



YOU have the power to choose a bright future for yourself.

Earn While You Learn

If you like to learn things by actually doing them, an apprenticeship is the way to go. On-the-job training counts for about 80% of apprenticeships. You learn from real pros and get hands-on experience with people who know all about the business. The remaining 20% of your apprenticeship involves classroom instruction at a training institute. This is where you get to connect your practical know-how with the theory behind it.

One of the best rewards of apprenticeships is that you get paid while you're learning. No need to rack up huge student debt in order to get a good job. Once you earn your certification you can write your own ticket...like working in different parts of Canada, being your own boss or teaching others to get where you are.

Training to become a Power Line Technician is provided by the Electrical Industry Training Institute.

Visit <http://www.eiti.bc.ca> to find out more.

A Unique Window of Opportunity

This is a fantastic time to get into the electricity sector. Over one third of the skilled tradespeople will be eligible to retire within the next decade. What does this mean to you? As a new employee you will have a chance to move up fast. Electricity is so important to our lives that the sector is doing everything possible to ensure customers continue to enjoy the high quality service we've all come to expect. This means that supervisors and managers are making a strong commitment to help new workers learn every facet of their job, with a strong emphasis on safety procedures. When the senior workers retire, you will be ready to advance!

Employees in the electricity sector make great wages and receive excellent benefits. Hard work and dedication is rewarded with opportunities for growth and fast advancement.

So all this sounds good...but what's the catch?

Actually, there isn't one!



ENERGIZE YOUR FUTURE



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YOUR FUTURE AS A:

POWER LINE TECHNICIAN



ENERGIZE YOUR FUTURE

For more information about
Bright Futures BC visit us
on the Web at:

www.brightfuturesBC.ca



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Ministry of
Energy, Mines and
Petroleum Resources





WHAT DOES A POWER LINE TECHNICIAN DO?

The great outdoors is your office on most days. You are responsible for the construction, repair and maintenance of high voltage transmission and distribution lines on poles, towers or underground systems. It's a physically demanding job where you find yourself in all kinds of weather and it often involves working in heights. The adrenaline rush of working atop a 50m transmission tower is not for everyone, but those who enjoy it would never trade their tower of power for an office cubicle.

Construction skills are critical. You must become an expert at erecting and maintaining steel, wood and concrete poles, anchors, guy wires and steel towers. You also hook up power lines and the equipment that makes the grid run smoothly like the communications systems that feed back power monitoring information to a base of operations.

You must be familiar with the tools of the trade, including various hand and power tools, test equipment and special tools for working on energized power lines. Cables, insulators, switches and transformers are an important part of your arsenal. You've also got to be good with machines since you are often working with specialised vehicles such as articulated aerial bucket trucks, digger derricks, crane trucks and trenchers.

Power lines run all across our province, which means that you can choose to work in a big city, a rural area or the vast wilderness in between. You get to cover a lot of territory as you investigate power interruptions and customer complaints, patrol and inspect circuits and keep the grid operating at peak performance. If an emergency strikes, you are the first line of defense in troubleshooting and repairing overhead, underground and marine power lines as well as equipment such as street and traffic lights.

You must be familiar with all the necessary gear including various hand and power tools, test equipment and special tools for working on 'hot' power lines. Cables, insulators, switches and transformers are an important part of your arsenal. You've also got to be good with machines since you are often working with specialised vehicles such as articulated aerial bucket trucks, digger derricks, crane trucks and trenchers.

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Safety is #1

Safety is always the FIRST priority and we make sure everyone sticks to the plan. Staying focused and aware is the key. Everyone is responsible for not only their own personal protection, but also for the safety of their co-workers and the public. And it feels good to know that you and your co-workers are always looking out for each other!

Your future as a:

POWER LINE TECHNICIAN

WHAT'S THE COMMITMENT?

It generally takes 3.5 years to complete all three levels of apprenticeship to become a certified Power Line Technician. This includes 15 or 16 weeks of in-school training and 5045 hours in the workplace. Electric power companies, electrical contractors and public utilities are the main employers. Power Line Technician is a 'Red Seal Trade', a certification which allows you to exercise your trade in every province of Canada once you are fully trained. Most apprenticeships in BC are regulated by the Industry Training Authority (ITA).

Visit www.itabc.ca for more details.

WHAT DO I NEED?

- Apprentices must be eligible to work in Canada.
- A high school diploma or equivalent is recommended, including grade 12 English and at least grade 11 Math and Physics. Some employers may set a higher standard.
- A good driving record and an ability to work at heights and sometimes harsh weather are important.
- To register for an apprenticeship, you will need to send a potential employer your resume, a cover letter and a copy of your high school transcript.
- For employer website links visit: www.brightfuturesbc.ca/jobs

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