



Information Bulletin

Apprenticeship Training Overview

The Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) continues to experience record numbers of registered apprentices, completions and skilled trades people who receive SATCC services. The total number of registered apprentices at June 30, 2010 was 9,136, up 55% from the June 30, 2006 total of 5,915. The current year forecast figure for June 30, 2011 is 9,500. In 2005-2006, 3,037 apprentices took technical training compared to 5,374 apprentices in 2009-2010.

A complete summary of the 2009-10 operating and financial results appear in the 2009-10 SATCC Annual Report which may be found at: www.saskapprenticeship.ca under Publications, Annual Report.

Regulation Amendment - Journeyman to Apprentice Ratios

On May 6, 2010, the journeyman to apprentice ratio in Saskatchewan's designated trades changed to 1:2 from 1:1. This change applies to 27 of the 47 designated trades and 16 of the 23 sub-trades in Saskatchewan.

The Electrician trade was not included in the May 6, 2010 ratio change. The ratio remained at one journeyman to one apprentice until an amendment to *The*

Electrical Licensing Act and Regulations was announced December 9, 2010 which changed the ratio to one journeyman to two apprentices.

For a list of the other designated trades impacted by the ratio change on May 10, 2010, visit the SATCC website at www.saskapprenticeship.ca under Announcements.

Construction Sector Council (CSC) Construction Looking Forward 2011-2019 Saskatchewan Key Highlights

The CSC recently released its latest assessment of future construction labour market conditions for Saskatchewan. The report contains detailed market rankings for skilled trades occupations in Saskatchewan, and is available at <http://www.csc-ca.org/en/products/2011-construction-looking-forward-forecast-reports-and-highlights>

The report examines three time periods: "Major Projects Peak (2010-2012)", "Major Projects Wind Down (2013-2017)", and "Housing Leads Recovery (2018-2019)".

"Construction labour markets in Saskatchewan are approaching the peak of a remarkable cycle. A strong recovery in demand for natural resources has accelerated the pace of non-residential construction activity in the province, which contributed to continued strong

gains in 2010 construction employment." (Source: *Construction Looking Forward 2011-2019 Key Highlights*)

Over the forecast period, estimates indicate that almost the same number of new entrants will enter the construction workforce (6,600) as retirements (6,300), but this conceals the market pressures as current projects approach the period of peak labour demand. The Construction Sector will need about 7,000 new workers to meet the demand between 2011 and 2013.

Apprenticeship Training Allowance Rate Increase

Effective July 1, 2011, Saskatchewan apprentices will receive an increase in the allowance they receive when living away from home to attend technical training.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration has increased the Living Away from Home Allowance Rate.

The new rate will provide additional funding to apprentices to meet the rising costs of maintaining a second residence while they attend technical training. The new rate for apprentices will increase from \$94 per week to \$125 per week. The rate for apprentices whose principal or secondary residence is located in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District will increase from \$125 per week to \$175 per week.

This is the first time since 1999 that the allowance has changed.

Foreign Qualification Recognition (FQR) Report

UNDERSTANDING THE ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN TRAINED WORKERS IN THE RED SEAL TRADES: A Cross-Canada Review of Methodology and Processes in Apprenticeship Systems to Assess and Recognize Credentials and Trade Experience

The SATCC recently embarked on research to gain a better understanding of foreign credential and trade experience assessment practices used in Canadian apprenticeship jurisdictions.

The report indicates that more needs to be done if Canadian apprenticeship jurisdictions are to better support foreign trained workers in their pursuit of Canadian credentials, especially with respect to the assessment of existing credentials and trade experience toward provincial/territorial trade certification and the interprovincial Red Seal endorsement.

The research activity and final report were made possible through the Government of Saskatchewan's Immigrant Bridge to Licensing Program, with financial support from the Government of Canada's Foreign Credential Recognition Program, and the participation of apprenticeship jurisdictions across Canada.

The report can be viewed at www.saskapprenticeship under Announcements.

Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship Program

The Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) Program assists high school students to discover and explore career opportunities in the skilled trades. Through the exploration, the SYA Program raises awareness and enhances career development decision-making for Saskatchewan youth. As of March 31, 2011, 249 schools were registered with 4,510 students, approximately 2,600 females and 1,910 males, participating in the Program.

