



FOR RELEASE
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Skills training and labour market agreements focus of provincial-territorial meeting

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Education Elaine Taylor is joining provincial and territorial labour market ministers at a meeting in Toronto today to discuss skills training and the renewal of labour market agreements.

"A skilled workforce is essential to the growth of our economy," Taylor said. "As provinces and territories, we are committed to delivering effective employment training programs and working collaboratively to ensure that workers can continue to access the labour market and employers can hire the workers they need."

During a meeting of the Council of the Federation this summer, premiers tasked labour market ministers to strengthen ways to deliver labour markets and skills training with a focus on the renewal of provincial-territorial labour market agreements.

Labour market agreements, which are set to expire March 31, 2014, are designed to increase the employability and participation of under-represented groups, including youth, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal peoples, social assistance recipients, older workers and recent immigrants.

"Labour market agreements have and continue to serve as an important source of funding in support of training and employment programs directed at the most vulnerable individuals who require additional supports," Taylor added. "The meeting of labour market ministers is an opportunity to identify common principles on the renewal of labour market agreements and how agreements can be structured in such a way to best meet the needs of Yukon's growing economy."

The Yukon government signed the Canada-Yukon Labour Market Agreement in 2009 for a total of \$5.9 million between 2009/10 and 2013/14.

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