

FEATURE ARTICLE

HELP FOR DISPLACED HOSPITAL WORKERS



It's been seven years since the Province implemented Bill 29, which resulted in thousands of front-line health care workers' jobs being contracted out. Well, it took a Supreme Court ruling and years of negotiation, but there is a now a \$2 million fund to help provide training to these displaced workers.

The fund is being administered by the Hospital Employees' Union and the deadline for training applications is September 29, 2009. To receive a payment from the fund, an applicant must:

- *have been a member of a union in the Facilities Bargaining Association (FBA); and*
- *have been laid off due to contracting out between January 28, 2002 and January 25, 2008, and*
- *have either completed re-training, be in the process of re-training, or plan to re-train.*

The Union has also specified what sort of training and reimbursement would be appropriate. Priority will be given to training for a job classification in the facilities or community subsector. If funds are available, reimbursement for training outside this area may be considered. Re-training courses or programs must be taken at a British Columbia public post-secondary college or institute, or with a B.C. School District Continuing/Adult Education program. If training was taken at a private institution in the past, reimbursement may be approved on a case-by-case basis. If funds are available, applicants may be eligible to receive a daily stipend.

Unfortunately, there is also a downside for workers who've completed training that was paid for entirely or in part by Service Canada. It's been confirmed that if individuals apply for these funds, Service Canada may demand repayment of funds contributed to previous training plans.

If you have any questions regarding this initiative, contact Julie Eckert at 604-473-5416. To apply or for more information, visit:

http://www.bcgeu.bc.ca/Re-training_funds_for_laid-off_facilities_health_care_workers



Three new DVDs featuring BC-specific labour market information on critical industries.

- 1. Careers in Tourism**
- 2. Careers in Health Care**
- 3. Careers in Government and Public Service**

These DVDs are films of three panel discussions we hosted at the Michael J. Fox Theatre whereby we gathered together experts in each industry to discuss the unique strengths and weaknesses of each sector. Each DVD features the panelists' unique take on their industry and their evaluation of the sectors' potential future. This discussion is followed by one hour of questions and answers from the audience.

\$95 per DVD or \$250 for all three.

For more information see the attached information sheet or email bclmr@telus.net.

Career Management Association of BC

ENET TRAINING DAYS



MERGER PROCEEDS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Career Practitioners in British Columbia are one step closer to being represented by one umbrella organization. The merger of the ENET Society and the BC Career Management Association is proceeding and the actual date of the merger has been set for September 30, 2009. At that point the new organization will be called the Career Development Association of British Columbia (CDABC); not to be confused with the Certified Dental Assistants of BC; (I was sure I had heard that acronym somewhere before).

So far the two organizations have merged their boards, administrative and financial processes. Memberships in both organizations will be honoured until existing memberships expire. The CMA's Executive Coordinator has taken over the coordination role for both organizations and a new board will be formed utilizing directors from both organizations.

While there has been some debate as to the membership fee structure, in the short-term it has been decided that the new organization will retain ENET's fee structure. That means that a student membership will be \$50 per year, an individual membership will be \$100 per year and an agency membership will be \$375 per year; with coverage for up to four people. Membership benefits in both organizations will continue as they've been in the past and the new organization is also contemplating how memberships can be enhanced in the future.

Proponents of the new organization are confident the new entity will create a stronger community, sector and voice for our profession. While it will obviously be beneficial to reduce duplication of services and streamline administration, the labour market trends suggest that career practitioners will play an ever-increasing role as a conduit between employers and employees. Therefore, efforts such as these will be vital to identify the scope and direction of this role.

A website is still being developed for the new organization. To gather more information about the CMA visit: www.bccma.ca or email: info@bccma.ca. For more information on ENET, visit: www.enetsociety.com or email info@enetsociety.com.

ENET	CAREER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF B.C.	ASPECT
<p>ENET holds professional development and networking events in the Lower Mainland, the Fraser Valley, B.C.'s Interior and on Central / Northern Vancouver Island. This is an excellent opportunity to develop new skills, acquire new information, meet with other career practitioners and market your organization.</p> <p>For More Information: www.enetsociety.com</p>	<p>The CMA of BC exists to identify and move forward the interests and needs of organizations, associations and practitioners impacted by career development, career management and career information within B.C.</p> <p>For More Information: www.bccma.ca</p>	<p>The Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training (ASPECT) is an association of community-based trainers that represents and promotes the interests and activities of members to strengthen their capacity to provide services to people with barriers to employment.</p> <p>For More Information: www.aspect.bc.ca</p>

PARTNERING WITH BUSINESS TO DO SKILLS TRAINING

The Province has been busy spending money available through the Labour Market Agreement and the latest beneficiaries are businesses attempting to recruit or retain under-skilled workers. Recently government announced they would be spending \$17 million on 10 projects around B.C. to improve the skills of people who are either unemployed or under-qualified, providing small businesses with new training resources to meet their labour demands. Training can be either job-specific, or can focus on building essential skills like computer use, literacy and working with others, to help employees expand their abilities and improve productivity.

According to government officials, these projects will help to ensure businesses have the well-trained staff that will help them grow and prosper as the economy recovers. WorkBC is partnering with small business organizations to address what their members need. The projects are varied, with some designed to meet the needs of small businesses across all sectors, and others targeted directly to the manufacturing, forestry, hospitality, construction, horticulture and food service industries. Some will be offered provincewide, while others are aimed at specific areas of the province.

Under the LMA, the federal government is providing the Province with about \$66 million a year until 2012-13. Through a variety of programs, these funds are intended to increase training for employed people who need essential skills or recognized credentials to reach their full potential in the marketplace. They also should help increase access to training for unemployed people who are not receiving employment insurance. Programs should also support people from groups that are under-represented in the labour market.

For more information on the Labour Market Agreement, visit www.WorkBC.ca. But since the WorkBC: 'What's New' section hasn't been updated since January 22nd, in spite of the fact that the Long-Tenured Worker Initiative and the Labour Market Development Agreements have been instituted since then, it might be more valuable to visit the press release in order to get a list of the organizations partnering in this program:

http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009STED0002-000032.htm.



Did you know?

The RCMP is continuing to recruit to fill demand in the force and address the retirement of members. This year the force plans to recruit 2,000 new members. For interested applicants, it is important to note the competition is fierce. To recruit 2,000 new members, the force is expected to review more than 16,000 applications.

— Royal Canadian Mounted Police

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training (ASPECT)

Website: www.aspect.bc.ca

British Columbia Career Information Partnership (BCCIP)

Website: www.workinfolnet.bc.ca/bccip/

Canadian Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (CARP)

Website: www.carpbc.org

Career Education Society (CES)

Website: www.ces.bc.ca

Career Management Association of BC (CMABC)

Website: www.bccma.ca

Employment Network Education and Training for Rehabilitation and Career Development Practitioners Society (ENET)

Website: www.enetsociety.com

CAREER QUOTE



"It is wonderful to feel the grandness of Canada in the raw, not because she is Canada but because she's something sublime that you were born into, some great rugged power that you are a part of."

— Emily Carr

NEXT PRINT ISSUE OF THE
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