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Apprenticeship Board Members 2010/2011

Employer Representatives:

Steven Stoddart
Donna Bonner
Paul Price
Lorne MacKinnon

Employee Representatives:

Tori Munroe
Virginia King
Greg Pope
Jack Wall

Members-at-large:

Norm Kemp (Chair)
Bill Carroll
Louis Joe Bernard

Training Provider Representative:

Robert Sampson

Director of Apprenticeship:

Joe Rudderham

Board Administrator:

Dale Crawford

Board Administrative Assistant:

Melanie Bedgood

Visit our website at:

gov.ns.ca/lae/apprenticeshipboard

jobsHere: Strengthening the Apprenticeship System

In November 2010, the government released its new economic strategy for the province, entitled *jobsHere: the plan to grow our economy*. The strategy stated that the workforce in Nova Scotia is projected to decline by about 20,000 workers in the next four years, due mostly to retirements. In order to begin to address this issue, the Apprenticeship Training division will review and upgrade the technical training curriculum, provide additional technical training in trades where demand is increasing or projected to increase, and ensure that apprentices are getting the on-the-job training needed to meet industry standards.

In order to better understand where resources and energy are to be allocated, the Apprenticeship Training division, working with the Apprenticeship Board, will undertake a review of the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship System, which will involve the hiring of an independent consultant to develop an overview paper on the state of the apprenticeship system. This will include a brief overview of the relevant literature on apprenticeship in Canada, paying particular attention to the challenges and opportunities facing the apprenticeship systems in the 21st century. It will also outline the trends based on data analysis and gaps, issues, and opportunities using a jurisdictional comparison model. The apprenticeship system review paper will be used as a starting point for a discussion paper focusing on seven to ten gaps/issues/opportunities identified. The discussion document will be the focal point for consultation that will include public sessions expected by December 2011 throughout the province. A final report will be developed based on the consultation, recommending areas for strategic investment and identification of changes that may be necessary to the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act and its attendant Regulations to ensure a legislative framework that is responsive to the needs of industry.

Nova Scotia's apprenticeship system is a major contributor to the economic development of the province. Participation in the apprenticeship system provides social and economic benefits to participants, their communities, and the Province of Nova Scotia. Apprenticeship's economic value is apparent to the program completers and, by extension, to the economy. The work of apprentices and tradespeople is visible in every aspect of Canadian society. The necessity of goods and services provided through the skilled trades means they form a basis for economic growth in virtually all other sectors of the economy. Thus, a strong skilled trades sector is one prerequisite to strong, sustainable economic development for Nova Scotia. ■

Apprenticeship Celebration Event — May 28, 2011

The 18th Apprenticeship Celebration Event was held on May 28, 2011 at the Digby Pines Golf Resort and Spa in Digby, NS. The event was a great success, fully funded with financial support from industry sponsors. We were pleased to have **Lynn Hartwell**, the Executive Director of the Skills and Learning Branch of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, and **Don Bureau**, the new President of the Nova Scotia Community College.

The guest speaker was **Shannon Holleman**, a newly certified industrial electrician who is also a certified industrial mechanic (millwright). Shannon spoke of how he came to make the trades a lifelong career, the challenges he faced as an adult learner, the support he received from his family, and the value of learning the trades through the apprenticeship training system.

The Apprenticeship Board presented the Mentor/Coach Award of Excellence to **Hastings Seaboyer**, a welder with Shelburne Ship Repair. Hastings was nominated by his apprentice, Freeman Pemberton.

In addition, the Apprenticeship Board provided honourable mention to two other mentor/coaches: Ted Wagner, a refrigeration and air conditioning mechanic with Wagner Refrigeration, who was nominated by his apprentice, Marcel Thibodeau; and Louis Blinn, a welder with A.F. Theriault and Sons Limited, who was nominated by his apprentice, William Robicheau.

There were approximately 100 people in attendance, of whom 15 were newly certified journeypersons who had been trained in the apprenticeship training system. We would like to thank everyone who came out for this event and congratulate the newly certified journeypersons.

This event would not have been possible without the generous financial support and donations from our industry sponsors:



From left to right: Norm Kemp, Shannon Holleman, and Lynn Hartwell

- United Association of Journeymen & Apprentices of the Plumbing & Pipefitting Industry, Local 56
- Nova Scotia Construction Labour Relations Association
- Apprentice Award Trust
- Mainland Nova Scotia Building & Construction Trades Council
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 625
- International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Local 73
- Construction Association of Nova Scotia
- International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators & Asbestos Workers, Local 116
- Nova Scotia Construction Sector Council
- Ironworkers Union, Local 752
- Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline
- Benefit Plan Administrators (Atlantic) Limited
- Skills Canada — Nova Scotia
- Nova Scotia Community College ■

Welcome Aboard

The Apprenticeship Board is pleased to welcome **Steven Stoddart** as an employer representative, effective April 26, 2011. Steven has been a Red Seal carpenter for over 30 years. He has worked as a building inspector, project manager, and an owner/operator. He has spent the last seven years working with the Tri-County Regional School Board most recently as the Director of Operations.

"I have a great dedication to the Apprenticeship program and want to assist in any way to ensure that we not only continue graduating certified tradespersons in Nova Scotia, but we provide every opportunity to ensure they stay and work in Nova Scotia."

Steven Stoddart

The Board looks forward to working with Steven in the future. ■



Skills Canada — Nova Scotia

'Team NS is the best!' would have been one of the cheers you overheard if you walked by the Nova Scotia section of the closing ceremonies at the Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) hosted in Quebec City from June 1 to 4, 2011. And these chants were for good reason. Nova Scotia took home eleven medals this year, beating out last year's medal count of eight.

