

# RAP Agriculture Equipment Technician

## Ethan's Story

My story in becoming a AG Mechanic started pretty early in my life. I come from a family of farmers and small town people who like to do things themselves and have a lot of experience in different trades. My Dad is an Automotive Service Technician and since I was around 13 years old I would help him in the garage doing various things with cars. Whether it was changing the oil or replacing a head gasket I wanted to be there whenever I could. Eventually I bought my own projects to work on and sell for a profit. I worked on snowmobiles, dirt bikes, quads and even sometimes cars and trucks. I worked at an Automotive shop with my Dad for a little while doing tires and oil changes and originally wanted to pursue a career in Automotives but as time went on I thought I could go bigger. I also worked 2 summers helping my Grandpa out at his farm in Mannville and it was there that I really took interest to Agriculture related occupations. Once I got into high school I got in touch with Mrs. Rieger and Mrs. Runco and asked questions about RAP, they were very helpful and found me a potential position at Martin Deerline to apprentice as an Agriculture Equipment Technician. Originally while talking to Mrs. Rieger I wanted to apprentice as a Heavy Duty Equipment Technician but at the time Heavy Duty jobs were in short supply and I could even do my Heavy Duty ticket at Martin Deerline if I wanted to. So once I completed Grade 10 and got my schedule moved around for Grade 11 I was set to go. On February 5th, 2019 I started working at Martin Deerline West Edmonton, not going to lie it was a bit of a shaky start but once I found out what to do I was off and running. I worked this past summer for 8-9 hours a day 5 days a week and gained lots of hours and lots of experience. This coming year I hope to go to 1st year technical training and start my way to becoming a Journeyman. People ask me all the time if Rap is worth it to which I say absolutely. I always tell them if you can find an employer that is willing to hire you, you already got your foot in the door. This is my story.

