

Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council

Update Report July 2006

Over the past months, the Administration Committee of the Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council (CSCSC) has been quietly going about setting up shop. Now, with an Executive Director in place, the Council is ready to begin operating.

Executive Director Kevin Maynard – who joined the CSCSC on June 12 from the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education, where he was Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer – will draw on his 20 years of experience with community-based business, educational and service-oriented associations as he takes on the task of achieving the Council's vision and goals. Kevin's analytical, management and leadership skills, and his know-how related to program development, strategic planning and implementation, and association operations, will enable him to guide the CSCSC as it develops.

The CSCSC has applied for funding through the Government of Canada's Sector Council Program to undertake two initial projects:

1. to carry out a consultation process designed to determine how the supply chain sector should structure a labour market information system; and
2. to research and analyze education and certification programs/mechanisms currently available to supply chain organizations, and complete a consultation process with representatives from industry associations and academia to determine: i. the extent to which the supply chain sector is utilizing these tools and if they are meeting business and human resources needs; and ii. if the CSCSC, on behalf of the supply chain sector, should proceed to develop a standardized approach to post-secondary training, education and certification.

The Council anticipates embarking on these projects beginning in the summer or early fall of 2006. In the meantime, the Executive Director and Board members will be occupied with reviewing and discussing the action plan from the sector study; creating a business plan; meeting for strategic planning and governance development; and establishing an office and day-to-day administrative procedures.

The national supply chain strategic human resources study conducted by the Council's predecessor, the Canadian Logistics Skills Committee, found that the Canadian supply chain sector needs a vision and strategic leadership. Survey data suggested that many human resources challenges could be overcome by connecting a fragmented sector, increasing awareness of supply chain occupations, and working with educators at all levels to develop supply chain programming that addresses the sector's evolving needs. The Council's efforts are aimed directly at creating that vision and leadership, in order to improve the quality of the Canadian labour force and to assist firms to be more flexible in meeting changing competitive demands.

For more information on the CSCSC or its activities, contact Kevin Maynard at kmaynard@supplychaincanada.org or 416-648-3413.

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