Since the Program's inception, 8,441 students in grades 10–12 have registered and a total of 2,505 graduates have received certificates. Of these, 291 (11%) have registered as Saskatchewan apprentices. Seven former SYA participants have achieved journeyman status.

Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship Industry Scholarship Program

As of April 29, 2011, Saskatchewan industry has donated \$360,000 to the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship Industry Scholarship Program. An event will be hosted on May 10, 2011 to recognize 17 industry donors.

The process to begin identifying the winners of the 40 scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, to be awarded for the year ending June 2011 will begin in April 2011.

To qualify for a scholarship, the graduate must complete high school and hold a completed SYA Passport. To redeem the scholarship, the winner will

have been a registered apprentice for at least one year or have completed one year of post-secondary training in a designated skilled trade.

Aboriginal Apprenticeship Initiatives

The Commission has dedicated \$400,000 for the 2011-12 fiscal year for aboriginal initiatives. The call for proposals will occur in the spring and proposals will be selected for funding in June 2011.

Ongoing Development of National Examination Item Banks and Hosting Responsibilities

The Commission's Program Development section provides ongoing support to Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) and other provinces/territories to develop examination item banks.

Of the Red Seal products that Saskatchewan is responsible for hosting, a number have been reviewed, edited and/or released:

- Hairstylist – The National Occupational Analysis is under industry review as part of its renewal process.
- Mobile Crane Operator (Hydraulic) – A new National Occupational Analysis will be developed in April, 2011.
- Partsperson has been peer reviewed and is now in final translation and quality control.

Bridge the Gap with Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies: Saskatchewan's Summit

Saskatchewan's economy remains strong and there continues to be a large demand for workers in the skilled trades which has led to unprecedented growth in the number of registered apprentices. Despite this growth, women continue to experience difficulty finding employers who will employ and apprentice them in the skilled trades and technologies.

To begin to address this imbalance and to create "made in Saskatchewan" strategies, the SATCC, in partnership with industry, training and government stakeholders, will host the **Bridge the Gap with Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies: Saskatchewan's Summit**. The Summit will be held in Saskatoon at TCU place on Friday, May 6, 2011.

Organizers of the Summit are pleased that the Honourable June Draude, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, and the Honourable Rob Norris, Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration, have agreed to participate in this important event.

The one-day Summit will bring over 60 influential industry decision-makers together to discuss issues and determine strategies to support employers in hiring, training and retaining women in skilled trades and technologies employment positions.

Achievements of New Journeypersons Recognized

Thirty-two newly certified journeypersons received awards for their outstanding achievement in the skilled trades in an awards ceremony on Friday, November 19, 2010. Hosted by the SATCC, the awards recognized the top achievers from among the more than 1,250 new journeypersons certified in the 47 trades in Saskatchewan between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. Fourteen industry associations also presented scholarships at the event.

Centennial Merit Scholarships

One hundred and sixty-three registered apprentices recently received the Centennial Merit Scholarship of \$250 based on their 2009-2010 examination results. The scholarships were equally funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration and the SATCC.

The recipients received the \$250 award for achieving the highest mark on Saskatchewan apprenticeship level examinations in their designated trades.

Marketing and Promotion

Various communications and marketing initiatives have been undertaken this year, including:

- The SATCC launch of its Facebook page in the fall of 2010.
- The SATCC partnered with the Saskatchewan Construction Association to develop the "*Building*

Bright Futures – Careers in Saskatchewan's Construction Trades" brochure. It can be viewed at www.saskapprenticeship.ca under Publications, Pamphlets.

An invitation has been extended to all other sectors with interest expressed by the Tourism and Service Sector.

- The SATCC has contracted for 6 profiles of tradespeople and stakeholders to relate their personal interest story concerning apprenticeship and the skilled trades. Two profiles have been completed and a third is underway.

2012 CAF Conference Launch

The 2012 CAF Conference will be hosted in Regina, Saskatchewan. On May 17, 2011, a luncheon event to launch the conference will be held at the Casino Regina Show Lounge.