

# npower canada

LAUNCHING TECH CAREERS.  
TRANSFORMING LIVES.



## Indigenous Youth Tech Career Pathways (IYTCP)

NPower Canada launches under-served young adults into meaningful and sustainable careers in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) field. The Indigenous Youth Tech Career Pathways (IYTCP) program provides Indigenous young adults (18-29 years old) with access to Elders and enhanced wraparound services which includes counselling to support their successful completion of the NPower Canada program and their transition into meaningful employment in the tech sector.

NPower Canada is committed to serving young adults from communities under-represented in the tech sector and facing systemic barriers to employment. We partnered with Indigenous community leaders and stakeholders to co-design more inclusive programming for Indigenous youth interested in exploring and pursuing tech careers.

One week prior to their starting the 15-week *Junior IT Analyst* training program, NPower Canada, in collaboration with Elders and community partners, will provide Indigenous enrollees with four days of enhanced, culturally relevant wraparound supports including:

- Virtual ceremony, opening prayers and talking circles
- Career and personal exploration activities
- Life skills coaching

*“Not very often we see projects like this honouring Indigenous youth and it makes all of us feel even more proud we’re on a successful path.”*

- Junior IT Analyst Program Participant, Calgary


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*"I am excited and happy that I'm learning lots and I'm happy that I'm becoming someone my nieces and nephews can look upto."*

- Junior IT Analyst Program Participant, Calgary

## IYTCP Pilot Program

NPower Canada's Indigenous Youth Tech Career Pathways (IYTCP) Pilot Program is in collaboration with Miskanawah, Elders and other Indigenous community partners to co-create this enhanced level of programming specifically for Indigenous youth.

This pre-training program is delivered exclusively for Indigenous youth who are referred by community partners. It has been designed with supports in place to facilitate the successful completion of the *Junior IT Analyst* training program and the subsequent transition into meaningful employment.

Once enrolled in the 15-week skills training program, youth will continue to receive counselling and guidance from Elders, along with maintaining their connections to services provided by referral partners.

Upon completing the program and securing employment, these graduates will become mentors for future cohorts of IYTCP program participants, providing peer mentoring to new groups of Indigenous youth as they begin their tech career journeys. The hope is that these youth will also work towards becoming knowledge keepers of the IT/tech sector for their communities.

Thanks to the leadership and collaboration with Miskanawah, this successful program has inspired a similar program for Indigenous youth at NPower Canada's Ontario locations in partnership with local Indigenous organizations.

### Throughout the program, Indigenous participants will receive:

- Access to programs and additional services provided by Miskanawah
- Technology supports for youth who lack access to computers at home will be provided
- Continued wraparound supports from community agencies

**For more information contact Mehreen Kapadia, Community Liaison:**

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This program is delivered in collaboration with:



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Photos: Miskanawah staff, youth participants and Npower Canada staff.