

March 27, 2018

Dear Employment Ontario partners:

We are pleased to share an update regarding the Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) improvement and expansion and our continued collaboration with the LBS network.

Procurement of Consultant

The ministry has procured the services of Blueprint-ADE, in partnership with ARD Consulting, to provide ongoing facilitation, support, and strategic advice to the Steering Committee, Working Tables, and Reference Groups. Blueprint will be responsible for scheduling meetings, preparing materials, and facilitating communication between the LBS Improvement and Expansion Steering Committee, Working Tables, and Reference Groups.

Blueprint is a non-profit, mission-driven, research organization that has experience with numerous transformation projects including several focused on employment and skills development. We are excited to have Blueprint supporting the LBS Improvement and Expansion work.

Steering Committee, Working Tables and Reference Groups Update

In February, the Steering Committee held its second meeting. The committee is currently focused on developing a vision statement that will provide strategic direction for the Working Tables and Reference Groups. The next Steering Committee meeting is expected in spring 2018.

In February, we also held a kick-off meeting with the Working Table and Reference Group co-chairs and Blueprint. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the role of the co-chairs and expectations and workflow for the Working Tables and Reference Groups.

Blueprint is in the process of scheduling the first meetings for Working Table 1: Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework and Learner Assessment, and Working Table 2: Organizational Capacity and Professional Development in early April.

Meetings for Working Table 3: Modes of Delivery and Footprint of Services and Reference Group 1: Rebranding, Marketing, Awareness and Communications will be

scheduled soon after the first two Tables meet. Reference Group 2: Funding and Performance Management is scheduled to begin in July.

Communication

As was mentioned in previous updates, the ministry will continue to seek input and feedback from the LBS network as well as other stakeholders such as learners, employers, municipalities, advocacy groups, and academics throughout the year. Communication will also include scheduled updates to the network on the work of the Steering Committee, Working Tables, and Reference Groups.

For more information on the role and activities of each of the Working Tables and Reference Groups, please refer to the [Call for Participation Reference Group](#) memo from November 2017.

We look forward to your continued partnership and support as we move forward together with this important work.

Original signed by

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and
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