

ANTHONY MORRELL



Anthony Morrell was in grade 11 when a CAREERS field director came to speak with students at his school. It was the first time he heard about the Rebuilding Fort McMurray program and was surprised to learn the internship opportunities expanded beyond skilled trades.

I don't think anything makes me happier than making other people happy."

Anthony was hoping the internship would help him get into medical school, but he never predicted the outcome that followed.

"I jumped at the opportunity; I've always wanted to go into the health field. I've been excited ever since."

That summer, Anthony began an 8-week internship at The Centre of Hope, a daytime drop-in shelter for homeless adults. He started out doing some cleaning and working the intake counter, but



soon discovered, the biggest and most important part of the job was being a good listener.

"It completely altered my future path. I came in thinking I was going to be a surgeon, but I left thinking I can't stop this now. Helping people is insane. If I can be the fire that lights the passion in others, I am going to do that for my entire life."

"It takes a while for people to get used to you when you start working here, but after a while you start to form a relationship and dare I say, become their friend. It feels great."

Anthony is now attending Keyano College with plans to pursue a career in Psychology. His internship at The Centre of Hope solidified this path, as well as his resolve to stay in Fort McMurray. He saw firsthand, the impact the fire had on the community and the need for more support.

"Fort McMurray needs a lot of help for mental health. I also think it's a great place to raise a family."

The experience also altered the way he approaches life in general. *"I think the biggest thing that changed for me was judgement. From school, to friends, to the people you walk by on the street, I now view everyone with a clean slate."*

