

# Chandler Dixon Eden Valley Water Treatment Plant Operator

Water As A Career



# What First Appealed To Me



- The look of everything
- Idea of helping the community
- Steady career
- Leads to other opportunities
- Training
- Flexible work hours
- Experiences
- Being near family

# The Look Of Everything

- Hadn't seen anything like this before
- Seeing new technology and wondering how and why its needed
- Wanting to be able to operate, budget, and schedule all of it
- Wondering what kind of training was needed to properly operate this type of place
- Opening my eyes to a never before seen world



# Idea Of Helping The Community



- Serving the community safe potable water for everyday use
- Being a positive role model for children & elders
- Having someone from E.V. handle a responsible position
- Possibly sparking a young mind thinking that if “he can I can”
- Hearing someone once in a while thanking me and praising me for the effort I put in
- Giving the elders something they had not had before (potable water)

# Steady Career

- People will always need safe clean water for consumption
- Always a need for certified operators
- Always a need for people willing to become operators
- Growing industry
- Certification is recognized alberta wide, as well as North America



# Expands Opportunities



- As experience grows so do opportunities (opens doors, see picture)
- Higher positions available
- More than one type and level of certification
- Could train people with your individual knowledge, help other aboriginals
- A lot of opportunity to travel for conferences, courses, training etc.. (get a break from the spouse)

# Training

- Endless amount of training and courses available
- One on one training available with TSAG's circuit rider program
- My trainer is Gerry "Big Bruce Willis" Gusdal
- Great support from band and other organizations to further educate yourself
- Learning endless new skills which can be applied to running your plant more efficiently
- Help cost saving, which in turn could be money for band programs, E.I., equipment, RAISE)
- Learning something that few people have knowledge of



# Work Hours



- Having a flexible schedule
- Having a bit of freedom to have an outside life
- Always work to be done (i.e.. overtime or a chance to make for short days)
- Having the chance run errands during the day (i.e. pay bills, visit bank, make appointments)
- My grandma knows this and abuses this a bit (i.e. chase horses, give her van a car wash with my pressure washer etc..) whoa she burns me out
- There also some long days (RWP replacement)

# Memorable Experiences

- Being part of the upgrades which helped me understand the system better
- Having a commission date (October 20, 2006) where I got to meet Hon. Jim Prentice
- Meeting and working alongside some very great people
- Overall good feeling like I am making a difference in the community
- Building my own office
- Having to walk an exhausting 150m to the WTP each day
- Replacing the RWP and using a gas pump for two weeks



# Special Thanks To

- My family (mom & grandma)
- Gerry “Big Bird” Gusdal
- Mary Stacey & Richard Tatro
- Stoney Tribal Administration
- TSAG
- INAC
- The elders and children for smiling at me for doing what I do (which means it does not go unnoticed)
- Jarome Iginla & The Calgary Flames Organization

# Chandler Dixon

Eden Valley Water Treatment Plant

(P)403-558-2109

(E)dixon-51@hotmail.com

