

July 20, 2016

Dear Employment Ontario Service Provider:

I am writing to share information about two recent developments related to our ministry.

### **Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development**

As many of you will know, on June 13, the Honourable Deb Matthews was appointed as our minister and our ministry name changed to – Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (AESD).

I am very excited about the appointment of Minister Matthews. I've had the pleasure of getting to know her at Treasury Board meetings, and I can tell she is very interested to hear about the incredible work we do to ensure that Employment Ontario helps her constituents get the education and training they need to succeed in a modern economy.

As we wait for the Order of Council to formally declare a name change for our ministry, we are moving ahead to prepare for that transition. You will notice the new name appearing on forms, correspondence and other ministry-related communication materials. Changes to public-facing documents may take a bit of time, as we work to ensure websites, program marketing materials, and Employment Ontario signage reflect the new name. As always, we will keep you informed of new developments as soon as we can.

As is evident in this [news backgrounder](#) from the announcement, this name change signals the high-profile important public priority our ministry has been tasked with and the exciting work ahead for us. The change to our ministry name is consistent with a number of ministries in other jurisdictions across Canada who are also responsible for employment and training. Overall, our work remains largely unchanged and on track as we continue to improve the programs and services we provide to Ontarians.

### **Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report**

In addition, I'd like to bring to your attention that the Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce (HSW) Expert Panel released its report, [Building the Workforce of Tomorrow: A Shared Responsibility](#). The report makes recommendations on how the province can build on its world-class skills, education and training system to prepare the workforce to meet the demands of a technology-driven knowledge economy.

Specifically, our ministry will be focusing on recommendations related to:

- Labour market information;
- Experiential learning and mentorship, including apprenticeship, post-secondary education, and adult learners;
- Skills and competencies (e.g., development of an Ontario-specific framework);
- Strategic investment in human capital; and,
- More flexible labour market transfers.

Many of the report's insights are directly related to the work we do in the Employment and Training Division (ETD). Because of this, we will be playing a significant role in supporting the development of the highly skilled workforce strategy.

These new developments highlight how critical ETD's work is to the government's economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. I look forward to continuing to work with you, our service delivery partners, towards these very important goals.

Sincerely,

***Original signed by***

David Fulford  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Employment and Training Division