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## NEWS RELEASE COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release  
2016JTST0021-000187  
Feb. 10, 2016

Department of Employment and Social Development  
Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and  
Responsible for Labour

### **British Columbians take their careers to the next level with Canada – B.C. partnership**

VICTORIA – Over 1,370 British Columbians across the province are receiving the training they need for jobs in their communities thanks to the federal and provincial partnership under the Canada Job Fund.

The Honourable Maryann Mihychuk, Federal Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, along with Shirley Bond, British Columbia Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Responsible for Labour announced today that contracts for 46 targeted skills-training programs have been finalized. Many of the programs are now underway and will be finished in March 2016. Today at the Parliament Buildings in Victoria, Minister Shirley Bond, Parliamentary Secretary Greg Kylo, along with representatives from Camosun College and Chemistry Consulting, highlighted one of the programs, Multi-Industry Skills Training, that is being delivered in Victoria and Vancouver.

These training programs represent an investment of more than \$10.3 million from the Canada – British Columbia Job Fund Agreement under the Employer-Sponsored Training stream. These training programs support B.C.'s regional labour market demands and provide opportunities to youth, women, Indigenous people, immigrants and other eligible participants to receive skills training as well as industry recognized certificates or credentials.

Through the Canada Job Fund, the Government of Canada provides \$500 million annually to the provinces and territories for investments in skills training. Under the Canada – British Columbia Job Fund Agreement, the province receives a total of \$65 million per year – its per capita share of the available funding.

The Canada Job Fund helps ensure training programs give individuals the skills to enter and succeed in the job market. Through the Employer-Sponsored Training stream, funding supports project-based, time-limited, employer-driven training that leads to a job at the end of training. This includes targeted programs offered by Indigenous service providers, post-secondary institutions, industry associations, community groups, and private trainers that meet regional labour market needs. Employers also provide either financial or in-kind contributions to support the training.

#### **Quotes:**

#### **Maryann Mihychuk, Federal Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour –**

“Hard work and dedication – that is the Canadian way. This is a great example of how Canadian organizations are working hard and getting the opportunity and the funds to train and develop their employees. The Canada Job Fund is an excellent resource for Canadian organizations and

we are committed to expanding these intergovernmental agreements.”

**Shirley Bond, British Columbia Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Responsible for Labour –**

“We are expecting nearly one million job openings in British Columbia in the next ten years due to retirements and economic growth and it is important that British Columbians have the skills and training they need for these future openings. These training programs will help many British Columbians create paths to successful careers. Investment in skills training is critical to keeping our economy diverse, strong and growing.”

**Olaf Nielsen, chair of trades development & special projects, Camosun College –**

“The Multi Industry Skills Training program was developed by four partners, Chemistry Consulting, IMTARC, SkillPlan, and Camosun College, to provide participants with job-ready certifications (such as Fall Protection, First Aid, LNG Awareness, Traffic Control, etc.) and entry level skills for various workforce sectors. Those skills include: essential skills training in document use, numeracy, and reading; conflict resolution; communication skills training; and, preparing for transition to the workforce. The MIST project has worked with 72 participant students, with programs being offered in Victoria and Vancouver.”

**Quick Facts:**

- In the next decade, B.C. will have nearly one million job openings due to retirements and economic growth.
- Thousands of new job openings are expected in every region of British Columbia by 2024.
  - Vancouver Island/Coast: 158,900 job openings
  - Mainland/Southwest: 569,500 job openings
  - North Coast/Nechako/Northeast and Cariboo: 57,900 job openings
  - Southeast: 147,900 job openings
- Almost 8/10 of these job openings will require post-secondary education or trades training.
- The B.C. government invests over \$7.5 billion each year in education and training.
- Over the next 10 years, the B.C. government will redirect \$3 billion in training investments towards these in-demand jobs.

**Learn More:**

Canada Job Fund: [http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/training\\_agreements/cjf/index.shtml](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/training_agreements/cjf/index.shtml)

Canada Job Grant: [http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/training\\_agreements/cjg/index.shtml](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/training_agreements/cjg/index.shtml)

Canada-B.C. Job Grant: <https://www.workbc.ca/canadabcjobgrant>

British Columbia’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint: <https://www.workbc.ca/Training-Education/B-C-s-Skills-for-Jobs-Blueprint/Learn-about-Blueprint.aspx>

B.C. Labour Market Outlook 2024: <https://www.workbc.ca/labour-market-information/b-c-s-economy/reports.aspx>

A backgrounder follows.

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## BACKGROUND

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### **British Columbians take their careers to the next level with Canada – B.C. partnership**

More than \$10.3 million is being given provincewide through project-based training programs to help over 1,370 British Columbians gain the necessary skills for various job openings in B.C. These programs are delivered by a range of service providers funded by the Canada Job Fund under the Canada –British Columbia Job Fund Agreement.

