

Anton Krizan – Waldan Industries Inc.



Anton Krizan has had a long-term interest in the industrial trades. Son of a tool and die maker, Anton had plenty of exposure to metalwork at his father's shop growing up. In addition, his technology class at Cawthra Park Secondary School included a welding component, which he enjoyed.

When the opportunity arose for Anton to work as a general machinist at Waldan Industries in Mississauga in a cooperative education placement, he eagerly accepted it. Waldan, a small shop with 12 employees headed by owners Wally Whitelaw and Danny Boduris, provided direction and experience in CNC machining. Anton proved a quick learner, and was able to register as a general machinist apprentice under the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Upon graduation from secondary school, he hopes to continue his apprenticeship at his father's shop in Bolton.

Waldan has had a number of co-op students over the years, and most of these placements have worked out well. The students have contributed to the business while learning about tool and die making and machining. One of their previous OYAP students was hired to stay on after his placement ended.



Wally Whitelaw, co-owner of Waldan Industries

According to Wally Whitelaw, "If someone has a technical aptitude and is willing to learn, we are happy to teach them. We find that a positive attitude is the most important thing – we can teach the skills but we can't really teach attitude."

The Peel District School Board's OYAP program is pleased to salute companies like Waldan for the opportunities provided to Peel students.