



# Minutes

## Horticultural Technician Trade Board Meeting

October 23, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.  
The Ontario College of Trades  
655 Bay St. Suite 600  
Toronto, ON M5G 2K4

### **Trade Board Members in Attendance**

John Soychak, Chair  
Sally Harvey  
Martin Mostert  
Xin Hui Peng  
Richard Rogers

### **Trade Board Members not in Attendance**

Nadia Blackburn, Vice-Chair

### **Resource Persons/Guests in Attendance**

Mark Graves, Humber College

### **Staff in Attendance**

Alice Power, Program Coordinator<sup>1</sup>

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#### **1. Call to Order/Welcome**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed M. Graves.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

**ON A MOTION MADE BY R. Rogers SECONDED BY X. Peng AND CARRIED**, the agenda was approved as presented.

#### **3. Conflict of Interest**

None

#### **4. Previous Minutes**

**ON A MOTION MADE BY R. Rogers, SECONDED BY X. Peng AND CARRIED**, the minutes of the March 20, 2015 meeting were approved as presented.

## **5. Tax Credit**

It was reported that a follow-up letter was sent by the Service Divisional Board to the Deputy Minister of Finance in May 2015 that advocated for the majority of Service Sector trades to be eligible for the Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit (ATTC).

## **6. Tony Dean Review**

The Reviewer's update for the months of June, July and August were shared with the Trade Board. S. Harvey presented Landscape Ontario's (LO) submission to the Dean Review with the Trade Board. The Trade Board had a lengthy discussion about the submission. It was noted that Mr. Dean is considering the potential for voluntary trades to select and request compulsory status for certain elements of their Scope of Practices (SoP). This would be an alternative to the current "all or nothing" approach to SOPs in the trade classification review process.

## **7. College of Trades Update**

### **7.1. Registrar's Report**

The 2015 Third Quarter Registrar's report was provided to the Trade Board.

### **7.2. Membership**

The Trade Board was briefed on the most recent membership numbers in the College. It was reported that there was a slight increase at the end of the third quarter of 2015, with a total of 230,732 active members in the College.

It was noted that the Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) has been reformatted to provide a landscape view. For applicable trades, the CofQ will have a Red Seal endorsement sticker affixed to it. There will also be new wallet cards issued which will include measures to impede fraud.

### **7.3. Compliance and Enforcement**

A brief update on Compliance and Enforcement activities was presented. It was reported that 10 new Enforcement Officers were hired in the first quarter. This will provide more College presence throughout the province and will help to address the increase in complaints and incidents being reported.

College staff has been working with the Complaints Committee of the Board of Governors to develop a streamlined process for handling formal complaints about members of the College. With respect to the Registration Appeals Committee, it was noted that many of the appeals requested are from Journeyman Candidates requesting more time to prepare for writing their exam.

### **7.4 Communications and Marketing**

An overview of Communication and Marketing's recent activities were highlighted for the Trade Board. It was noted that the focus of the activities has been on increasing the perception of the value of membership in the College, promoting pride of profession and promoting skilled trades as a viable career option.

The College's new brochure "Discover Ontario's Skilled Trades" was distributed to the Trade Board.

It was reported that there was a steady increase in web activity on the main College website noting in particular the increase in readers of the Fall Trade's today magazine. The College also partnered with CHCH Morning Live and each month a different trade professional will be profiled. During the

second quarter, the profiles featured an Auto Body and Collision Damage Repairer, a Baker-Patisserie and Mobile Crane Operator.

The new video on the youth website, [earnwhileyoulearn.ca](http://earnwhileyoulearn.ca), called “Tune in Trade Up” and a video on the main website called ‘Veterans and Skilled Trades’ were presented to the Trade Board.

### **7.5 Evaluation and Assessment Update**

It was reported that the Evaluation and Assessment Department is participating in a project to make provincial and territorial Foreign Qualification Recognition processes more consistent through the development of an optimal assessment model.

## **8. Service Divisional Board Update**

A brief update on the Service Divisional Board’s spring meetings included an update on the College’s efforts to engage barbers in College membership and the Service Divisional Board’s approval of revised Child Development Practitioner (CDP) curriculum that includes an additional 30 hours for a new course on Child Protection.

It was noted that the Appointments Council is always seeking applicants for membership on the Service Divisional Board and Board of Governors in order to have a roster of candidates to draw upon. Trade Board members were encouraged to consider applying for one of these positions.

## **9. Program Update**

### **9.1. Membership Statistics**

The Program Coordinator provided College membership statistics for the period April 8, 2013 to September 30, 2015.

### **9.3. Red Seal Program Update**

The new National Occupational Analysis (NOA) has been reviewed and validated by Ontario and the suggestions for revisions have been submitted. The Item Bank to develop new examination items is taking place November 30-December 4, 2015, to be followed by the editing workshop on January 5-7, 2016.

### **9.3. Harmonization/RSOS Pilot**

It was reported that one of the Canadian Council of Directors or Apprenticeship’s strategic initiatives is to harmonize jurisdictional requirements, processes, and tools for apprenticeship training and certification to enhance mobility and increase apprenticeship completion rates.

## **10. Industry Update**

The Program Coordinator will follow up with S. Harvey and request an update on the activities of Landscape Ontario (LO). The report will be distributed to the Trade Board. LO would be willing to distribute marketing information on behalf of the College. The Trade Board indicated that there would be merit for the College to have a separate booth at the LO Congress in January 2016 as well as at Canada Blooms in March 2016. The theme of the LO Gardens is “Chose your path”. LO is preparing a document with all of the pathways that individuals can get into a horticultural career.

It was reported that the new Green Careers Canada Website is to be launched at the LO Congress 2016. This is a partnership with LO and the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association (CNLA). It is a site for youth and parents and provides a secure portal for educators.

The group formerly known as “HOSTA”, comprised of secondary & post-secondary educators, has been renamed the “Horticulture Educators Association” and will meet next on November 6, 2015.

**11. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next meeting of the Trade Board was scheduled for March 11, 2016 at the Direct Energy Centre at Exhibition Place in Toronto.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

“John Soychak”

John Soychak, Chair

March 11, 2016

Date

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<sup>1</sup> Recording Officer