Contract amounts are based on projected participant target numbers; payment for services are adjusted to actual participant levels and costs at time of program delivery.

For more information about the programs below, please contact the service providers directly.

#### Cariboo region

- College of New Caledonia: Heavy Equipment Operator program in Prince George
- College of New Caledonia: Heavy Equipment Operator program in MacKenzie
- Interior Logging Association: Forest Harvesting Equipment Operator Training program in Kamloops
- Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment & Training Association: Office Technology Project program in Prince George
- Quesnel Employment Services Ltd.: First Nations Youth Training program in Quesnel

#### Kootenay

- Selkirk College: Class 1 Driver Training program in Castlegar
- Selkirk College: Forestry Training program in Nelson, Slocan, Grand Forks
- Selkirk College: Logger Training program in Kaslo, New Denver, Nakusp and region

#### Mainland/South Coast

- Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society (ACCESS): Building Services Worker program in Vancouver
- Alliance of Manufacturers & Exporters Canada: Communication in the Workplace program in Vancouver, Richmond, Surrey, Burnaby, Coquitlam, North Shore, Langley, Delta, Abbotsford and Chilliwack
- College of the Rockies: Forestry Skills Bootcamp in Lel'wat First Nation/Pemberton
- DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society: Electrician Introduction program in Surrey
- Eastside Movement for Business & Economic Renewal Society: Construction Safety Officer program in Vancouver
- Eastside Movement for Business & Economic Renewal Society: Traffic Control Training in Vancouver

- Eastside Movement for Business & Economic Renewal Society: Hoist Operator Training in Vancouver
- Immigrant Services Society of BC: Skills Now Surrey program in Surrey
- Immigrant Services Society of BC: Skills Now Vancouver program in Vancouver
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University: Low Voltage Wiring program in Surrey
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University: Data Networking program in Surrey
- NEC Native Education College: Aboriginal Office Administration in Vancouver
- North Island College: Underground Mining Training in Lillooet
- S.U.C.C.E.S.S.: Training for Jobs (Retail Sector) program in Vancouver
- Seabird College (Seabird Island Education Society): Camp Cook Training in Seabird Island Band community
- Seabird College (Seabird Island Education Society): Basic Security Training in Seabird Island Band community
- Sprott Shaw Degree College Corp.: Trades for Tomorrow program in Abbotsford
- Young Men's Christian Association of Greater Vancouver: Building Maintenance Training program in Vancouver
- YWCA Metro Vancouver: Changing Gears Driver Training for Women in Vancouver and Coquitlam

#### Vancouver Island/Coast

- North Island College: Tourism and Hospitality Training in Uclulet and west coast region of Vancouver Island.
- Parone Stevenson Group Inc. dba Excel Career College: Aquaculture Technician Training in Campbell River, Port Alberni, Port McNeill, Port Hardy and Duncan
- Sprott Shaw Degree College Corp.: Skills for Work Victoria in Victoria

#### Thompson-Okanagan region

- Interior Logging Association Log Truck Driver Training program in Kamloops
- Okanagan College: Fast Track to Office Training program in Revelstoke, Vernon and Oliver
- Thompson Rivers University: Aboriginal Women in Trades program in Kamloops

#### North Coast and Nechako

- College of New Caledonia: Heavy Equipment Operator program in Vanderhoof
- Northwest Community College: Power Engineering Readiness program in Terrace and Prince Rupert
- Northwest Community College: Aboriginal Environmental Monitor Assistant program in Smithers
- Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment & Training Association: Trades Access in Burns Lake
- Takla Lake First Nation: Essential Workplace Skills Training in Takla Landing
- Terrace & District Community Services Society: Developmental Disabilities Service Worker Project in Terrace

#### Northeast region:

- University of Northern British Columbia: Environmental Monitoring Certificate program in Kelly Lake

## Multiple regions

- (Cariboo, North Coast and Nechako) Metis Provincial Council of British Columbia: Introduction to Trades Training in Terrace and Prince George
- (Cariboo and Thompson-Okanagan) Canadian Vocational Training Centre: Traffic Control Professional program in Prince George, Quesnel, Williams Lake, Kelowna and Vernon
- (Mainland/Southwest and Vancouver Island/Coast) Camosun College: Multi-Industry Skills Training program in Vancouver and Victoria
- (Mainland/Southwest, Thompson-Okanagan, Vancouver Island/Coast and Cariboo) Vancouver Community College: Working in Natural Gas (WiNG) program in Vancouver, Kelowna, Vernon, Prince George and the Malahat Reserve
- (Mainland/Southwest and Vancouver Island/Coast ) Fraser Education Inc. dba Western Maritime Institute: Bridge Watch Rating program in Ladysmith and Vancouver
- (Thompson-Okanagan and Cariboo) Sprott Shaw College: Skills for Work program in Kamloops, Kelowna and Penticton

### **Media Contact:**

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