

LEAD PROGRAM PAVES THE WAY FOR INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT BAKER ENGINEERING

Each year, the Leadership, Development, and Exploration (LEAD) Program offers NHBP Tribal Members meaningful opportunities to observe professionals at work and to obtain practical experience in operational areas related to Waséyabek's portfolio businesses. Over the course of several weeks, participants engage in focused industry breakout sessions with members of the Waséyabek team covering areas such as executive management, finance, marketing, and more, gaining valuable insight that contributes to the advancement of personal and professional goals.

For two members of the 2023 LEAD program cohort, the experience led to an opportunity to intern at Baker Engineering, a Waséyabek portfolio company specializing in custom engineering and automotive performance solutions.

"With Waséyabek, we're trying to turn the vision of the Tribe into something that's real in the business community," said President of Baker Engineering Luke Wackerle. "For us, we get exposure to people who want to do something meaningful for Baker. And we can fill gaps at Baker using the skills of Tribal Members."

NHBP Tribal Member Hogan Harmon had previously worked as a summer intern for Baker performing tasks around the facility. But during his post-LEAD program internship, he's using his marketing knowledge to bolster Baker's video efforts via the company's website and social media profiles – all while gaining critical experience as he pursues his degree. According to Wackerle, Harmon's contributions have completely transformed the way Baker produces its video content, resulting in gains for the company's brand presence online.

Meanwhile, NHBP Tribal Member Devyn TePastte has been exposed to a wide variety of career options available in the engineering and manufacturing industries.

Wackerle explained that TePastte has been involved in all phases of Baker's business, painting a vivid picture for him regarding what his career trajectory could look like moving forward.

"It's been incredibly rewarding to see two young Tribal Members work so well with our team," Wackerle said.

"DURING MY INTERNSHIP AT BAKER ENGINEERING, I WAS ABLE TO CHALLENGE MYSELF WITH NEW TASKS THAT I WAS NOT COMFORTABLE PERFORMING BEFORE," TEPASTTE SAID. "BUT MOST OF ALL, I WAS BLESSED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ALONGSIDE A GREAT TEAM TO DEVELOP MY TEAMWORK AND SKILLS."



Devyn TePastte's internship at Baker Engineering has exposed him to a wide variety of career opportunities available in the engineering and manufacturing industries.

Wackerle added that he plans to continue participating in the LEAD program, which will ultimately lead to additional internship and career opportunities for Tribal Members at Baker.

More information about the LEAD Program is available at waseyabek.com/careers.

Photo Provided by Waséyabek / Baker Engineering