

EVALUATION SUMMARY

**Planning for Green Jobs:
Environmental Trends and Opportunities**

Wednesday, December 3, 2008, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Debates Room, Hart House, University of Toronto, 7 Hart House Circle

(1=Strongly Disagree --- 5=Strongly Agree)

Speakers	Response Average	Total Number of Responses
Grant Trump – <i>ECO Canada</i> The speaker provided us with new or important insights.	4.5	51
Vera E. Taylor – <i>Education Sector Council Partnerships Project</i> The speaker provided us with new or important insights.	3.9	50
Rolf Priesnitz – <i>George Brown College and Natural Life Magazine</i> The speaker provided us with new or important insights.	3.6	50
Christine Cinnamon – <i>TransCanada</i> The speaker provided us with new or important insights.	3.1	49
Sandeep Lal – <i>Metro Label</i> The speaker provided us with new or important insights.	3.8	42

(1=Strongly Disagree --- 5=Strongly Agree)

	Response Average	Total Number of Responses
Overall, the ICE Forum was useful to the work that I do.	4.1	49
The ICE Forum provided a good networking opportunity.	4.2	49
The ICE Forum was well organized overall.	4.4	49
The meeting facilities were comfortable and conducive to learning.	3.9	50

Selected comments on speakers:

- Grant Trump is putting his money where his mouth is – good for him. Grant was very motivational and made a great deal of sense. My daughter is currently studying Environmental Studies at Queen’s University and so I found him very encouraging.
- Rolf Priesnitz and George Brown College are to be congratulated – very important message.
- Sandeep Lal presented an inspirational story. It shows what can happen when you put our mind to it.
- Excellent speakers, fabulous combination of speakers, great discussion, quite lively and engaging. Very timely!
- It is good to know how progressive the TDSB is.

Selected general comments and suggestions:

General comments:

- Amazing information. Would like to know more about jobs for those without post-secondary education.
- Great teachers, educators, businesses on vision stage – “light green”.
- Really enjoyed the presentations and learned a great deal. Thank you!
- Good LMI which I will use in my work.
- Excellent presentations and knowledge transfer – networking was excellent!
- Excellent work!
- The topic was exciting and interesting – a lot more than I initially thought.
- Would have liked to hear more about specific entry-level opportunities.
- More corporate input/presence.
- It would have been helpful if there was more information on labour market information and transferring people from the automotive sector to environmental sector. I felt the speeches were geared for an audience of educators. I don't feel there was a lot of information helpful to my area of assisting people to find employment.
- The forum should have been less about educating participants about what is Green and how to be Green. Rather, the provision of information regarding various government strategies to shift jobs from traditional and declining industries to “Green” jobs would have been of more interest.
- I enjoyed learning about actual real-life programs and examples rather than concepts/generalities.
- Good high-level overview; could drill down deeper.
- I thought there would be more information on labour market opportunities, especially for individuals that do not have post-secondary education.
- I enjoyed the forum.
- The Ministry of Education should sit at the ICE table.
- Would have been helpful to have stronger connection to Toronto's industrial/economic base and green jobs – the Agenda for Prosperity has Green theme.
- It's great to be able to know when I set out to an ICE Conference that I can be confident of high quality, evidence-based perspectives from teachers in the field!
- Great morning. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Format

- Each speaker had an appropriate amount of time; those that were less relevant to me were short.
- Other than the first speaker, all seemed rushed – more time needed.
- Shorten the length of presentations and lengthen the networking time.
- A little less time for presentations and more for questions. Option for the use of written questions.
- I appreciated the opportunity to network with a wide range of people.
- Good Q&A session.

Venue and logistics

There were a number of comments about the set up of the room making it difficult to see the PowerPoint slides, and that some of the handouts were hard to read. Also some people noted that that it was hard to hear the speakers at times.

Suggestions of topics and/or speakers for future forums and roundtables:

- Development of programs that will assist people who have been employment-disadvantaged.
- Green collar jobs. This event was geared to university/college “environmental” jobs. Need union-management-government discussion on industrial-type job development, training, etc.
- Environmental companies and youth together driven by the need for youth to work in the sector.
- Apprenticeship – include LMI – showcase kinds of apprenticeships and those in demand.
- Manufacturing shift.
- Continued discussion of Green Apprenticeships and skilled trades: trends, demands, gaps, etc.
- Educational Institutes: more examples of their efforts – deep green, university representatives, environmental education department.
- Overall the forum was dedicated to youth and their skills/knowledge development in the area of environment; it would be interesting to have a Forum on Transferable Skills and Gap Training for the 40+ years to meet the needs of the 5 sectors of the industry.
- Self-employment implications/opportunities of the shift.
- Focus on employment; labour trend opportunities that are sector specific and employer relationships.
- Literacy realities.
- Creative economies.
- Transitioning to new industrial bases.
- Better utilizing our existing workforce.
- Economic stimulation via creation of new industries and occupations.
- Economic downturn: implications on skills shortages.
- MTCU: what they are doing to address the gaps and the opportunity to provide training particular to the marginalized communities that tend to miss the new opportunities with evolving new technologies.
- I would like to hear more about training/transitioning into environmental sectors for adults. Most programs appear to be focused on young students.
- Green economy as a local economic development strategy.
- What are opportunities for Ontario’s environmental technologies firms? How are they doing in international markets? How can we build/strengthen Ontario environmental technologies cluster?
- Greening the trades: workplace, apprentices, education and training.
- The changing face of the economy – from large firms to small business: sectoral partnerships for training and learning.
- Post-secondary education. The forum was very focused on secondary students; however, with growing unemployment, many are interested in opportunities for working aged adults with no post-secondary education.
- Solutions on how to create new green jobs and how to green existing jobs; link this to government priorities.
- How/what “green” apprenticeships need to be made available in the future? What opportunities are available in the “green sector” at the entry level (i.e., no specific training or education)?
- I would like to see Michael Reynolds, Green Architect, from the USA speak.