



JOB GOALS

- Keep everything running as well as it can be while still doing it safely – fixing problems before they become problems
- Safety is very important because if pieces of equipment fail, people can get hurt, so the preventative maintenance team is the first line of defence

SKILLS THAT PLAY A PART

- Troubleshooting
- Understanding of the tools required for the job
- Attention to detail

EDUCATION AND TRAINING NEEDED

- High school diploma (grade 12)
- Training available on the job
- Apprenticeship

TRAINING RESOURCES

- Classes to take in school include automotive, maintenance, technician courses
- Training available on the job with a good base of skills



PHOTO OF ANDREW COURTESY SKILLS CANADA

ANDREW WEYALLON

Millwright

*GAHCHO KUÉ DIAMOND MINE
(De Beers Canada/Mountain Province Diamonds)*

Every day, Andrew is part of a team that keeps equipment in the Gahcho Kué Mine process plant running perfectly, and safely. As a millwright, he and his team check over a variety of equipment from water pumps to compressors.

This is called preventative maintenance, and it is a hands-on task involving patience, attention to detail, and a willingness to learn. He goes through all the workings of each piece of equipment to make sure nothing is beginning to wear down and predicts when it is going to require maintenance. He will also take oil analyses on pieces of equipment and take samples to be checked off site, replaces bearings on pumps, aligns different pieces of equipment and marks things that need additional work, like welding, by other skilled workers on site.

Andrew started his mining career as an equipment operator at Snap Lake, then as a logistics technician at the mine airport. After transferring to Gahcho Kué Mine, he completed his apprenticeship. Andrew said he is still learning something new every day, coming to his shift like a sponge soaking up the knowledge from his experienced crew members. Andrew's career path includes a gold medal at the 2014 annual Skills Canada NWT territorial competition in the millwright category. At the annual event, he represented De Beers Canada.

At the Skills Canada National Competition, later that year in Toronto, he placed ninth and was the only Tlicho citizen on the NWT team. Skills Canada National Competition (formally the Canadian Skills Competition) is the only national, Olympic-style, multi-trade and technology competition for young students and apprentices. Every year, the event brings together approximately 500 young people from all regions of Canada, along with their parents and advisers, to compete in over 40 trade and technology areas. The competition provides an opportunity for young Canadians studying a skilled trade or technology to be tested within exacting standards and against their peers from across the nation.