Finding a new job after spending many years in one field can be difficult. Most people need more training and work experience to make the transition into a new work environment, but due to a lack of resources, getting this training can be almost impossible. This was the situation facing Beulah McCauley when she was laid off after working as a clerk and assistant manager in a video store for 10 years. Beulah turned to the Navigating Employment Pathways Program (NEP) after hearing about the opportunity on the radio. Funded in part by the Government of Canada, NEP is a partnership between the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and OTEC that was designed to provide industry specific training to Aboriginal people looking for a career in the tourism and hospitality sector.

The 18 week training program was built on emerit National Occupation Standards and taught Beulah about the expectations and the skills necessary to become a successful Front Desk Agent. Learning these new skills and abilities gave Beulah confidence in her abilities and motivated her to set her career goals higher. Beulah saw immediate results from her hard work when she was hired as a Front Desk Agent before the program had finished. Three months later, she had been promoted to Night Auditor, allowing her to further expand and develop her skill set and grow in her new career.

For more information about the NEP program:
Visit the MNO website at www.metisnation.org or email Rae-Anna Gardner at raeg@metisnation.org

“I’ve learned more about the hospitality industry, as I am new to it. I also was able to gain confidence and strengthen my goals and skills with this class. It definitely helped with my confidence because I was able to focus and set my goals higher. I am confident going to work now that I understand and can apply everything that I’ve learned.”