



**FORUM OF LABOUR MARKET MINISTERS
FPT MINISTERS MEETING
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, JULY 7 AND 8, 2015**

**LOCATION : HÔTEL LE BONNE ENTENTE
QUÉBEC (QUÉBEC)**

AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 7– RECEPTION

5:30 – 9:00 pm	All Delegates' Reception FPT Ministers Private Dinner	Musée des Beaux-Arts de Québec
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 – FPT MINISTERS MEETING

Time	Agenda Items	Lead	Location
7:30 – 8:25 am	Breakfast for all delegates Private Breakfast for FPT Ministers and Deputy Ministers		Monte Cristo L'original Cliche
8:25 – 8:45 am	Official Photo		Lemelin
8:45 – 9:00 am	Co-Chairs Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approval of agenda • Approval of the Record of Decision of the November 21, 2014 Meeting 	Québec / ESDC	Lemelin
9:00 – 10:00 am	Apprenticeship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonization • Employer Engagement 	British Columbia / ESDC	Lemelin
10:00 – 10:15 am	Health Break		

10:15 – 11:00 am	Foreign Qualification Recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on PTs and Federal initiatives • Update on the Implementation of the FPT Action Plan for Foreign Qualification Recognition - Beyond 2015 	All Nova Scotia / EDSC	Lemelin
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Labour Market Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • LMI Inventory 	Saskatchewan / ESDC	Lemelin
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch for all delegates Ministers and Deputy Ministers Private Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Revision of the Draft Press Release 		Monte Cristo L'original Cliche
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Canada Job Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation • Best Practices • Update on the Year Two Review 	Ontario / ESDC	Lemelin
2:00 – 2:30 pm	Approval of the Press Release	Québec / ESDC	Lemelin
2:30 – 2:45 pm	Closing Remarks	Québec / ESDC	Lemelin
2:45 – 3:00 pm	Health Break		
3:00 – 3:45 pm	Press Conference	Québec / ESDC	Thériault

Federal, provincial and territorial ministers take action to improve skills training and labour market outcomes to support economic opportunities



Québec city, Québec, July 8, 2015 – Labour market ministers from across Canada agreed today to continue to take ambitious action to improve economic opportunities for Canadians. These actions include:

- creating a Labour Market Information Council;
- accelerating harmonization of Red Seal apprenticeship training;
- working with regulators to establish more ambitious timelines for international qualification recognition.

The discussions were part of a meeting of the Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM), co-chaired by Sam Hamad, Québec Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, and the Honourable Pierre Poilievre, federal Minister of Employment and Social Development.

"Our Government is creating jobs through tax cuts, training and trade. A balanced budget makes these goals possible. The Forum of Labour Market Ministers meeting in Quebec agreed to faster and fairer credential recognition for newcomers, quicker harmonization of apprenticeships, and better training for jobs. This work will contribute to jobs, growth and long-term prosperity."

-The Honourable Pierre Poilievre, Minister of Employment and Social Development and co-chair of the FLMM.

"Provinces and territories play a critical role in ensuring that Canadians get the skills they need to succeed in today's economy. They deliver the vital programs and services that help individuals enhance their skills and participate in the workforce. Our objective is to ensure a better future for all, and I am confident, as co-chair, that our discussions and pooling our expertise will be beneficial in reaching this goal."

-Sam Hamad, Québec Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, and co-chair of the FLMM.

Ministers agreed to work together on several important labour market issues, including:

Labour Market Information

Recognizing that timely, reliable, comprehensive and easily accessible labour market information (LMI) is critical to determining and continuing to meet labour

market needs. Ministers endorsed the creation of a new LMI Council and a complementary new National Stakeholder Advisory Panel. Through this approach, governments and stakeholders will work together to ensure all Canadians, including students, businesses, workers and educators, have access to unbiased information they need to make informed decisions.

Following approval of a business plan by ministers, this initiative will complement existing LMI activities from across the country. The Council will work to ensure that information is comprehensive, meets recognized standards, and reflects local labour market realities and needs, while also supporting the development and promotion of a new collaborative platform for disseminating LMI.

Apprenticeship

Provincial and territorial apprenticeship systems are training the skilled tradespeople needed for the economy of today and tomorrow.

Ministers welcomed the significant progress made on harmonizing apprenticeship training in Red Seal trades¹, announcing that the first ten will be harmonized by September 2016 in most jurisdictions. Building on these successes, Ministers announced an ambitious new target of harmonizing a total of 30 Red Seal trades in most jurisdictions by 2020 (outside Quebec). As part of this plan, provinces, territories and the federal government will work with industry to harmonize training for two-thirds of Red Seal apprentices by 2017.

Furthermore, Ministers agreed today to a collaborative approach to improve employer engagement in apprenticeship. Collaboration will focus on: improving the complementarity and coordination of programs; leveraging resources and experiences across governments; and sharing information and best practices.

Qualification Recognition

Ministers applauded efforts to provide qualification recognition responses to internationally trained workers within one year under the Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications². Recognizing that responses are often provided more quickly, Ministers committed to working with regulators toward more ambitious timelines. The Government of Canada committed to continue supporting this initiative to seek results for faster and fairer credential recognition. Ministers further agreed to speed up the labour market integration of newcomers through enhanced pre-decision information and pre-arrival credential assessment.

Canada Job Grant

Governments agree to the importance of engaging employers in the training systems as a way to improve their labour markets. Provinces and territories have worked within the national parameters for the Canada Job Grant to design programs to address their regional and local labour market needs. With the Canada Job Grant now in its second year of implementation, Ministers took the opportunity to take stock of progress to-date.

They also confirmed their commitment to conduct a formal review of the Canada Job Grant following the first year of implementation, and reaffirmed their desire to have a report submitted to the FLMM in December 2015 that will evaluate whether it is meeting its objectives and if changes to the parameters are necessary. As it does not implement the Canada Job Grant, Quebec shared information on how the transfer of funds under the Canada Job Fund supports the continued successes of its public employment and training model in ensuring that the labour forces have the necessary skills to find a job.

About the Forum

The FLMM was established in 1983 as an intergovernmental forum aimed at strengthening cooperation on the labour market priorities of the provinces, the territories and Canada.

- 30 -

This news release is available in alternative formats upon request.

For further information (media only):

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1- Considering the uniqueness of its apprenticeship system, Quebec is participating as an observer in apprenticeship harmonization efforts

2- While the Quebec government has not endorsed the Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications, it supports its principles and contributes to its work, acting within its exclusive jurisdiction with regards to immigrant integration under the Canada-Québec Accord Relating to Immigration and Temporary Admission of Aliens.

FLMM PARTNER LINKS

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