



Science Education & Employment Development
S.E.E.D.



Progress Report

December 2007

Summary

The **Science Education and Employment Development (SEED) Program**, created as a result of an agreement between Six Nations of the Grand River Territory Elected Council and Imperial Oil, has successfully developed and implemented a number of educational and employment initiatives available to all members of Six Nations.

Background

As part of its project to reduce sulphur in gasoline, Imperial constructed a pipeline that crosses Six Nations Territory Claim Lands. An agreement supporting technology education and employment initiatives was developed jointly by the Six Nations Elected Council and Imperial, and reflects community outreach initiatives Imperial has in place in locations where it has operations.

A steering committee of representatives from Six Nations and Imperial designs and implements educational initiatives that are focused on providing people with the skills needed for careers with Imperial, the petroleum industry and other manufacturing industries.

Six Nations Polytechnic's programs

Since industrial technology courses at Ontario community colleges including Mohawk College in Hamilton and Lambton College in Sarnia are the points of entry for many employment opportunities, SEED's key focus is on encouraging students to continue with math and science and work towards post-secondary education in technology fields.

- **In 2006-2007, SEED funded the Native Diploma Access Program at the Polytechnic for the third year.** It allows mature students to earn eight high school credits towards their grade 12 diploma--with a focus on the math and science--that will give them the background to pursue a post secondary technology education. Students completed **24 high school credits in 2007 and five students received their high school diploma.**
- **In September 2008, SEED will sponsor the first semester of Mohawk College's Chemical Engineering Technology Program (CET) to be offered at SNP.** Graduates from this course have the opportunity for good paying jobs in the refining, petrochemical and other manufacturing industries, including Imperial's Nanticoke refinery. Contact the Six Nations Polytechnic for information on how to enroll.

Technology Sponsorships and Imperial Oil SEED scholarship

- SEED sponsors tuition, books and supplies for students enrolled in good standing in selected post-secondary technology programs, which are considered an entry point to jobs at Imperial. **7 sponsorships were provided in the 2006-2007 academic year, and since 2002, 57 sponsorships have been granted.**

- In 2004, SEED introduced the Imperial Oil SEED scholarship. The scholarship is open to Six Nations members who are currently receiving financial assistance through GRPSEO. Priority is given to students who pursue studies relevant to the petroleum industry, including engineering, petroleum technologies, business administration, commerce, computer science, earth science and related disciplines. **In 2007, 6 students received scholarships ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000.**

Elementary and Secondary School Programs

The SEED steering committee recognizes that many Six Nations students experience difficulty in math and science. To help address this issue, SEED continues to sponsor a number of programs including:

- **Summer Science Day Camps** - SEED sponsored **two popular camps in July 2007**, conducted by engineering students from the University of Waterloo. **51 children in Grades 3-8 attended.** This is the fifth year the program has been offered, and it has grown in popularity every year.
- **Professional Development Days at Six Nations School** - SEED is funding professional development initiatives for Six Nations' teachers focussed on math and science. For the last three years, Imperial has funded the purchase of teaching aids related to math and science education for teachers to use in Six Nations' classrooms.
- **Six Nations Science Fair** - SEED provides \$500 to each school participating in the district science fair to be used toward supplies for student projects. Funds are also provided to operate the district science fair. In April 2007, Imperial's Nanticoke refinery HR Manager acted as a science fair judge.
- **Career Fairs and GRPSEO Information Day** - Imperial Oil supports the GRPSEO Information Day with a \$2,000 grant.
- **STAY in School Awards** - The awards recognize top male and female students studying both math and science in grades 7 through 12 and are given out as part of the high school awards' event held each November. **In 2007, 15 awards were granted from more than 40 applicants.**
- **Homework Support Program** - SEED continued to support the Six Nations homework support program offered at the Six Nations Polytechnic for students in grades 6 to 12. The program offers tutoring, internet/computer access, access to school supplies to complete projects, access to Grade 10 literacy and math-training software and a quiet place to work. **Since the program began in January 2004, close to 1000 students have visited the program with more than half of students receiving support in math and science.** SEED also provided five computers, computer desks, and math and literacy training software for the program.

Employment Initiatives

Summer Job at Nanticoke Refinery

One student from the Six Nations worked at Imperial's Nanticoke refinery during the summer of 2007. Seven students have benefited from work experience at the refinery during the past four summers.

GREAT's Employment Kiosk.

The computer terminals in the lobby of GREAT, funded by SEED, offers information on over 65 careers.

The committee welcomes community input, and encourages all Six Nations members to contact one of the committee members directly or through our website (www.seedprogram.ca) with their comments or suggestions.

Expenditures - March 2002 – December 2007

- Six Nations Polytechnic courses - \$530,500
- Technology Sponsorships and Scholarships - \$288,000
- Elementary and Secondary School Programs - \$176,500
- Employment Initiatives and Community Activities - \$91,000

SEED Steering Committee

Iain Howieson , Imperial Oil Petra Guerra , Imperial Oil Rebecca Jamieson , Grand River Post Secondary Education Office Iris Wright , Grand River Employment and Training	Julie Ferguson , Imperial Oil Deneen Montour , Grand Erie District School Board Anne Noyes , J.C. Hill Elementary School Linda Staats , Six Nations Polytechnic
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