

Member-In-Training Award

Nikhil Handa, EIT



Nikhil Handa graduated from the University of Utah (USA) in May of 2009 with a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering. He became an Engineer-in-Training (EIT) in 2011.

After graduation, Nikhil worked with Reliable Controls in Utah for a year as an electrical engineer before moving to Thompson where he worked as a substitute teacher for 10 months in both elementary and high schools. Nikhil started working for Vale as an Engineer-in-Training in September of 2011 after completion of his academic assessment by the Association. Nikhil has been responsible for a wide variety of projects since joining Vale, ranging from PLC control systems to mine power distribution and engineering standards. Nikhil was responsible for the upgrade of a PLC control system at the Birchtree Mine.

Despite poor documentation, Nikhil was able to design, program and commission the upgrade. Nikhil has also been responsible for the design of six power center installations over the past 2 years and is responsible for electrical one line drawings for the T-3 mine. Additionally, Nikhil has developed standards which identify electrical equipment used within each area of Vale's Manitoba operations.

Nikhil is currently a member of APEGM's Indigenous People's Professional Initiative Committee. In this role he assists in distributing committee promotional and educational materials within Thompson. He also actively meets with the committee via teleconference to discuss ways to promote the engineering profession in the community. Nikhil is also a member of the Thompson Chapter Executive and Multi-culture Center.

Nikhil is a very active volunteer. He volunteers with the Hindu Prarthana Samaj of Thompson, at the Multiculture Center, and as a judge for Regional Science Fairs. He has also assisted the Thompson Zoological Society in their vision, design, planning, scheduling, and construction phase for the New Boreal Discovery Centre. In addition to this, he has reinitiated, organized, and promoted the Spaghetti Bridge Competition in all elementary schools in Thompson from 2012 to present. He has also recruited other MITs to volunteer at the event.

Nikhil is looking forward to becoming a professional engineer this year and continue to grow in his field of work. He hopes to work as a design engineer or project manager one day and continue promoting science and engineering professions.