

Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council

Update Report November 2006

Education/Certification Industry Research and Analysis Project

Project Manager Dale Ross and the members of the Education/Certification Working Group – a subcommittee of CSCSC's Research Committee – recently selected Blueprint Public Relations Inc. as the winning bidder to conduct the Education/Certification Industry Research and Analysis Project, the first project to be undertaken by the Council.

Blueprint's familiarity with the structure, roles and objectives of sector councils, as well as its extensive research experience and proven project-management expertise, won the contract for the firm.

The key objectives for this project are to:

- Build a compendium of education, training and certification tools and databases for workplace, post-secondary and association programs targeting managerial, tactical and operational positions.
- Determine the extent to which the supply chain sector is using the current tools and whether or not the sector would like to see a standardized approach to education, training and certification.
- Recommend how such an approach could be developed.
- Determine an effective partnership and networking structure to strengthen the links between industry and educational institutions in the sector.

Based on these objectives and the project's scope, the methodology to complete the project is as follows:

1. Conduct project start-up meeting
2. Conduct document and web review
3. Draft research framework
4. Conduct stakeholder/key informant interviews
5. Analyze interview results
6. Assemble first draft of compendium
7. Revise compendium, prepare working group presentation and package
8. Finalize workshop design/protocol
9. Conduct workshop sessions
10. Conduct analysis and reporting

The project is expected to be completed by the end of May 2007.

Labour Market Information Project

Funding from the Government of Canada's Sector Council Program has been approved for the Council's second project. The purpose of this project is to undertake a consultation process to determine how the supply chain sector should structure a labour market information system. As outlined in the sector study, there is a need for the ongoing collection and monitoring of labour market information for the supply chain sector, in order to identify and understand changes, impacts and sector trends. This information may be employed to establish priorities for such items as the recognition of foreign credentials, development of essential skills, the creation of occupational standards and career-awareness activities.

This initiative is essential to effectively address the human resources recruitment, retention and development challenges facing the sector.

An RFP to solicit proposals to conduct the project will be issued soon.