



# BOB

## Essential Skills Project

*Multi-Service Centre - 2010*

### Profile

Bob, a 40 year old man with a grade nine education level and who has worked in manufacturing as a shipper receiver for 20 years, contacted the Essential Skills Project after receiving a program brochure. Bob has never had the need or occasion to take any further education or training during his employment and his time has been taken up with working and providing for his family. Unfortunately, the company he worked for has closed its doors and moved to Mexico. He has developed a résumé with the help of his wife. He is not getting any calls for interviews and has been looking for work for 13 months. His Employment Insurance is about to run out and he has met with an Ontario Works representative to see if he would be eligible for financial support. The stress of losing his job has had an effect on him and he's been struggling with personal frustrations and depression.

### The Essential Skills Project & Bob

Ontario Works recommended that Bob contact the Essential Skills Program at the Multi-Service Centre. An initial conversation took place where information regarding Bob's education and training was gathered to determine if he would be a candidate for the program. During an intake interview his skill level was determined using an Essential Skills assessment. An additional assessment will identify any barriers he may have that would prevent him from being successful in upgrading his skills. (Such barriers could include: financial/personal barriers, emotional/physical barriers, career decision making, training etc.) Unique supports through a "wrap around component" could further lend aid to Bob and encourage more program involvement. Some examples of further support may include access or referral to counselling, training, transportation, daycare as well as other options. An added feature of the program for Bob includes specific staff support and attention for individuals as this pertains to their individualized training plan and any relevant barriers they may face throughout the program. The program looks at the "whole person" and associated individualized needs in order to help them improve their skills and employability. Bob now sees that he has options and is "not alone" in his struggle to re-enter the work force.

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