

# KAH Resources Inc

#03 **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER** 

#### **SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM**

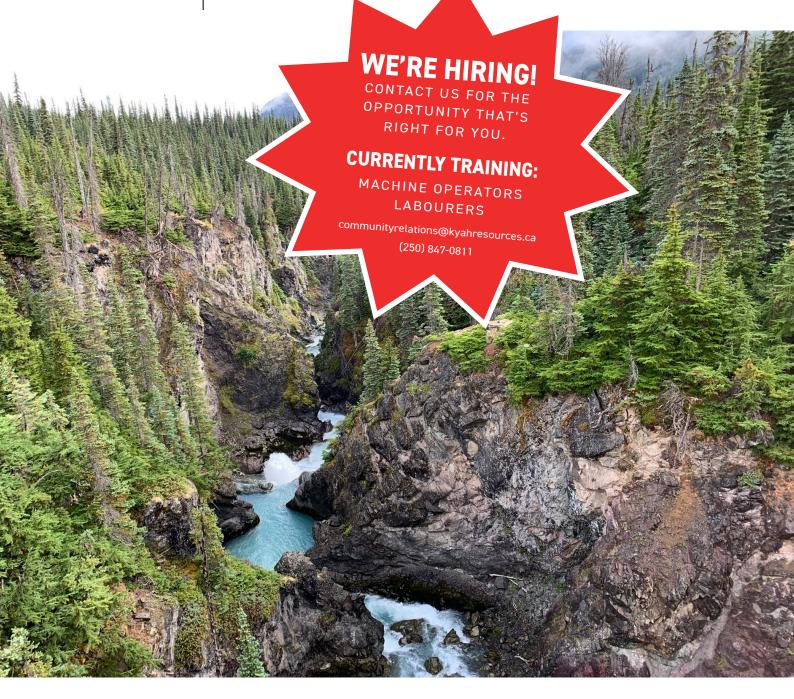
Our skills training program is our community mandate to make a difference and build economic resiliency.

#### **MEET US AT THE** (JOB) FAIR!

On September 14th, find Kyah Resources at the KDC Job Fair in Witset.

#### WITSET MEMBERS **AT WORK**

We chatted with our locally based team to discuss working safely and climbing the skills ladder with Kyah.



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# Working in "The Field?"

Kyah Resources does its best work out on the worksite - in the field. Our work includes civil construction, right-of-way clearing, and forestry operations.

Field work is always changing. Weather, site conditions, and tasks vary. With variety comes risk, and our safety team works day-in and day-out to implement and improve our safety system with employees new and old.

As a community employer, our mission is to ensure Witset members and our First Nations neighbours can fully participate in the local economy, gaining skills and generating wealth in the communities where we live.

# **WITSET: ON THE JOB**

Heading to Work with Kyah's Team of Local Skilled Labourers and Machinery Operators

Photos L: Bill Vantunen R: Cody Hurd



#### Bill Vantunen, Witset

An experienced machine operator and certified faller, Bill got his start working as a labourer. We talked to him as he was helping clear the right-ofway on Section 8 of the CGL Pipeline near Houston. Bill has also worked with Kyah near Kitimat and Burns Lake.

# What was it like starting at Kyah Resources?

Basically, I proved myself and that I could be safe, and wanted experience working the machines. After joining Kyah I trained on several pieces of equipment like the button top log loader, and the skidder. Most of our equipment is new.

# What concerns did you have going in?

I was a certified faller and always wanted to get in logging equipment, but nobody gave me a chance. They wanted fallers with experience. One of the things I like about Kyah is they can give you a chance if you are safe. It's a great crew and people here are really family oriented.

# How else were other places different?

For the large scale of the job I'm always impressed at how good people treat each other. Other jobs I've been at people swear at each other – it's not like that here

# Was that in the province next door?

Yes, I used to have to work in Alberta. Working an hour away from home now is nice.

# Any advice for new employ-

Always pack enough food and water. The food in camp is great.

