

**Ministry of Training,
Colleges and Universities**

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 326-1600
Facsimile (416) 326-1656

**Ministère de la Formation
et des Collèges et Universités**

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 326-1600
Télécopieur (416) 326-1656



April 29, 2009

Dear Apprenticeship Stakeholder,

As you know, my ministry is coordinating the implementation of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) in Ontario, and on behalf of the Ontario government I would like to thank you for your organization's contribution to this important project. I also want to take this opportunity to update you on our plans for the next few months.

Premiers across Canada support full labour mobility to help us meet current and future labour market demands. For Ontario workers, it will provide more freedom to move across Canada to work where they choose or where opportunities exist.

As part of the implementation of AIT, provinces and territories across Canada are required to introduce legislation which, if passed, will allow all regulatory authorities to make the necessary changes in certification practices to remove barriers to full labour mobility. Ontario plans to introduce legislation soon. Our discussions with you about implementation will continue during the legislative process and over the coming months as Ontario prepares to move to full labour mobility.

Ontario sees the Red Seal Program as a model for labour mobility and common inter-provincial standards that we should strive to adopt for other occupations. Our labour mobility provisions attempt to strike a balance between ensuring full mobility for all certified workers in the skilled trades through the AIT and the Red Seal program while supporting and preserving Ontario's high standards.

For the non-Red Seal trades, certified workers in trades that have been matched across jurisdictions would be entitled to certification in the same trade in the new jurisdiction. We have been working through the industry advisory committees for these trades to determine matches, where feasible and acceptable.

.../2

Through the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship, the Ontario government will continue to support industry in maintaining and enhancing the Red Seal Program as the Canadian standard of excellence for training and certification in the skilled trades. The CCDA is continuing its work to expand the Red Seal program and Ontario looks forward to participating in new Red Seal trades.

I want to thank you once again for your contributions to this process. I look forward to continuing to work with you as we develop and implement a system for full labour mobility in Ontario.

Sincerely,

John Milloy
Minister

c: