

NHBP YOUTH LEARN WORK PARTICIPANTS VISIT SAFARI CIRCUITS AND WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

SUBMITTED BY WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY | PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WDC

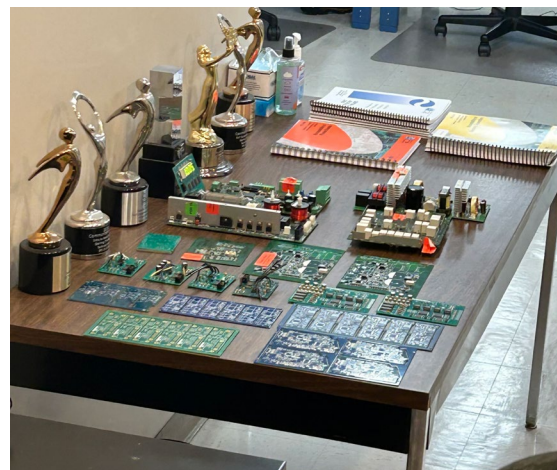
For its second straight year, Waséyabek Development Company, LLC (WDC), participated in the Youth Learn Work Program led by the NHBP. Designed to provide youth and young adults with the training, skills and experience needed to gain employment in today's competitive workforce, the program is open to NHBP Tribal Members aged 14 to 21 throughout the Tribe's seven-county service area.

On Thursday, July 13, seven participants began the day by visiting Safari Circuits, a WDC portfolio company. Located in Otsego, Michigan, Safari Circuits specializes in electronics manufacturing, engineering services and supply chain management.

After meeting with Safari's leadership team, the group took a facility tour which included an inside look at "Safari University." The "University" serves as a paid, on-site training program that provides new and current employees the opportunity to enhance their proficiency as manufacturing professionals.

Following their visit to Safari Circuits, the Tribal youth headed to WDC's headquarters in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There, the group engaged in a wide variety of activities, including a discussion of WDC's purpose, a hands-on teambuilding exercise, a career interest and aptitude assessment, and an explanation of the Leadership Exploration and Development (LEAD) program.

Throughout the experience, participants learned about the job opportunities available within their communities and how to acquire the skills needed to establish and maintain successful careers.



LEAD PROGRAM OFFERS IMPORTANT INDUSTRY INSIGHTS TO NHBP TRIBAL MEMBERS

SUBMITTED BY WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY | PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WDC

Throughout June 2023, Waséyabek Development Company, LLC (WDC), guided a cohort that included several NHBP Tribal Members through its Leadership and Development (LEAD) program.

Through a series of focused industry breakout sessions with WDC team members, LEAD program participants gained valuable insight that will help contribute to their personal and professional goals. The breakout sessions included discussions on real estate management, finance, executive management and more.

WDC Director of Strategic Engagement and Compliance Jessi Goldner, who organized the program, stressed the importance of the LEAD program in offering career pathways to Tribal Members.

"My goal is for each participant to experience the LEAD program in a way that is beneficial to them and their path forward," Goldner said. "For some, LEAD may spark interest in working for Waséyabek. For others, the program offers an opportunity to be exposed to new areas and industries and to gain a better understanding of Waséyabek's work and why it's important."

In addition to the breakout sessions held at the WDC office in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the cohort also visited some of the

Waséyabek family of companies as part of the program, stopping by Baker Engineering, LLC, in Nunica, Michigan, RSI Manufacturing in Muskegon, Michigan, and Safari Circuits in Otsego, Michigan.

Program participant and NHBP Tribal Member Hogan Harmon noted the importance of LEAD both now and in the coming years.

"The LEAD program helped me see what Waséyabek offers not only for current Tribal Members but future generations as well," Harmon said. "It was such a great learning experience – I would absolutely recommend it to all Tribal Members."

Additional cohort participants included Tribal Members Heather Baumgartner, Scott Lanning and Devyn TePastte.

WDC is proud to support Tribal Members and their families through this annual program to help spur career development and generate opportunities to obtain practical experience in a variety of fields. The next LEAD program sessions will take place in summer 2024.