

**Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board Meeting
Friday, March 26, 2021
MS Teams**

Board Members

j'Amey Bevan	Chair
Blaine Boutin	Employee Representative (Trades)
Brian Dort	Employee Representative (Trades)
Simone Schendel Reese	Employer Representative (Trades)
Joerg John	Employer Representative (Trades)
Delanee Daviau	Employee Representative (Non-Trades)
Freeman Willerton	Employee Representative (Non-Trades)
Jordan Jolicoeur	Employer Representative (Non-Trades)

Institutional Advisors to the Board

Matthew Lindberg	Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Representative
Jim Szautner	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Representative
Dave King	Chair, Alberta Deans of Apprenticeship and Trades

Guests

Kirk Ahsam	Presiding Officer, Glazier PAC
Ashley Christopher Peddie	Presiding Officer, Roofer PAC
David Bissett	Presiding Officer, Power System Electrician PAC
Darrell Sopol	Presiding Officer, Cook PAC
Ken Remeika	Presiding Officer, Baker PAC
Paul Scherba	Member, Boilermaker PAC
Caitlin Hartigan	Dean, School of Trades & Heavy Industrial, Keyano College

Administration

John St. Arnaud	Executive Director, Apprenticeship Delivery and Support Services
John Brosda	Director, Industry Programs and Standards
Maria Morrison	Manager, Board Secretariat
Melanie White	Recognition and Retention Supports Coordinator, Board Secretariat

1. OPENING

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM.

1.2 Introductions

The chair welcomed everyone and briefly introduced the meeting attendees. The chair presented seven steps to reduce stress.

1.3 Review of the Agenda

No changes.

1.4 Accept Minutes of February 5, 2021 Board Meeting

Motion 2021-02-66

The board accepts the minutes of the February 5, 2021 board meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 In Favour 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

1.5 Accept Minutes of March 15, 2021 Board Ballot Meeting

Motion 2021-02-67

The board accepts the minutes of the March 15, 2021 board ballot meeting as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 In Favour 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

2. BOARD AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2.1 Board Chair's Report

The board chair reported on her past and upcoming meetings:

- Attended Module 1: of the History of Indigenous Peoples in Canada of the Virtual Indigenous Training program by the Canadian Building Trades Union.
- Attended the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum virtual conference.
- Attended the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum board meeting
- Attended the Alberta Workforce Board meeting.
- Attended the Board Working Groups to provide recommendations to the Minister on focused topics.
 - The board chair thanked the board members, special advisors and ministry staff for their contributions and support.
 - The Board Chair indicated that the Board will conduct an in-camera session after the board meeting to further discuss its recommendations to the Minister.

2.3 Board Members' Reports

Board members reported on their industry events and meetings attended since the last board meeting including that they all participated on working group meetings as either chair or member.

In addition:

- Blaine reported that the automotive industry is doing well. He also recognized the post-secondary institutes for their excellent work in supporting apprentices during COVID.
- Brian reported that Fort McMurray is getting busy and he is helping get new apprentices registered. He attended a Skills Canada Alberta Board meeting and indicated that virtual Skills Canada Alberta competitions registration is coming up soon.
- Simone reported that she connected with CAREERS: The Next Generation and her company hired a couple of RAP apprentices. She is also helping to get new apprentices registered.
- Joerg connected with the new academic chair of the baker program from NAIT. He also shared that he judged a virtual Skills Canada Alberta baking competition, which was a very interesting experience.
- Delanee reported that she has been busy with bargaining and dealing with unpaid quarantine requirements when apprentices are living in a camp.
- Freeman reported that he is working with Portage College on some industry training. He hopes to see the college's program receive approval soon.
- Jordan reported that his company has become a hiring partner for Trade Winds to Success organization.

2.4 Executive Director's Report

- The first case of an individual with confirmed COVID-19 symptoms was identified at an exam center location. As per the COVID protocols in place, exam centre staff had to go into quarantine.
- The division is planning the fall operations, especially focusing on what apprenticeship delivery will look like.
- The digital exam delivery pilot has received concept approval and is moving forward. The Executive Director is looking forward to seeing a demo of the pilot in the near future.
- Work is continuing on the Tradesecrets website update.
- John attended a meeting with a large maintenance and shutdowns stakeholder group. He remarked that there was a phenomenal amount of work being done by that stakeholder group.
- Client services has fielded 7355 phone calls from apprentices, employers and prospective apprentices.

