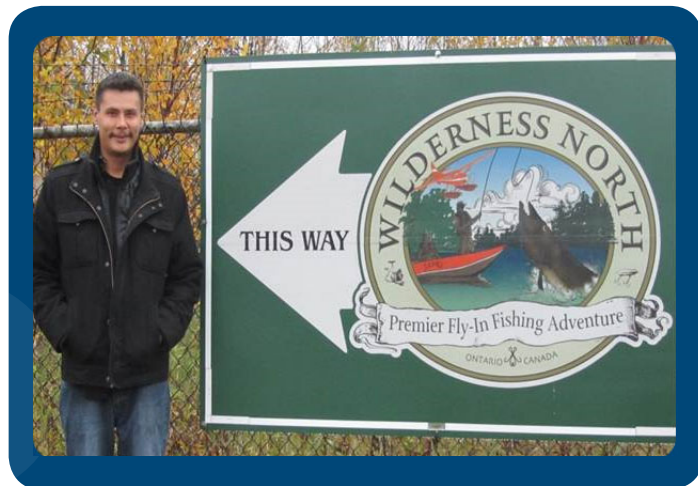


# NAVIGATING EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS GRADUATE

“My everyday life has changed. Experience is always a barrier for a young person. With an education you need experience to gain employment. (Through the NEP program) I gained some valuable experience and confidence.”



There are many obstacles facing Canadian youth today. Not only is the job market increasingly competitive, but youth continue to enter this market under-prepared. In addition to an education, employers are looking for valuable, and relevant, professional experience, which is something many youth lack.

“It was a turning point in my life when I started thinking about other places to use my skills.”

Clarence Fisher

Even with a background in film and video and work experience in broadcasting and independent video production, Clarence Fisher encountered these barriers in his job search. Unable to find related opportunities, or lacking qualifications, Clarence found it difficult to find work in his field. That was until a family friend told him about the Navigating Employment Pathways (NEP) program offered by the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO).

Funded in part by the Government of Canada, the NEP is a partnership between the MNO and the Ontario Tourism Education Corporation (OTEC). The program is designed to provide industry specific training to Aboriginal job-seekers looking to gain the skills to pursue a career in the Tourism and Hospitality sector.

As an NEP program participant Clarence developed essential employment skills and gained valuable real-world experience through his work placement. The program provided him with the abilities and confidence to pursue positions he would've previously been unqualified for. As a result of the NEP program, Clarence gained employment at Wilderness North where he currently works as Media and Communications Technician.

For more information about the NEP program:  
Visit the MNO website at [www.metisnation.org](http://www.metisnation.org) or  
email Rae-Anna Gardner at [raeg@metisnation.org](mailto:raeg@metisnation.org)

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