
Plumber Trade Board October 5, 2005 Davidson Sask.

Present:

Members:

Marc Baillargeon	Doug Christie
Mike Berkes	Kirk Guttman
Glen Braun	Jolene Kriska
Ken Busch	Ryan Tynning

SATCC:

Bob Guthrie, CEO
Doug Muir, Director
Al Douglas, Assistant Director/Industry Liaison
Rob Johns, Program Development Officer

SIAST:

Tim Wall, Program Head



ApprenticeshipWorks

S A S K A T C H E W A N

1. Approval of agenda:

M/S Jolene Kriska/Marc Baillargeon to approve agenda. Carried.

2. Approval of minutes and business arising from the minutes:

M/S Ryan Tynning/Jolene Kriska to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2004 Trade Board meeting. Carried.

Al Douglas joined the meeting to update trade board members on the discussions held to date regarding Packaged Rooftop Service Technician subtrade requirements, training and certification. Discussions along several lines including enforcement, reasons for the designation, trade and time requirements, grandfathering, etc. resulted. Al stated that a model that ensures fairness to all without putting anyone out of work will be the one pushed forward. He hopes to have another meeting with the Steering Committee in late October or early November prior to recommendations being presented to the Commission Standards Committee.

M/S Ken Busch/Kirk Guttman to continue to support this designation process along the path it is presently headed. 7 in favor, 1 abstention. Carried.

While reviewing minutes for the Gasfitter Curriculum and Examination Development Board (CEDB) meeting it was decided to table any approvals to trade time and procedure changes until after a Plumber CEDB meeting is held to do a full review of trade time requirements for both plumber and gasfitter.

3. Board Member Issues:

Mike Berkes began a discussion on apprentice to journeyperson ratios and the shortage of skilled workers. Discussion determined that the system can not be watered down further. Although there are problems, the answer to the issue of manpower shortages is not able to be solved here.

Marc Baillargeon wondered if the definition for the Plumber trade is as accurate as it could be. There is no mention of heating systems in existing definitions or promotional materials. Members suggested adding "hydronic heating systems" to all promotional materials. They were not suggesting changing the trade description at this time.

Ken Busch discussed some problems regarding apprentice's transcripts and SIAST procedures regarding these documents. Tim Wall will look into Ken's concerns.

Rob to hold a Plumber CEDB to make recommendations covering these issues.

Rob to add to promotional materials.

Tim Wall to handle.

4. Youth Apprenticeship Program:

Bob Guthrie joined the meeting to discuss the proposed program.

M/S Ken Busch/Kirk Guttman to support the awarding of a maximum of 100 hours per high school year of Apprenticeship Awareness taken by students. This credit will be awarded to new apprentices upon registration of apprenticeship in a designated trade. Carried unanimously.

Bob Guthrie to note.

5. Program Reports:

Tim Wall provided information regarding renovations, new equipment, capacity, class information, instructor changes and innovations in training. A discussion on code books followed. Trade board members felt that certain code books should be included in all apprentice's tool boxes.

M/S Kirk Guttman/Mike Berkes to recommend that apprentices be required to purchase the current National Plumbing Code and the CAN/CSA-B149.1-05 Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code to be brought to Level 1 technical training. Carried unanimously.

Rick Ewen to forward recommendation.

6. Program Development Officer report:

Rob provided statistics on apprenticeship and examination numbers, and CEDB board meetings. A discussion on the pass rate for the Interprovincial examination followed. It made no sense to Trade Board members that apprentices are only required to attain 60% during technical training but need 70% on the certification examination.

M/S Ryan Tynning/Kirk Guttman to recommend that plumber apprentices be required to attain minimum of 70% in all subject matter areas, theory and practical. All associated study subjects are to be included in this requirement. All associated study subjects are to be included when calculating the Weighted Percent Average. Carried unanimously.

Rick Ewen to forward recommendation.

7. Industry growth predictions and human resource requirements:

Doug Muir joined the meeting to discuss the Construction Sector Council's Labour Market information for Saskatchewan. Trade Board members amended the findings for plumbers, construction contractors and supervisors and construction managers. Doug detailed the amendments on his copy of the documents.

Trade Board members were asked the question "What is wrong with apprenticeship?" Responses pointed to on-the-job training not being properly provided to apprentices. The commission could promote the thinking that it is OK to ask foremen and supervisors for other types of

Doug Muir to note.

work experience to apprentices. An apprenticeship strategy is needed to ensure that individuals are not "pigeon-holed" within their trade.

Members indicated that they felt this industry will see a substantial increase in the number of apprentices in the coming year due to the amount of work currently on the board. UA alone is looking at +/- 50 new apprentices in the trades covered by their union. Lack of certified journeypersons may hold down the amount of new apprentices.

Sharon Chuka to note.

8. Review trade time credits:

As stated in item 2 of these minutes, a full review of the trade time credits will be done at a future meeting.

9. Review curriculum and exam development board and trade examining board membership:

No changes at this time.

10. Elect chair:

Not applicable. This board expires on January 31, 2006. Trade board members were reminded to submit their application to continue on this board when it is sent to them by SATCC Regina.

Board members to note.

11. New business:

Covered in other areas.

12. Adjournment: unanimous.