

Skilled Help Available: Programs to Help Employers Access the Apprenticeship System

A Roundtable on Apprenticeship for People Working with Employers

**Monday, January 9, 2006, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Metro Hall, 55 John Street (at King), 3rd Floor, Room 308/309**

December 13, 2005

Dear Colleague,

You are invited to participate in “**Skilled Help Available: Programs to Help Employers Access the Apprenticeship System**” sponsored by the Intergovernmental Committee for Economic and Labour Force Development (ICE) on Monday, January 9, 2006 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Employers are aware of the looming skills shortage in many key industries. In response, the provincial government recently developed programs to encourage apprenticeship as a means to accelerate the development of highly skilled labour. Unfortunately, few employers are aware of their benefits or how to access these programs. This roundtable will provide you with up-to-date information on available incentives that will help you advise employers and industry associations on how to meet existing and pending skills shortages.

Apprenticeships are win-win-win for individuals, businesses, and the economy as a whole. They provide a route to good jobs for those individuals for whom a traditional academic setting is unsuitable; they provide employers with access to a lower cost skills set and the opportunity to both attract and influence the workforce of tomorrow; and they contribute to the growth and prosperity of the nation's economy.

Come hear **Diane Wise** from the **Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities** speak about the apprenticeship system and what new incentives are available to employers. **Del Bruce** from **Canadian Progressive Tool and Transfer Ltd.** will provide a first-hand account of the benefits his company has gained through hiring apprentices. **David Lindsay** from the **Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO)** will highlight how colleges can assist employers in apprenticeship skills development. **Judy Noel** from the **Simcoe County Training Board** will share her insights on effective employer outreach strategies. The **Toronto Training Board's Karen Lior** will speak about her experience working with employers in Toronto.

The proposed agenda is attached. There is no cost to participate in this roundtable.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, January 9, 2006 at what promises to be an informative and exciting session. Seating capacity is limited so **please RSVP** directly to me at eslack@esci.ca or by fax at 416-348-9930 by **no later than Wednesday, December 21, 2005**. Feel free to call me at 416-348-9935, eslack@esci.ca or contact Susan Brown, Toronto Economic Development at 416-392-9487, sbrown6@toronto.ca, if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Enid Slack, Chair, ICE Committee

Skilled Help Available: Programs to Help Employers Access the Apprenticeship System

A Roundtable on Apprenticeship for People Working with Employers

Monday, January 9, 2006, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Metro Hall, 55 John Street (at King), 3rd Floor, Room 308/309

Proposed Agenda

- 1:00 – 1:05 Welcome – **Susan Brown**, Senior Policy Advisor, Economic Development, City of Toronto
- 1:05 – 1:10 Introduction to the ICE Committee – **Enid Slack**, Chair, ICE Committee
- 1:10 – 1:40 **The Apprenticeship System in Ontario: What's New for Employers?**
✓ **Diane Wise**, Senior Manager, Strategic Policy, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
- 1:40 – 1:50 **The Benefits of Hiring Apprentices: An Employer's Perspective**
✓ **Del Bruce**, President, Canadian Progressive Tool and Transfer Ltd.
- 1:50 – 2:10 **The College Connection: Partners in Skills Development**
✓ **David Lindsay**, President, Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO)
- 2:10 – 2:25 Break
- 2:25 – 2:40 **Successful Employer Outreach Strategies: Evolving Best Practices**
✓ **Judy Noel**, Executive Director, Simcoe County Training Board
- 2:40 – 2:55 **Successful Employer Outreach Strategies: Toronto Partnerships**
✓ **Karen Lior**, Executive Director, Toronto Training Board
- 2:55 – 3:00 Closing Remarks – **Enid Slack**, Chair, ICE Committee

Please RSVP to: eslack@esci.ca

For more information:

Susan Brown, Toronto Economic Development, 416-392-9487, sbrown6@toronto.ca
Enid Slack, Chair, ICE Committee, 416-348-9935, eslack@esci.ca