Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA) Harmonization Initiative

The Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA) is responsible for the Red Seal Program which encourages trade harmonization by developing common interprovincial standards and examinations. To facilitate the process, in 2014-2015, the CCDA and Employment and Skills Development Canada (ESDC) started the CCDA Harmonization Initiative.

Newfoundland and Labrador is an active participant on this initiative, which will harmonize the following 10 Red Seal trades:

1. Carpenter
2. Mobile Crane Operator
3. Mobile Crane Operator (Hydraulic)
4. Metal Fabricator (Fitter)
5. Welder
6. Heavy Duty Equipment Technician
7. Tower Crane Operator
8. Ironworker (Generalist)
9. Ironworker (Reinforcing)
10. Ironworker (Structural/Ornamental)

The CCDA Harmonization Initiative will also align the following aspects of the selected trades:

- Official trade name
- Trade definitions
- Total in-school and on-the-job training hours required
- Sequencing of technical training courses

The CCDA Harmonization Initiative will help to harmonize some current inconsistencies in apprenticeship training and certification requirements across Canada (ie. different on-the-job hours). This will improve labour and apprentice mobility across the country.

For more information on how the National Apprenticeship Harmonization Initiative was developed, please visit:

- Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM) Press Release – November 2014 (46 KB)
- Background Information on the Project to Harmonize Red Seal Trades