

## **Kalispel Career Training Center (KCTC)**

### **2021 Directors Report**

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Director of Special Projects

Director Kalispel Metal Products, Kalispel Case Line

### **Summary**

The Kalispel Tribe (KTI) mission is: “to continue strengthening and building our community while preserving our cultural and natural heritage and strive to be a good neighbor to the greater community.”

Long term goals will: 1) reduce the number of unemployed residents, 2) provide equity access to jobs and 3) expand and create more jobs.

Kalispel Career Training Center (KCTC) provides employment and training opportunities utilizing classroom and hands-on experiences in the skilled trades, while completing beneficial projects with community members that have barrier(s) to employment. This program focuses on the needs of community members, business's and the Tribe. Program initiatives are based on the Kalispel Tribe's Workforce Enhancement Initiative created with the belief that unemployment is the cause of (rather than the result of) increased mental distress, social disconnection, increased substance use and physical illness. KCTC addresses the social determinants of health including education, literacy, employment while providing a social support network. KCTC provides paid job training through shadowing and pre-apprenticeship(s) for community members.

Kalispel Career Training Center's seven (7) pre-apprentices completed over 7,000 hours of paid training thus far in 2021. Two (3) of these have gained full-time employment, one in the maintenance department at Northern Quest, one has been hired full time as a welder/fabricator at Kalispel Metal Products, and one has transferred to the Construction Department of the Kalispel Tribe as an apprentice carpenter. Three (3) remain in training at KCTC, and one is currently working on joining the operators union in Spokane. There are currently (2) open positions at KCTC for pre-apprentices. Interviews have taken place and the timing is to start after the first of the year.

In partnership with the Associated General Contractors (AGC), Seattle City Light and Group Health Foundation KCTC graduated five (5) high school students in “Head Start to the Construction Trades this summer.” This was the first year we were able to complete this program with all “in person” learning. The students worked on a display for Northern Quest that showcases what the general public can purchase through our partner business Kalispel Metal Products. Many of the pre-apprentices work on these items to raise money for their training. (picture below).



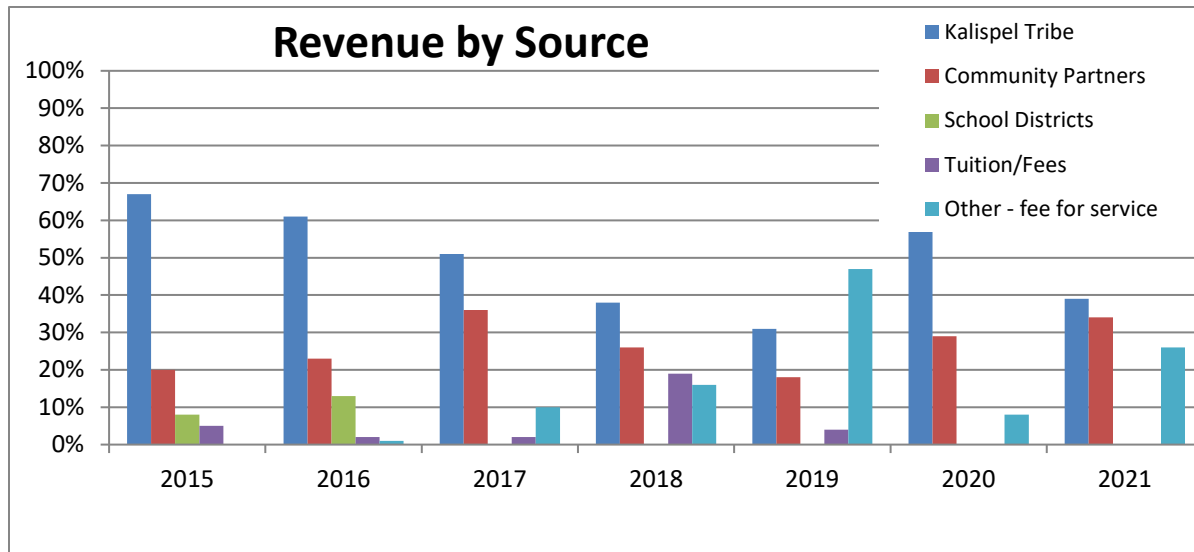
A graduation party was attended by parents of the students, which included the Tribe's Administrator, Director of Government Affairs and Director of Transportation Systems. In addition the following also attended: Carpenters Union Business Agent, Director of Seattle City Light, Apprenticeship Director from the AGC, Production Manager of Kalispel Metal Products and Project Manager of Kalispel Career Training Center. Northern Quest Executive Director noted the display in outreach to Kalispel Career Training Center, that he was so proud that this display which stood through the month of October was completed by so many Kalispel youth.

