

Memorandum of Understanding
on
Co-operation in Labour Market Programming
between the
Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia

Overview

Alberta Human Resources and Employment and the British Columbia Ministry of Human Resources (“the Ministries”) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (“Memorandum”) with the desire and intent to achieve the following:

Goals

- To enhance co-operation between the Ministries in order to share information and ideas regarding matters such as labour market programming and evaluation, and to determine best practices with regard to such matters.
- To increase each province’s ability to effectively serve its residents through the sharing of such information and expertise.
- To improve services and outcomes for each province’s income assistance clients, including effective and efficient entry to the job market for employable clients.

Scope

This Memorandum covers the Ministries’ shared interests in labour market programming, and acknowledges and emphasizes a particular interest on behalf of the Ministries to share non-personal information with regard to best practices for clients who face multiple barriers to employment. All information exchanged will be voluntary and at the discretion of each Ministry as per this Memorandum. The British Columbia Ministry of Human Resources and Alberta Human Resources and Employment may engage other ministries as appropriate.

Shared Objectives

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- To exchange information with regard to the continuum of services provided by the Ministries including, but not limited to, referral and assessment, pre-employment programs, employment plans, business sector partnerships, and employment programming and support services.
- To share knowledge of best practices throughout the continuum of services outlined above, and particularly with regard to program design and delivery and with regard to clients who face multiple barriers to re-entry into the job market.
- To discuss each province's successes and challenges in programming for Aboriginal people, and to discuss the possibility of future co-ordinated programming, where desirable and possible, and where this is seen to improve the chances for success of such a program in either province, to enhance the participation of Aboriginal people in the economy of each province.
- To explore opportunities for working together toward mutual goals that are in line with each province's own strategic direction and legislated mandate and that are in the spirit of co-operation upon which this Memorandum is based.

Proposed Activities

- **Information sharing** of a general and non-personal nature with regard to the continuum of services provided by each Ministry, including the ongoing sharing of evaluations, studies and other resources as each province determines to be appropriate.
- **Exchange of knowledge and experience with regard to best practices**, particularly: i) in program design and delivery; and ii) for clients who face many barriers to re-entry into the job market including, but not limited to, Aboriginal people and persons with disabilities.
- **Planning toward parallel and streamlined programming for Aboriginal people**, where achievable and desirable in light of the provinces' shared challenges and strategic directions.

- **Strategic planning in areas of common interest**, where this is deemed to be in the best interest of both provinces.

Governance

Upon approval of this Memorandum, the Ministers will task a working group to achieve the deliverables outlined here. Under the Deputy Ministers' overall directional guidance, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Skills Investments in Alberta and the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Employment and Labour Market Development Division in British Columbia will jointly lead this group. The group will initiate activities to achieve the shared objectives and report annually to Deputy Ministers on the activities undertaken and outcomes achieved.

Approved By:

The Honourable Clint Dunford

**Minister of Alberta Human Resources
and Employment**

Date: _____, 2004

The Honourable Susan Brice

**Minister of British Columbia
Human Resources**

Date: _____, 2004