

Memorandum To: Youth Job Connection (YJC) Service Providers

From: Jacqueline Cureton
Director
Employment and Training Division
Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development

Date: July 18, 2017

Subject: **Employment Ontario (EO) Youth Employment Reference Group**

As part of the ministry's commitment to service quality, the ministry is establishing an Employment Ontario (EO) Youth Employment Reference Group. This group will provide a mechanism for dialogue on policy and operational issues related to the delivery and continuous improvement of employment programs that serve youth including Youth Job Connection (YJC), Youth Job Connection Summer (YJCS), Youth Job Link (YJL) and the Employment Service (ES).

The reference group will have a mandate to provide input, advice and feedback on various aspects of youth employment programs and services; to highlight service provider challenges and areas of potential program improvement; to share and support the dissemination of service delivery best practices and promising approaches; and, to identify linkages and opportunities for collaboration and alignment with other youth-focused initiatives.

Participation on the reference group will include YJC service providers, a youth representative from the Premier's Council on Youth Opportunities, youth umbrella organizations, employers, the Ontario Centre for Workforce Innovation, intra-ministerial partners, and ministry staff.

The criteria for service provider selection in the Employment Ontario (EO) Youth Employment Reference Group are broad and will ensure diverse representation from across the province, including small and large service providers, non-Employment Service (ES) providers as well as Indigenous and Francophone service providers.

While we are unable to accommodate all YJC service providers in this process, you are encouraged to continue to provide program feedback through your ongoing dialogue with ministry staff. Your feedback is a valuable resource and is an integral part of making program improvements. All input from our stakeholders is either reviewed at the operational level through the regional offices or through working groups and other committees on which service providers sit.

The first meeting of the Employment Ontario (EO) Youth Employment Reference Group will be held in the autumn of 2017. Invitations will be forwarded to selected service providers in the next few weeks to secure their availability.

If you have any questions, please contact your Employment and Training Consultant.

Jacqueline Cureton

Director

Employment and Training Division

Cc: Mary Joe Freire, Western Region Director

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