

**Ministry of Advanced Education  
and Skills Development**

Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et  
de la Formation professionnelle

Employment and Training Division

Division de l'emploi et de la formation

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August 26, 2016

Dear Employment Ontario Service Provider,

I am writing to update you on a number of Open Data initiatives that the Employment and Training Division (ETD) is working on this year.

Open Data is a global movement that supports the public release and sharing of raw data held by public and private organizations. Making data open enhances innovation through collaboration and promotes accountability and transparency.

**Open Data Inventory**

On August 4, 2016, Ontario's Treasury Board began releasing a government-wide Open Data Inventory to the public. This inventory is being released in stages, and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development's (AESD's) inventory is scheduled to be published in September. Within the AESD's inventory, there are 65 entries covering data belonging to ETD. This includes data on all ETD programs, and general administration. The inventory provides a general overview of the types of data we collect, and potential restrictions (e.g., client confidentiality) on the release of data.

**Release of Datasets**

As part of the Open Data initiative, ETD is preparing five datasets for publication this fall. The datasets include:

- Employment Service Performance by Individual Service Provider Site for 2015-16
- Budget Allocations and Expenditures by Program by Individual Service Provider for 2015-16
- Employment Service Client Profiles and Outcomes, aggregated for 2015-16
- Canada-Ontario Job Grant Application Details for 2015-16
- Enhanced Employment Ontario Annual Datasets prepared for Local Boards/Local Employment Planning Councils

Details on the datasets are being finalised and will be shared at a later date.

Going forward, ETD is committed to updating these datasets on an annual basis. The Open Data team will also be preparing a schedule for the release of additional datasets

over the next several years. We will let you know when particular datasets will be published on the Open Data Catalogue through Employment Ontario Partner's Gateway.

These Open Data initiatives will not impose any additional administrative burden on service providers. However, it is important to keep in mind that much of the data currently collected will become publicly available as Open Data, so maintaining high standards of data quality remains vital.

By making our data open, we are enhancing transparency and accountability regarding the \$1 billion we spend annually on employment and training programs. Having this data publicly available will also enhance business planning and spark increased interest in the programs and services we provide.

As we move forward on Open Data, I know that I can count on your support for these important initiatives.

Sincerely,

***Original signed by***

David Fulford  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Employment and Training Division