
Sharing SBLA Success Stories

Esterhazy Success Story

SaskPro Machine Works – Tyler Metz

SaskPro Machine Works owner, Tyler Metz, is young, energetic and very determined to work and raise his family in rural Saskatchewan. Tyler graduated in 1994 from Langenburg High School. He then worked at I.M.C. K-2 potash mine operations water inflow project for Thyssen Mining Construction of Canada until 1996. Upon completion of a pre-employment machine shop course at SIAST Kelsey Campus (Kelsey) in Saskatoon, Tyler worked in Estevan, and continued with training periods back at Kelsey, receiving journeyman status in 2000. Tyler then worked in Regina until summer 2002, when he and his family moved back to, Esterhazy, his wife's hometown. Tyler always wanted to operate his own business and to be a part of a community where he could raise a family.

SaskPro Machine Works opened in August 2002 as a one-person operation. It has steadily grown to the point that Tyler now employs one full-time apprentice, one part-time person and three people on a casual basis, besides himself. The company's main income is from manufacturing and repairs for the local potash mines, construction companies, processing plants, and farmers in the area. Tyler believes in public relations and keeps in contact with his customers. He also says

local companies and farmers are willing to support him if he is competitive, puts out a good product and meets deadlines. Although his best advertising dollars are spent in the local paper, and on hats and pens, he also relies on word of mouth.

Tyler is very supportive of the SBLA program and used the money to purchase equipment for his shop. The program helped him obtain an additional loan from the Credit Union who were quick to point out they were glad to see the local SBLA group supportive of his business.

Tyler believes that an aggressive town council, supportive EDO and overall community support were key factors in starting his business in Esterhazy, and he is thankful for the opportunity to work and raise his family in rural Saskatchewan.