"The increase in medals awarded at this year's SCNC is a testament to the quality of training these young men and women are receiving through their education and apprenticeship in Nova Scotia," says Courtney Gouthro, Executive Director of Skills Canada — Nova Scotia (SCNS).

The 2011 national competition featured over 500 students from all provinces and territories in over 40 different trade and technology competitions. Nova Scotia apprentices were well represented on the podium among the medalists. Adam Tanner, registered youth apprentice in carpentry from Brookfield, took home silver, and Mitch Sutherland, registered apprentice from Halifax, claimed the bronze medal in welding. "There's no doubt that the training I received through my apprenticeship prepared me for this competition. My employer was willing to let me ask questions and gave me the tips I needed to be ready to compete," says Sutherland.

Aaron Hebb, car painting gold medalist from the 2010 year's competition, is now preparing to compete at the WorldSkills International competition this October in London, England. Aaron, who is also a registered apprentice in auto collision repair from Bridgewater, earned his spot to compete in the international event when he was awarded gold last year. Since earning his spot to compete, Aaron has been working hard with his coach, Randy Sellars from NSCC Kingstec, to make sure he's at his personal best when he arrives in Europe.

This past Skills Canada National Competition was not a WorldSkills qualifying year. The 2012 SCNC will be hosted in Edmonton, Alberta, and gold medalists will have the opportunity at that time to earn a spot to compete at the next WorldSkills International, which will take place in Germany, 2013.

As a not-for-profit organization, Skills Canada — Nova Scotia (SCNS) promotes career choices that fulfill the growing need for skilled tradespeople and technologists in Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia Skills Competition is just one event that SCNS offers to Nova Scotians, giving youth the opportunity to strive for excellence in their chosen field of work. These events and programs would not be possible without the continued support of SCNS's partners, including the Department of Labour and Advanced Education. ■



Top (from left to right): Jeremy Newton, Tyler Blair, Tim Schmidt, Samantha McGill, Lauren Cameron, Calum MacQuarrie, Hilary Pelerine, Mitch Sutherland. Bottom: Adam Tanner, Steven Marsh, Mitchell Parker.

What Do You Think?

The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Board has been producing **The Link** newsletter for over ten years and distributing it to all employers of apprentices, relevant sector councils, associations, and labour organizations. Its purpose is to keep you informed about the Board's work by reporting every six months on its activities and accomplishments.

We would like to know if you find *The Link* an effective source of information. To that end, we request that you answer a few questions about this publication via the email address provided below to assist us with future editions.

1. Have you received this newsletter twice per year?
2. Do you read the entire newsletter or certain articles only?
3. On a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being not at all useful and 10 being very useful, please rank *The Link* newsletter.

Please format your responses in your email as follows:

1. YES or NO
2. ENTIRE NEWSLETTER or CERTAIN ARTICLES
3. A number from 1 to 10

Please send your responses to **Melanie Bedgood** at: bedgoomm@gov.ns.ca. Thank you for your attention. ■

Trade Advisory Committee Update

The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Board is the voice of industry to the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education regarding the apprenticeship and certification system in Nova Scotia. The Board relies heavily on the involvement of industry members from all trades in the participation of industry and ad hoc advisory committees. The dedication and involvement of our industry partners greatly assist the board to effectively represent industry.

In order to obtain trade-specific information and advice, the Board establishes Ad Hoc Advisory Committees (AHAC) made up of individuals working in the industry. These AHACs conduct consultations with the broader industry, which includes related trades or trades that are impacted by the work. This information helps to form the advice and recommendations the Apprenticeship Board makes to the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education.

The following briefly represents the work of those AHACs between January and June 2011:

Ad Hoc Advisory Committees Currently Reviewing Trade Regulations

- Mobile Crane and Tower Crane Operator
- Motor Vehicle Body Repairer

Board Recommended Trade Regulations in Process

- Construction Electrician
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic
- Bricklayer
- Sprinkler System Installer
- Alarm and Security Technician
- Automotive Glass Technician
- Welder
- Ironworker
- Landscape Horticulturist
- Boat Builder

New Trade Designation Application

Marine Services Technician

An application to designate a new trade, called marine service technician, was received by the Provincial Apprenticeship Board from the Nova Scotia Boatbuilders Association. The primary contact of the application, Chip Dickson, made a presentation to the Provincial Apprenticeship Board regarding the application at the March 2011 Board meeting. In response to the application, the Apprenticeship Board directed the establishment of an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee to review the application and make a recommendation to the Board.

Subsequent to advertising and notifying organizations in the industry, applications for the committee were received. Individuals were selected by the Apprenticeship Board to review the application and make a recommendation. The first meeting of the committee is scheduled for August 19, 2011.

Compulsory Certification Applications

Sheet Metal Worker

The Sheet Metal Workers' International Association, Local 409 and Local 56, submitted an application, in January 2010, to specify the sheet metal worker trade as a compulsory certified trade

in Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Board reviewed the application at the March 2010 Board meeting and directed the establishment of an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (AHAC) to review the application and make a recommendation to the Board. Individuals were selected by the Apprenticeship Board to review the application and make a recommendation. The committee has met on May 3, 2010, and May 24, 2011, and has a meeting scheduled for September 2, 2011.

Carpenter

The Professional Carpentry Guild of Nova Scotia submitted an Application for Certification of a Designated Trade in December 2009. The primary applicant, Mr. Peter Greer, presented the application to the Apprenticeship Board at the March 2011 Board meeting. The Board directed the establishment of an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (AHAC) to review the application. Subsequent to advertising and notifying organizations in the industry, applications for the committee were received. Individuals were selected by the Apprenticeship Board to review the application and make a recommendation to the Apprenticeship Board. The first meeting of this committee is scheduled for August 31, 2011. ■



For further information on these articles or any other inquiries about the apprenticeship system in Nova Scotia contact:

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