

Beyond the Headlines - Elevate Plus

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- PAUL MARTIN

A life-changing program that helps local residents gain confidence to enter the workforce held a big celebration this week.

Elevate Plus is a four-week government-funded program that prepares unemployed and underemployed people with the skills they need to succeed in the workplace.



On Wednesday, eight new graduates of the program walked off the stage at the Pioneer Building at Loyalist College following a special ceremony.

Every single person who completed the program was offered an entry-level job at JBS Foods in Belleville.

When we have conversations about issues of poverty, housing and homelessness, we shouldn't forget that an integral part of the big picture is helping people find steady and gainful employment.

Programs like Elevate Plus are amazing because they help people overcome many different kinds of obstacles.

They have helped people on Ontario Works, people in their 60s who need relevant experience and even individuals coming out of incarceration.

So thanks to everyone with Loyalist College, local sector employers, Quinte Economic Development Commission, and the provincial and federal governments for providing the funding.

Everybody wins when we help someone elevate themselves and quite literally get to work on improving their life.

I'm Paul Martin and that's what I see looking Beyond the Headlines.