- About 18,000 apprentices have taken or registered for classroom instruction this year. Kudo's to postsecondary institutes for adapting and providing these classes in a mostly blended learning format.
- Budget 2021 has been tabled and is available for viewing on the Treasury Board and Finance website. Highlights for Advanced Education are:
 - \$5.8 billion has been allocated to Advanced Education – \$5.4 billion is dedicated to postsecondary institutes, with the rest dedicated to operations and Student Aid.
 - Overall, Advanced Education did pretty well from budget perspective.
 - This fall, Advanced Education is rolling out a new funding model for the postsecondary institutes. This model should be more responsive by allowing the institutions to determine seat and class allocation.
- Year to date:
 - 2400 apprentice applications
 - 166 RAP applications
 - Just under 47,000 apprentices in the system
 - 1,280 apprentices completed their apprenticeship
 - 5,000 female apprentices in the system
 - 2,100 Indigenous apprentices in the system.

The Board asked the Executive Director about the proposed legislation that is intended to replace the *Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act* and inquired on when the Board would be able to look at the new legislation. The Board was advised that the new legislation was expected to be introduced in the Alberta Legislature in early April and that they will consult as part of the stakeholder engagement when the Act becomes public.

2.5 Executive Director's Status Report on Authorizations

A status report on authorizations was tabled for information.

2.6 Institutional Advisor Reports

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Matthew Lindberg tabled his report as information.

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Jim Szautner tabled his report as information.

Alberta Deans of Apprenticeship and Trades

Dave King tabled a report on behalf of the colleges. Welcomed Amy Saitz as the new Northern Lakes Dean of Trades.

3. INDUSTRY NETWORK BUSINESS

3.1 Provincial Apprenticeship Committee Reports

(a) Glazier Apprenticeship Program Update

Kirk Ahsam reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2020 as information. There was no Board Liaison in attendance for this meeting.

The Glazier PAC shared concerns about program changes being driven by harmonization, as well as with some aspects of blended learning classroom instruction due to COVID-19.

(b) Roofer Apprenticeship Program Update

Ashley Christopher Peddie reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on November 25, 2020 as information. Joerg John tabled his Board Liaison Report as information.

The Roofer PAC asked that AIT and post-secondary institutions consider high-activity work periods when scheduling apprentice classes as those that are scheduled during the industry's busy season are difficult to fill.

(c) Power System Electrician Apprenticeship Program Update

David Bissett reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on December 2, 2020 as information. There was no Board Liaison in attendance for this meeting.

(d) Cook Apprenticeship Program Update

Darrell Sopel reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on January 12, 2021 as information. Joerg John tabled his Board Liaison Report as information.

This industry has been hit extremely hard by COVID-19 health order restrictions and it is hard to keep apprentices employed. The Cook PAC is predicting a shortage of trained Journeypeople in the future.

(e) Baker Apprenticeship Program Update

Ken Remeika reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2021 as information. Joerg John tabled his Board Liaison Report as information.

This industry is also struggling due to COVID-19 health order restrictions on weddings, celebrations and in-person events. The Baker PAC is concerned that they will be unable to replace employees who have left the industry because of COVID-19.

(f) Boilermaker Apprenticeship Program Update

Paul Scherba reported on the recent activities of the PAC and presented the minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2021 as information. J'Amey Bevan tabled her Board Liaison Report as information.

The Boilermaker PAC echoed that scheduling apprenticeship classes in consideration of peak work cycles of this type of Trade is critical to the attendance and success of apprentices. (i.e. spring and fall are busy with industry shut-downs).

4. BOARD BUSINESS

4.1 New Business

The Board was asked by the Minister of Advanced Education to make recommendations on:

- exploring new and innovative mechanisms for industry network engagement,
- identifying strategies to support employers to provide quality on-the-job learning, and
- exploring ways for industry and employers to ensure safe and inclusive work environments.

The Board completed their work on the recommendations through working groups led by Blaine Boutin, Delanee Daviau and Mike Yorke. The Board made 21 recommendations to the Minister that we believe will be beneficial to the apprenticeship education system in Alberta.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Guest College Presentation

Caitlin Hartigan tabled her institution report as information as well as presented an update on Keyano College.

6. CLOSING

This meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on May 7, 2021.

MAY 7, 2021

Date approved by the
Alberta Apprenticeship and
Industry Training Board

ORIGINAL SIGNED

j'Amey Bevan, Chair
Alberta Apprenticeship and
Industry Training Board

ORIGINAL SIGNED

John Brosda, Director
Industry Programs and
Standards