



Information Bulletin

Apprenticeship Training Overview

The Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) continues to experience high numbers of registered apprentices, completions and skilled trades people who receive SATCC services. The total number of registered apprentices at June 30, 2012 was 9,724, a 3.0% increase over the previous June and a 43.4% increase since 2006-07. There were 5,710 apprentices who accessed technical training in 2011-12, compared to 5,531 in 2010-11. This is an increase of 73.2% over 2006-07 numbers. In addition, 1,682 Journeyman Certificates were issued in 2011-12, compared to 1,510 in 2010-11.

A complete summary of the 2011-12 operating and financial results will be included in the 2011-12 SATCC Annual Report which will be posted to the SATCC website after it is tabled in the Saskatchewan Legislature in late October 2012. Visit www.saskapprenticeship.ca under Resources, Annual Report.

SATCC Board of Directors Strategic Planning

The SATCC Board of Directors provides strategic leadership for the Commission through the development and approval of a strategic plan. The strategic plan is

a roadmap for success, providing direction and focus for the Commission to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the industry it serves.

In 2012, the SATCC Board of Directors engaged HJ Linnen Associates to support the strategic planning process. Consultations with key apprenticeship stakeholders took place to identify the needs of industry. The Board of Directors held a strategic planning session in June of 2012. An environmental scan, discussions and a workshop identified the SATCC strategic goals and directions for 2012 to 2017.

The strategic plan goals fill the gaps to create a stronger and more efficient apprenticeship system for Saskatchewan. It will meet the labour demands of industry and the growth in the Saskatchewan economy.

The SATCC Board of Directors approved the strategic plan in late September and it will soon be released on the SATCC website.

New CEO To Lead the SATCC

The SATCC Board announced Jeff Ritter as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Commission, effective September 1, 2012.

Jeff has extensive experience in strategy development, finance and organizational performance management in Saskatchewan's public service. Prior to

coming to the SATCC, he was responsible for delivering PRIME, the Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy's Process Renewal and Infrastructure Management Enhancement project, which is a multi-year, multi-project, multi-million dollar program to renew the ministry's oil and gas business processes and supporting technology.

The SATCC Board of Directors established a board sub-committee to conduct the national search for a CEO. The board was pleased to offer the position to Jeff, who calls Saskatchewan home.

Ritter will succeed former CEO, Joe Black who has led the SATCC during a period of exceptional growth and innovation over the past five years by generating greater awareness of the apprenticeship system. Joe will facilitate the transition over the next several months.

New Director of Corporate Services

Garth Herbert joined the SATCC in the capacity of Director, Corporate Services starting September 1, 2012. He replaces Lillie Wong, who has been a key contributor to the apprenticeship team for the last 10 years.

Garth came from the Ministry of Health where he was the Director of Financial Compliance and Internal Audit. He obtained his Chartered Accountant designation with Ernst & Young and has worked at various companies including PCL Construction, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool (now Viterra) and the City of Regina. He also spent a few years in the Provincial Comptroller's Office in the Ministry of Finance.

The Commissions welcomes Garth and bids a fond farewell to Lillie Wong as she begins a new phase in her life.

New Director of Communications and Marketing

Julie Folk joined the SATCC as the new Director of Communications and Marketing. Julie has a background in journalism and communications. She previously was the editor of two Saskatchewan magazines, including Adrenaline Regina Sports and You're Home, published by the *Leader-Post*. She was a co-author of *Saskatchewan Roughriders: The First 100 Years* and author of *Wascana at 100*. Julie also worked as a freelance journalist. Some of her previous work includes profiles of apprentices and journeypersons in Saskatchewan.

Lean Initiative – Process Mapping

The SATCC initiative to map all processes and seek operational efficiencies was completed. Staff members identified a number of key time and effort saving modifications, many of which have been implemented. Significant time savings have been achieved in several document handling areas. To date, the results have been very positive. A number of technology assisted enhancements will require further research to determine the resources required. The Commission has a plan in place to continue to integrate lean initiatives in programming and activities.

Graduates Receive Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) Industry Scholarships

Eighty high school graduates with career aspirations in the skilled trades were each awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) Industry Scholarship Program.

<http://www.gov.sk.ca/news?newsId=aec110e2-18a8-4a68-a96b-cd04229b1bc8>

The scholarships provide financial benefits to the graduates and motivate them to explore careers in the skilled trades.

The scholarships were initiated in 2009-10 through industry partners and the SATCC. As of July 17, 2012, 32 industry partners, including business owners, labour organizations, and two provincial government agencies have contributed \$677,000 to the scholarship fund.

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.

Currently, 265 schools are registered in the SYA Program, with more than 3,500 students participating. Since the SYA Program's inception in 2006-07, over 11,300 students in grades 10-12 have registered and more than 3,700 have completed the program and received certificates. Of this total, 475 have registered as Saskatchewan apprentices. To date, 36 participants have achieved journeyman status.

Aboriginal Apprenticeship Initiatives

Each year, the SATCC dedicates funding to programming which will support Aboriginal or Métis apprentices, enhance career education, and deliver direct training. The program has run for several years now and has helped many Aboriginal people to develop careers in the skilled trades.

This year, SATCC has approved eight new projects under this initiative. Training will begin in the fall of 2012, and continue through the winter at a variety of locations around Saskatchewan. This is a project-driven program, with a number of Aboriginal bands and other organizations participating in a selection of trades.

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 Peer Review process along with the Action Reports have been completed. This bank is in final translation and quality control.
- Mobile Crane Operator (Hydraulic) – A successful item bank workshop was held in June 2012 in Ottawa.

- Agricultural Machinery Technician – An item bank is scheduled for January 2013.
- Roofer - An item bank is scheduled for February 2013.

Communications and Marketing

- The SATCC helped to host the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum 2012 National Apprenticeship Conference in Regina June 3-5, 2012.
- The website was refreshed and reorganized.
- In follow-up to the active SATCC Facebook page, Twitter was added to the SATCC's social media reach as an effective means of communications to reach a wide variety of audiences. The SATCC can be followed at @SKApprentice.
- The twelfth Annual Apprenticeship Awards will be held in Regina on November 9th. The Awards honour the accomplishments of new journeypersons and recognize outstanding achievements in apprenticeship and trade certification.