



Minutes

Heavy Equipment Operator Trade Board Meeting

January 23, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.
SW (Sandman Signature) Hotel, Huron Room
5400 Dixie Road,
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 4T4

Trade Board Members in Attendance

Ken Williams, Chair
Virgil Nose
Phil Robinson
Kyle Shack
Angelo Savoia

Trade Board Members not in Attendance

Eric MacDonald

Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance

None

Staff in Attendance

Risa Abella, Program Coordinator¹

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chair and Program Coordinator welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Program Coordinator distributed hard copies of the agenda for review prior to requesting approval. A discussion point related to the process for designating a new Red Seal trade (in relation to Concrete Pump Operator) was added to the agenda. **ON A MOTION MADE BY V. Nose, SECONDED BY K. Shack AND CARRIED**, the agenda was approved as amended.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Previous Minutes

The Program Coordinator distributed hard copies of the minutes for review.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY V. Nose, SECONDED BY P. Robinson AND CARRIED, the draft minutes of the Trade Board’s October 17, 2014 meeting were approved as tabled.

5. Trade Board Resolutions and Issues Update

1.1 New Trade Development – Grader

Following the October 17, 2014 meeting, the Program Coordinator triaged the recommendation from the Trade Board that a provincial trade of “Grader” should be developed. As a follow up to this matter, the Program Coordinator advised that the process related to new trade development is on hold until after the Dean Review.

1.2 Practical Examinations

Following the October 17, 2014 meeting (item 13.1 from the October minutes), the Program Coordinator triaged the recommendation from the Trade Board that practical examinations should be further considered for all four trades under this trade board (the Trade Board discussed DOST, accommodation and Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) requirements). The Program Coordinator agreed to discuss next steps with designated staff person assigned to practical examinations and prepare materials for review at the next Trade Board meeting.

6. Red Seal Program

The Program Coordinator provided the following further updates related to the changes to the Red Seal endorsements for the three heavy equipment trades and Ontario’s transition to participating in these programs:

6.1 Program Changes to the Red Seal Heavy Equipment Operator Endorsement/Next Steps The Program Coordinator provided further follow up information on the status of the new Red Seal endorsements for the Heavy Equipment Operator trades including:

- As Ontario transitions toward participating in the Red Seal endorsements, further discussions need to take place in relation to a communication plan on these changes and Ontario’s participation, as well as options for trade equivalency assessment (TEA) for those interested in obtaining certification outside of the apprenticeship program and obtaining their Red Seal. The Program Coordinator will continue to bring this information to the Trade Board and seek their input on draft items. Suggestions from the Trade Board included a 3-year grace period during which individuals (TEA applicants and apprentices) have the opportunity to receive a provincial C of Q if they are not interested in writing the exam to receive the Red Seal endorsement. The Program Coordinator asked the Trade Board to start thinking about important stakeholders who should be part of this communication plan.
- The Trade Board confirmed that participation will support Ministry of Labour requirements for proof of training in these sectors as well as support a more mobile and competent workforce.

6.2 Red Seal Item Bank Workshops

- Notice was sent to stakeholders to identify interested individuals for the Item Bank Workshops. As a result of the responses, four individuals from the sector will be attending the Red Seal Item Bank workshop in Ottawa from February 9 to 13, 2015 with the Program Coordinator to represent Ontario as either instructors or subject matter experts (SMEs) and assist with the drafting of the new examinations for HEO-Excavator. The Program Coordinator also reminded the Trade Board that there will be 2 other Item Bank workshops

in Ottawa (March and April 2015) for Tractor Loader Backhoe (March 9 to 13, 2015) and Dozer (date to be determined – likely end of April). The Program Coordinator will require additional SMEs and instructors to participate in those workshops and is seeking volunteers/referrals from industry.

- The Program Coordinator also advised that individuals who can participate in French translation workshops will eventually be required.

7. Concrete Pump Operator C of Q Exam Development

The Program Coordinator and participating members of the Trade Board who are also on the working group (P. Robinson, K. Williams and V. Nose) provided an update on the progress of the development of provincial C of Q exams for Concrete Pump Operator. The working group last met on January 22, 2015. The working group is midway through the development process and will meet again in March 2015. Upon completion of the draft exams, the Program Coordinator will set up a peer review process to be followed by French translation. Until that point, the Program Coordinator confirmed that there have been a significant number of TEA application submissions for this trade. Upon release of the examinations, a communication plan similar to the transition to Red Seal for the HEO trades will also have to be done for this trade.

8. Concrete Pump Hours Guideline correction

The Program Coordinator confirmed that the mistake related to the hours guidelines for the concrete pump operator trade has been corrected on the master list. The guideline for concrete pump operator (which is a competency-based trade) is 2000 on the job and 159 in-school hours. The assessment department at the College has been notified of this correction for the purpose of TEA applications. A draft notice has been done for MTCU and is awaiting approval.

9. Revisions to the Schedule of Training documents for 636A, 636B and 636C

The Program Coordinator confirmed that these documents are tentatively on the list for updating for 2015. The Trade Board suggested that a spring 2015 workshop would be a good starting time to be followed up by some fall dates if required.

10. Process for Designating a new Red Seal trade

As per prior discussions related to the Concrete Pump Operator trade, the Program Coordinator introduced the Trade Board to the process for designating a new Red Seal trade focusing on the process requirements as well as supporting requirements from other jurisdictions (a total of 5 jurisdictions are required at a minimum). The Trade Board will continue with this discussion and will speak to counterparts in other jurisdictions to get their thoughts and feedback in relation to viability. The Trade Board suggested that British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland are probably the best options. The Program Coordinator will send the Red Seal link to the members for further distribution and discussion.

11. College of Trades Update

The Program Coordinator provided general updates from the College.

12. Program Update

The Program Coordinator provided a statistics update on all four programs up to the end of December 2014. The trade statistics on apprenticeship numbers appear to indicate higher than typical numbers for all four trades in comparison to previous years. Another highlight included the journey person numbers for Concrete Pump Operator as a result of the influx of TEA applications.

13. Next Scheduled Meeting/Event

The Trade Board meeting will tentatively take place on May 8, 2015.

14. Other Business

14.1 New financial incentives/supports: The Program Coordinator provided an update on a couple of new financial incentives /supports for apprentices and employers. The Program Coordinator agreed to send updated resource information sheets and links to the Trade Board on both the Canada Ontario Jobs Grant and the Canada Apprentice Loan.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

Ken Williams, Chair

Date

i Recording Officer