



Minutes

Agricultural Equipment Technician Trade Board Meeting

April 9, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
Fanshawe College, Motive Power Division,
1764 Oxford Street East, Room Z1029
London, ON N5V 2Z5

Trade Board Members in Attendance

Robert Brown, Chair
Harvey Fraser
Todd Rudavsky
Bryan Long

Trade Board Members not in Attendance

Byron Lindner

Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance

Anson Bailey, Fanshawe College

Staff in Attendance

Alice Power, Program Coordinator

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. Bryan Long was introduced as the new member.

2. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION MADE BY T. Rudavsky SECONDED BY H. Fraser AND CARRIED, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Previous Minutes

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY H. Fraser and SECONDED BY T. Rudavsky AND CARRIED, the draft minutes of the Trade Board's October 9, 2013 meeting were approved as tabled.

5. Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship Training Standard - Update on Revision

The French version of the Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship Training Standard was validated in February 2014. The revised Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship Training Standard will be released at the beginning of May 2014. The decision was made to wait until the OCOT introduction for Training Standards is approved so it can be added to the Agricultural Equipment Technician Apprenticeship Training Standard.

6. College of Trades Update

6.1 The Registrar's Report

The Registrar's Report was reviewed and discussed by Trade Board members. It was mentioned that the Registrar's Reports are posted on the website, as are the Board of Governors' Records of Board Decisions.

6.2 Membership

The Trade Board was updated on changes in the College's Member Services department to improve customer service. Some of the changes include increasing hours of operation staff (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) and training and systems enhancements. Information was also provided regarding registering multiple apprentices and scheduling exams.

6.3 Deemed Apprentices

The letter from Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities dated February 21, 2014 to sponsors of deemed apprentices, was distributed to the Board. Deemed apprentices are required to pay a membership fee to the Ontario College of Trades as of April 8, 2014. If apprentices fail to renew their membership by April 8, 2014, their College membership will expire and their registered training agreement will be cancelled.

6.4 Enforcement Update

An update on the current work of the Compliance and Enforcement division was provided. There are currently 42 Enforcement Officers and two Court Officers. 5,947 field inspections have been conducted across the Province, including 3,376 field visits in the Motive Power sector.

6.5 Communications & Marketing Update

A brief overview of the College's communications and marketing activities was provided, including updates on website enhancements and the introduction of a quarterly newsletter.

Members discussed the need for the College to promote the value of membership for voluntary trades. A report was provided on the new Affinity program that is to be offered by the College, including discounted individual and commercial insurance and other benefit programs. Members also discussed ways in which individuals and employers could indicate that they are members of the College (e.g. decals, signs, or use of the College logo in some cases).

6.6 Scope of Practice

The Program Coordinator provided an update on the Scopes of Practice Framework Review project, noting that the project has been placed on hold for the time being.

She also advised that a trade classification review of Construction Millwright is in progress. It was noted that the Scope of Practice for this trade includes the following:

4. Rigging and moving heavy equipment and machinery;
5. Placing, setting and aligning heavy equipment.

It was reported that the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Trade Board were concerned about the potential overlap of the skills in the Construction Millwright's Scope of Practice and the fact that these are not clearly defined in the Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Scope of Practice.

6.7 Trade Equivalency Assessment

The College will assume responsibility for processing Trade Equivalency Assessments (TEA) and credentials validation from the Ministry of Training, College and Universities on April 9, 2014. The TEA process and fees were presented to the Board.

7. Divisional Board Update

Members were sent the draft Minutes of the September 16, 2014 Motive Power Divisional Board meeting. Members were informed that any approved Minutes from the most recent Divisional Board meeting will be sent to them.

8. Program Update

The Program Coordinator provided members with apprentice statistics from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities for the period April-December 2013 period, as well as apprentice statistics from the College for the period April 2013-March 2014.

A discussion also took place regarding the eligibility of apprentices for employment insurance.

9. Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) Update

A. Bailey reported that there were 19 level-1 students this past winter session at Fanshawe College: 16 of the students were Agricultural Equipment Technicians and 3 were Heavy Duty Equipment Technicians.

It was reported that Kemptville College (University of Guelph) is closing two of the campuses. This means that there will only be one Training Delivery Agent (TDA) for Agricultural Equipment Technician. Members expressed concern that without accessibility to a College in the Eastern Region of the Province, apprentices and dealers may be reluctant to send their apprentices to school. Members indicated that it is essential that there be TDA in the Eastern Region. The Board questioned if Algonquin College would consider offering the program. It was suggested that Fanshawe could partner with Algonquin. The Program Coordinator agreed to inform Canada East Equipment Dealers' Association (CEEDA) of the Trade Board's concerns in this regard.

The Trade Board discussed the broad nature of the Scope of Practice of the Agricultural Equipment Technician (AET) trade, noting that a greater diversity of equipment and technology exists in the AET trade than in both the Automotive Service Technician and Truck and Coach trades.

It was noted that agricultural equipment implements and harvesting equipment are not covered in any portion of the in-school training. It was suggested that the AET apprenticeship curriculum should be similar in structure to the John Deere program.

Given that the number of AET apprentices entering the program annually remains consistent and that only one TDA currently exists for the Trade, the Trade Board recommends running separate curriculum for all three levels of the in-school program.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY H. Fraser, SECONDED BY B. Long AND CARRIED, the Trade Board recommends that the in-school curriculum for the Agricultural Equipment Technician trade be separated from the common-core Commercial Vehicle and Equipment curriculum for level 1 and level 2.

10. Election of Vice-Chair

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY R. Brown, SECONDED BY T. Rudavsky AND CARRIED, Bryan Long was elected Vice-Chair of the Trade Board.

11. Industry Update

The Trade Board discussed various issues and trends in the Industry.

12. Next Scheduled Meeting and Location

The next meeting was set for July 23, 2014 with the following meeting to be in either October or November.

13. Adjournment

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY R. Brown, SECONDED BY T. Rudavsky AND CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned.

“Robert Brown”

Robert Brown, Chair

July 23, 2014

Date