



Royan Stewart, president of Breck Scaffold Solutions, Diane Boyko, chair of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board and Whitecap Chief Darcy Bear are partners in a project that gives high school students trades skills that they are applying in building a house for the Whitecap community. (Photos by Blue Pelletier)

New project helps build home for Whitecap family

By Blue Pelletier
For Eagle Feather News

Students who are part of the Construction Technology Pathway at E.D. Feehan High School in Saskatoon have built a ready-to-move home for the Whitecap Dakota First Nation. The official unveiling of the home was Dec. 4.

Whitecap Chief Darcy Bear was on hand to help sign the agreement between his First Nation as well as the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board and Breck Scaffold Solutions.

Royan Stewart from Breck Scaffold

Solutions was quite nervous up in front of the crowd and said he “is much more comfortable 60 feet up in the air” which drew laughs from the crowd who were packed into a garage type space where the signing ceremony and unveiling took place.

Once the home was shown, those in attendance, as well as the horde of media members all shuffled outside to get a glimpse of what the students had accomplished.

It is a single level home with no basement. The work the kids did was quite impressive and the home looked just like any other you may see built in

your own neighbourhood.

Students who are enrolled in the Pathway program gain valuable skills that will assist them in finding a career in the construction trade.

It is partners like Whitecap, Breck Scaffold, and the Greater Saskatoon School board that make these types of opportunities possible. They have provided materials and space that allow projects like this to succeed.

Students will gain 300 apprenticeship hours through this program. Hopefully, by doing so it encourages more of the graduates to consider a career in one of the many construction trades.

The program is open to all students who are part of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School system. This last fall students came from three different high schools to be a part of this project.

It was the recognition from Breck Scaffold that got the ball rolling. They recognized the need for all the students involved that they needed their own project to work on. So once they met with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner they found a willing partner in Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

And now someone on Whitecap will benefit and have a brand new home to live in.

Happy Holidays!

The management, staff and board of directors of Affinity Credit Union wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

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