



Press Release

Connecting People, Technology and Skills: New Project for the Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council

May 1, 2017, Toronto, Ontario – The Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council is pleased to announce the launch of its “Connecting People, Technology and Skills” project, funded by the Government of Alberta Workforce Initiatives Branch. The Council is undertaking this project in partnership with the Calgary Logistics Council.

Through this fast-paced project, the Council will deliver several valuable tools for the sector, starting in June 2017 and continuing almost until the project ends in June 2018. Stakeholders in the private sector, government and education will benefit from the following products:

- **Labour market information database—June 2017**
LMI to enable research and decision making in the sector. The Council will relaunch its LMI database to provide projections and historical data on the supply chain labour market across Canada, sortable by occupation, industry and location.
- **Supply chain career-awareness videos—September 2017**
Career profiles of people working in various roles in Alberta’s supply chain. The videos will showcase the diversity of options available to those who work in the sector, providing a look at jobs with very different functions, in different industries and at different levels.
- **Emerging Technology Roundtables—November 2017**
Consultation with other countries regarding their advances in technology. These web-enabled roundtables will connect the Council with emerging technology leaders internationally, in Canada and in Alberta. Through the sessions, we will gather information pertaining to industry trends and technology adoption rates.
- **Connector Tool 2.0—December 2017**
Expanded functionality for the Connector Skills-Matching Tool. The Council’s Connector tool provides users with assessments of their supply chain knowledge and essential skills in relation to specific occupations. Version 2.0 will go further, enabling users to discover jobs that match their skills and consider a range of options for a career move. The new Connector will help users determine their transferability into the supply chain from other, potentially waning sectors of the economy.
- **Report on supply chain employment and skill trends—January 2018**
Summary of research and analysis. This report will look at the employment and skill trends for occupations in six of Alberta’s key economic industries: aerospace and defence, agri-business, financial services, industrial manufacturing, oil and gas, and pharmaceuticals.
- **Accelerator 2.0—April 2018**
Actionable strategies to support growth of the supply chain sector. Based on information gathered through community partner workshops across Alberta, the Council will prepare a three-year plan with recommendations for workforce development and supply chain growth.

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This project ties together diverse areas of the Council's focus, creating a package of tools and resources for the effective management of supply chain human resources. The particular emphasis on recruitment and skills transfer is intended to help both supply chain employers, as they seek to fill gaps in the labour force, and workers dealing with a changing business environment.

Jean-Marc Lacasse, Manager of Economic Development for the City of Chestermere, located just east of Calgary, and Vice Chair of the Calgary Logistics Council, is pleased with the announcement. "I have worked on labour development initiatives for many years and this is the next logical step for our industry." Lacasse added, "The last two years have been challenging for many Albertans. Layoffs in the energy sector provide a pool of labour that can transition into supply chain. This project can assist them in transitioning into growing sectors."

Lacasse is Co-Chair of the Project Advisory Committee with Sarah Stata, Director of Supply Chain for Sherritt International Corporation in Calgary, and current board member of the Council. Stata is excited about the possibilities this project will bring for Albertans, as well as the supply chain sector. "Supply chain is a unique sector with skills that are easily transferable from industry to industry. With the continued decline in employment opportunities within the energy sector, Albertans are faced with new challenges. This project will help both employers and employees assess skills and fill gaps, and help Albertans deal with these new challenges in a sector that is continually growing."

The Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council is an all-stakeholder, not-for-profit organization focused on human resources in the supply chain sector in Canada.

For more information, please contact Kim Biggar, Communications Manager, at kbiggar@supplychaincanada.org.

The Province of Alberta is working in partnership with the Government of Canada to provide employment support programs and services.

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