Kalispel Career Training Center completed one tiny one in 2020 and is utilized by the Tribe's housing department for isolation of family's dealing with COVID 19.

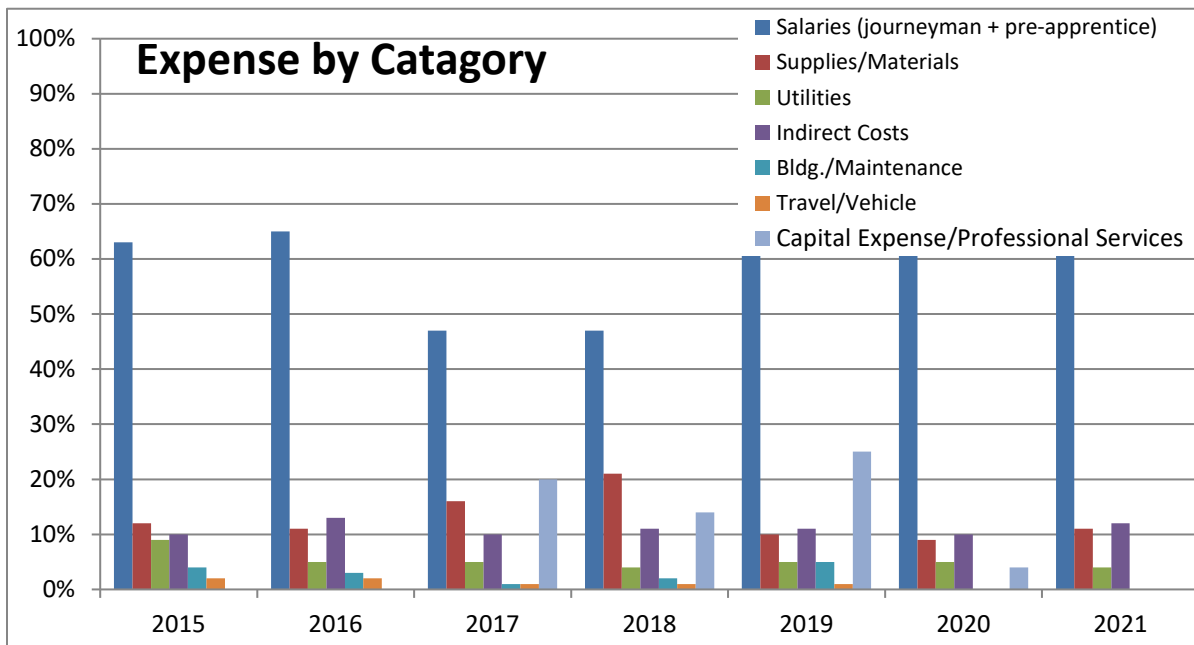
KCTC is able to offer pre-apprenticeship and summer youth to tribal & non-tribal members through community partnerships as well as implementation of the Enhanced Workforce Development Initiative of the Kalispel Tribe of Indians. Partner organizations include Seattle City Light, Group Health Foundation, Pend Oreille County Economic Development Council and Kalispel Metal Products. Financial support from these partners made up 31% of the operating budget of KCTC in FY2021.

## **Revenue**

KCTC and partner program KMP were able to bring in over \$163,000 worth of revenue from projects in FY 2021



## **Expenses**



**Kalispel Career Training Center (KCTC)**  
**Looking ahead 2021**

Job Shadowing agreements are in place with Kalispel Development as well as the Government Public Works/Planning Department of the Kalispel Tribe to allow pre-apprentice opportunities outside of the Kalispel Career Training Center & Kalispel Metal Products. This will allow other avenues of the construction trades to be evaluated for further training opportunities.

FY 2021 is seeing an increase in large projects for our pre-apprenticeship program, including a housing development in the Cusick area, the expansion project at Northern Quest Casino, as well as a partnership with Tidy Hut; manufacturing the first non-water based portable toilet.

KCTC is also managing several ARPA relief fund projects such as installing stand by generators at all elder tribal homes on the reservation, renovation of the chapel at Tribal Headquarters and a HVAC revamp of the KCTC shop.

ARPA relief funding is also been approved to fund additional apprenticeship opportunities in Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, Carpentry, Automotive Technician and HEQ.

Group Health Foundation has funded general operating support for Kalispel Career Training Center with a three year \$50,000/yr. grant for adults & youth with barriers to employment relating to health.

Partners such as Seattle City Light are vital to the continued operation of KCTC. These funds make possible programs such as pre-apprenticeships, and summer youth training possible.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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