

Business information can be sent/dropped off at:

Portable-2, 328B Chippewa Rd., Muncey, ON

or

[etadmin@cottn.com](mailto:etadmin@cottn.com)



# COTTFN JOB POSTINGS

Interested in working for Chippewas of the Thames First Nation?

Current Job Postings Include:

- **Child Youth and Family Wellbeing Services** ~ Child Therapist
- **Child Youth and Family Wellbeing Services** ~ Youth Therapist
- **Child Youth and Family Wellbeing Services** ~ Adult Therapist
- **Child Youth and Family Wellbeing Services** ~ Intake & Assessments Worker
- **Health** ~ Crisis Response Worker (Contract)
- **Treaties Lands and Environment** ~ Consultation Engagement Specialist
- **Administration** ~ Communications Officer
- **Health** ~ Diabetes Health Educator
- **Health** ~ Crisis Response Team Supervisor
- **Child Youth and Family Wellbeing Services** ~ First Nation Band Representative Services Supervisor
- **Ontario Works** ~ Administrative Financial Assistant
- **Health** ~ Cultural Harm Reduction Worker
- **Thunderbird Trust** ~ General Manager

**SCAN QR CODE TO VIEW JOB POSTINGS**





# Chippewa Transit



## \*SCHEDULE\*

*\*please allow a 10-15min delay due to traffic/weather\**

<u>Morning Run:</u>		<u>Afternoon Run:</u>	
<u>Heading into London</u>		<u>Heading Into London</u>	
Pick-up/Drop-off		Pick-up/Drop-off	
Bear Creek Gas Bar	7:15am	Bear Creek Gas Bar	3:45pm
Chippewa Community Centre	7:30am	Chippewa Community Centre	4:00pm
Oneida Community Centre	7:45am	Oneida Community Centre	4:15pm
Fanshawe College	8:15am	Fanshawe College	4:45pm
White Oaks Mall	8:35am	White Oaks Mall	5:05pm
Westmount Mall	8:55am	Westmount Mall	5:25pm
<u>Returning to Nation</u>		<u>Returning to Nation</u>	
Drop-off Only		Drop-off Only	
Oneida Community Centre	9:30am	Oneida Community Centre	6:00pm
Chippewa Community Centre	9:40am	Chippewa Community Centre	6:10pm
<b>END OF RUN</b>		<b>END OF RUN</b>	

**\*Chippewa Transit follows all Middlesex County bus cancellations\***

**TRANSIT INQUIRIES: 226-386-6545**

**TRANSPORTATION@COTTFN.COM**



## Employment & Training Statistics to date:

At Employment & Training we have a great support staff to ensure our clients are looked after. If we are unable to assist, we will do what we can to make sure you get the answers you are looking for. Since **January 2025** we have assisted over **880** band members.

A breakdown of services offered to date:

- Aboriginal Skills Training ~ 9
- Aboriginal Business Incentive ~ 2
- Wage Subsidy ~ 2
- Aboriginal New Start ~ 3
- Job Creation ~ 7
- First Aid & CPR training ~ 40
- WHMIS ~ 15
- Traffic Control/Flags person ~ 5
- Health and Safety/Hazard Recognition ~ 4
- Workplace Health and Safety ~ 10
- Ladder Safety ~ 5
- Line Locator ~ 2
- Safe Food Handling ~ 9
- Smart Serve ~ 6
- Customer Service ~ 15
- Service Canada ~ 6
- Resume Building ~ 8
- Computer Use ~ 43
- Print/Fax/Photocopying ~ 19
- Summer Students ~ 17
- Casual Labour List ~ 41
- On-Reserve ~ 723
- Off-Reserve ~ 157
- Male ~ 398
- Female ~ 482
- Yearly Office Sign-in ~ 880



WISHING YOU A

# MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



**\*COLOUR ME AND SUBMIT TO EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING\***  
**AGES 12 AND UNDER, CHIPPEWA BAND MEMBERS ONLY**  
**DEADLINE JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**