## What do you do in your free time?

I own horses, recently downsized to five. I recently took a friend from Kyah and her family on a ride. I also like to go hunting and fishing.



# SEPT. 14 JOB FAIR

Held by our Witset First Nation Partner Company: Kyah Development Corporation

Come see us at the Job Fair, held Tuesday September 14th from 9AM to 4:30PM at the Witset Multiplex.

We'll have our community onboarding team there to discuss what it's like working for Kyah and the natural resource sector, and we can discuss what opportunities might be right for you!

For more information about the Job Fair please contact avril.jack@kyahdevcorp.ca or info@kyahdevcorp.ca COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER KYAH 3



#### Cody Hurd, Witset

Starting during Kyah's largest intake of general labourer's last winter, Cody went through Kyah's training program and is now a heavy machinery operator.

## How does the training program work?

When someone new comes in, the supervisor can bump people up who have been working safely. We have the more experienced guys train the newer ones on how to use the equipment. I'm helping train on the rock truck, making sure that they watch the mirrors, backup camera, are aware of sloughing of blast rock, and have practice backing up. The biggest risk is dumping on uneven ground, and we always watch the box for tipping. The hitch helps keep the cab up even if the box tips, but we don't want that to happen.

### Where were you before Kyah?

I was first working towards

being a millwright. I wanted more variety, so I started from square one in construction. Pipeline construction is even more varied because every day the worksite changes. My former construction employer tried to get me to move to Ontario, so I left. It is nice to work close to home.

#### What do you want to do next?

I want to run the excavator. The excavator is always changing, navigating obstacles. There is a lot of variety, and problem solving. And there is also a lot more training. I just got trained on the processor, which limbs all the trees. It's basically an excavator with a processor head.

# What was it like operating heavy machinery?

It's a whole different ball game, dynamic and constantly changing. You are always thinking several steps ahead, planning what the next move is going to be. You need to plan out your whole day... If you put the deck here, you need to think where it will go later.

In the mountains, there are steep slopes. My heart was racing at first, but we started small, and I was shown that you won't slide unless there is ice, snow or sloughing.

# Do you have any advice for new employees?

I didn't know if I could handle the long days. But after a week

you get used to the shifts and the camp rotation. It was tiring at first, but I recommend it. You don't get tired once you're out here and get into the routine of eating better and drinking plenty of water. If you are tired you are probably dehydrated.

# What do you do in your free time?

I like quadding, and I just bought a new quad! I also like to go fishing and am looking forward to hunting season coming soon.

# TRAINING PROGRAM

Safety training is the key part of onboarding at Kyah Resources. Training opportunities continue once you join the team.

Kyah's 130-page worker handbook might not be light reading, but it's an important resource covering the programs, policies and procedures on the job, including our Safety System discussed in the previous newsletter.

All workers acquire project specific safety training, mandatory drug and alcohol testing, and certification in any machinery they are operating, whether its a chainsaw - or something heavier.

Pre-onboarding safety tickets include:

#### Fatigue Management

Fatigue is a serious form of impairment, affecting your ability to make good decisions. assess risk, and work safely. This program helps reduce the likelihood of fatigue, recognise its signs, and not work tired.

#### Fire Safety Awareness

As the past forest fire seasons in B.C. have shown, fire safety is more important than ever. While prevention is the first priority, vehicles are equipped with fire and first aid gear.

#### **WHMIS**

Learning to read a Workplace Hazardous Material Information tells you the health, fire, reactivity and environmental concerns associated with products found on the worksite.

#### Wilderness and Bear Aware

Respecting wildlife (and not feeding wild animals) is both a matter of safety and one of respect to our natural environment. In the wilderness, radioing when you see a bear helps other workers avoid dangerous encounters.



KYAH SUMMER/FALL 2021













September, 2021

Local Employment Update:



**Indigenous Employees** 

30

Witset First Nation Employees

17





Non-Indigenous Employees

14

Indigenous Proportion of Workforce 68%



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