



Minutes

Facilities Mechanic/Technician

Trade Board Meeting

January 17, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
Holiday Inn, Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street

Trade Board Members in Attendance

Brian Wylds, Chair
William Hayes, Vice-Chair
David Gervais
Peter Cheung

Trade Board Members not in Attendance

Leon Portelance
Andrew Crawford

Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance

Jim Preece
Georges Corbeil

Staff in Attendance

Joseph Pyringer, Program Coordinator

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed resource person G. Corbeil. Guest J. Preece arrived at 10:00 a.m., his scheduled arrival time.

2. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION MADE, SECONDED BY AND CARRIED, the agenda was approved as amended.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Previous Minutes

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY W. Hayes, SECONDED BY P. Cheung AND CARRIED, the draft minutes of the Trade Board's October 4, 2013 meeting are approved as tabled.

5. Update on Trade Board Resolutions & Issues

- 5.1** Under 7.3 (Point 2) regarding the meeting between BOMI and BOMA, they are still confirming arrangements on how to deliver future training.
- 5.2** Regarding the PM Expo, it was too late to arrange a presentation but it was noted that the Trade Board will have to make the arrangements around March of 2014 for the next event. G. Corbeil will look into arranging this.
- 5.3** Seneca College is interested in the Facilities Technician program at Algonquin College. The apprentices work for four days and take one day of school per week over the duration of two years. Algonquin College is teaching the apprenticeship curriculum.
- 5.4** Regarding the Canadian Health Care Engineering Society (CHES), the Trade Board will continue to look into arranging a presentation to this group on apprenticeships to take place at the Ontario Provincial Trade Show & Education Forum on May 25-27, 2014. G. Corbeil will look into arranging this.
- 5.5** The Trade Board members felt that the misinformation in many news articles is hurting the advancement of the College and the College needs to be more effective in responding to this misinformation and accelerating the proper mandate of the College.

6. College of Trades Update

- 6.1** Trade Board Member Privacy: Program Coordinator will send Expense Claim forms to the Trade Board members who will now be responsible to complete, scan, and submit them to the Program Coordinator, along with any required receipts.
- 6.2** Scope of Practice report: Program Coordinator informed the Trade Board that this framework project is now on hold. If a Trade Board wants to change its scope of practice, the Ontario College of Trades will now consider this on a trade-by-trade basis.
- 6.3** Apprentice/Employer Tax Incentives: Program Coordinator handed out a list of Apprenticeship Tax Incentives for both employers and apprentices.
- 6.4** OCOT/MTCU Apprenticeship Responsibilities: Program Coordinator handed out a sheet providing a snapshot of OCOT and MTCU Apprenticeship Responsibilities. In response to a question, the Program Coordinator agreed to look into the amount of money allocated to the promotion of the trades and whether or not there is a set amount for trades or trade boards to use for trades promotion.
- 6.5** Enforcement: Program Coordinator gave an update on enforcement.

7. Program Update

- 7.1** J. Preece from BOMI attended at 10:00 a.m. to hear the concerns of Trade Board members who would like to see industry participate more in apprenticeships.
- 7.2** J. Preece mentioned that BOMI Canada provides training for Property Management and

Property Facilities Management. He has been with BOMI for about 3.5 years. BOMI is on the employer's side, and were interested in courses and felt that BOMI courses fill about 80% of their needs. There was a need to go back to square one and see what industry needs are, so they met in October 2013 for two days. They produced a document on what the job will entail, and they focused on the basics, but also specifics in three tiers: "How to do a task" like replacing filters, "Trouble Shooting", and the third tier is more specific to "System Devices and Management."

- 7.3** A discussion followed with respect to industry's willingness to invest in training; difficulties attracting people to the trade; the need to promote the trade as a desirable career path; the delivery of apprentice training by multiple agencies; the possibility of a "Building Operator" Red Seal program if five provinces agree on such; the effectiveness of Co-op programs at high schools; and the value of consolidating the two trades (Facilities Mechanic and Facilities Technician) into one trade called "Building Operator" and working with industry in other provinces to create a national Red Seal trade.

It was noted that the use of various trade names and program and course names in the industry creates a problem when trying to educate people who are doing their career search and trying to decide which trade to pursue. The name Building Operator seems to come up quite often in the industry and describes the trade more effectively. It was suggested that the two trades be consolidated into one Building Operator trade and use the industry information that BOMI has recently developed nationally with industry stakeholders to help develop a new Training and Curriculum Standard.

There was discussion on why the two trades were separated in the first place. It was noted that there is a difference in a Building Operator job and a Plant Operator job. The plant operator is seen as a different job from Power Engineering, which is a named trade in other provinces. The Power Engineer does not leave the boilers; the Plant Operator monitors all the controls they are responsible for.

A discussion followed regarding classroom vs. practical training; the use of on-line training; and work release programs (school one day per week and work four days per week).

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY B. Wylds, SECONDED BY D. Gervais AND CARRIED, the Trade Board recommends to the Industrial Divisional Board that the two trades of Facilities Mechanic and Facilities Technician be renamed "Building Operator", thereby combining the Training and Curriculum Standards of both previous trades into the single Building Operator trade.

There was a comment that "Building Operator" is a well-known name, is used nationally, is easily identifiable, and describes the trade well, especially nationally. It was noted there are no journey-person-apprentice ratios in these trades. The Trade Board feels that, by consolidating the names of the two trades into one trade called Building Operator, they will be able to more effectively generate buy-in from industry nationally, create more interest in apprenticeship, and ultimately develop a new national Red Seal program.

8. INDUSTRY UPDATE

- 8.1** G. Corbeil has been working on a website for eight years and it is now completed. It uses

crossword puzzles to help apprentices learn the terminologies used in the Facilities Mechanic and Facilities Technician trades: www.gcorbeil.ca

- 8.2 Ice Storm and related power failures kept facilities crews very busy.
- 8.3 ASHRAE is holding a job fair, a portion of which is specific to Building Operators, organized by Honeywell. Kyla Ross, Project Coordinator, Centre for the Built Environment at Seneca College, is coordinating this event at 81 Chestnut St., Toronto from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2014. Contact is Peter Turk, pturk@victaulic.com
- 8.4 The Canadian Mechanical and Plumbing Expo will take place March 19- 21, 2014 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. West: <http://www.cmxshow.com/index.cfm>
- 8.5 The Chair asked that E. Dicedico of St. Clair College be invited to the next meeting.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting/Event

The Chair confirmed that the next meeting of the Trade Board is scheduled for April 25, 2014.

10. Adjournment

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY D. Gervais SECONDED BY P. Cheung AND CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned.

“Brian Wylds”

Brian Wylds, Chair

April 25, 2014

Date