

STAE/DTRA

New Minister

Correspondence sent by me and ATCC with zero recognition or response, to date.

July 31, 2023

The Honourable Rajan Sawhney
Minister of Advanced Education
107 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Re: Congratulations on your appointment and request for a meeting

Dear Honourable Sawhney,

On behalf of the eleven trade association members of the Alberta Trade Contractors Council (ATCC), we congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of Advanced Education.

The ATCC members represents businesses owners from across the construction trades. We are the employers who provide opportunity for apprentices and ultimately the journeypersons they become, to work in fulfilling and rewarding construction trade careers. Our members deliver the front line of services needed to build and maintain the vertical infrastructure that Alberta needs right now and in the future.

In Premier Danielle Smith's mandate letter to your ministry, dated July 21, 2023, we are pleased to see the focus on growing and diversifying the Alberta economy, despite the ongoing challenges we all face in finding and retaining qualified and skilled workers. We are also pleased to see the outlined priorities for you to deliver, including the following:

- *Acting as Alberta's lead advocate and champion of the skilled trades and professions to ensure, as early as junior high, that this education track has parity of esteem as a desirable education pathway that will lead to highly rewarding careers.*
- *In the context of skilled trades, taking a leadership role in meeting the evolving needs of the economy with a focus on ensuring journeypersons obtain needed skills for the modern economy.*
- *In collaboration with the Minister of Education, reviewing the Skills for Jobs Task Force Report, and advance key recommendations from the Report pertaining to your ministry.*

With the new *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act* and the related Designated Trades and Restricted Activities Regulations now being in force, the ATCC is concerned that key recommendations from the Skills for Jobs Task Force Report have not been prioritized appropriately or worse, they have been misinterpreted. As we focus on the challenges of meeting the building needs of

Alberta and our growing economy, it is imperative that we sharpen the focus our industry, and despite a shrinking pool of potential employees, Alberta's economy cannot lose sight of the skill and quality of workmanship that will be required to deliver on the province's true potential.

The ATCC requests a meeting with you as soon as possible, preferably before September, to discuss your priorities and other ways that the ATCC may be able to assist you in fulfilling the goals identified in your Mandate Letter.

We look forward to your response and a date for our requested meeting.

Terry Milot
Chair, Alberta Trade Contractors Council

AIT Assessment Research Project - Selected from ATCC Jim Brady-Glaziers, Ahley
Peddie-ARCA, Taylor ?-SMAC
Awaiting updates.

Apprenticeship Summit

Karen Rutherford Attended the Global Apprenticeship Summit 2023-09-28 in Ottawa. Expecting an update from Karen 2023-10-05 or 06. With the lack of any actions thus far from our new minister, with recent growth in the Ontario apprenticeship registrations (24%- see the attached article), with the article (https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2023/july/05/saskatchewan-providing-25-million-for-constructionrelated-preapprenticeship-training?inf_contact_key=53d98f47383ec21b331efecba7c4b9e0680f8914173f9191b1c0223e68310bb1) on Saskatchewan's recent recognition of skilled trades needs in their jurisdiction, and support therein, and with our world evolving rapidly (STAE, DTRA, and a global worker shortage), I think we need to understand what is being done in other jurisdictions, winning and losing strategies, and what others are thinking and doing, if we are to be progressive and successful.

Apprenticeship Traffic

Is any one coordinating the myriad of programs running rampantly in abandon, out there? CCA wants to add a director to coordinate these programs and provide clear direction to members. In progress.

Gary Porter

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