

\$52.6 million create training opportunities for more than 2,500 people



**The Honourable Pat Atkinson
Minister of Advanced
Education and Employment**

Minister's Message

By committing another \$52.6 million to training and education, we are creating training opportunities for more than 2,500 people this year. We are partnering with First Nations and Métis institutions to bring more Aboriginal people into Saskatchewan's labour force. We are also making significant investments in the capital required for training and to support capital in the post-secondary sector.

This strategic investment builds on our April 2006 commitment of \$15.5 million for new training opportunities and is the largest single investment of its kind in the province's history.

From oilfield training in western Saskatchewan to diamond driller training in the north, we're creating the opportunities our young people need where they need them. Along with SIAST, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) and the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission, our system of regional colleges provides an outstanding range of courses. We're further delivering on a commitment to bring new training opportunities to students with the purchase of two state-of-the-art mobile training labs. More

than ever, our training partners are working together to ensure that our young people are getting the skills they need to participate in the workforce.

Investing in our training system is a critical component in addressing Saskatchewan's current labour market shortage, and we are actively working to increase training opportunities, improve facilities and address waitlists for key programs. In addition we continue to work to match employers to job-seekers through our highly successful SaskJobs.ca website and our network of 20 Career and Employment Service Centres.

We are witness to a remarkable turnaround in Saskatchewan's economic fortunes, and this turnaround is reflected in our labour market needs. While in the past, we had more people than jobs, today we have more jobs than people – and our training system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond. The best way to achieve this is to create a straight line between the learner and the job, and provide the training necessary to bring the two together. This investment will help us provide Saskatchewan employers with the workers they need to grow and prosper.

Partnerships with First Nations and Métis Peoples

Saskatchewan's First Nations and Métis peoples represent a significant opportunity to enhance the province's labour market and meet future needs for more skilled workers. Saskatchewan's training institutions have a long history of providing quality training to Aboriginal students across the province.

The Government of Saskatchewan is delivering on a commitment to partner with First Nations and Métis governments and institutions to enhance that relationship and create new opportunities for youth. An investment of \$1.9 million will be provided for the following:

- \$1.6 million to SIIT to strengthen their ability to train First Nations students

for jobs in Saskatchewan, including 115 training opportunities; and

- \$0.34 million to DTI to provide 67 training opportunities.

Importantly, one of the two new mobile training labs will be primarily dedicated to training Aboriginal students in locations where that training is needed the most.

In addition, Saskatchewan will continue to press the federal government for an ongoing commitment to maintain and improve educational opportunities for First Nations and Métis youth.

\$1.9 million providing quality training



Investing in Saskatchewan's Young People

Saskatchewan's young people deserve the opportunity to learn, grow and prosper right here at home. In order to enhance those opportunities, the Government of Saskatchewan is investing an additional \$52.6 million for labour market training and capital across the province. The investment focuses on trades and technical programs, adult basic education and training capital, and breaks down as follows:

- \$13.3 million to create an additional 2,584 training opportunities in the areas of health education, trades and skills, and basic education;
- \$4.7 million for training equipment;
- \$2.0 million to renovate and modernize training facilities;
- \$2.0 million for northern development;

- \$0.3 million this year to establish the Saskatchewan Labour Market Commission; and
- \$30.3 million for post-secondary education capital, including \$2.8 million for the purchase of two mobile training labs to take training on the road to students and industry.

The investment builds on the Government of Saskatchewan's April 2006 commitment of \$15.5 million and is the largest single investment of its kind in the province's history.

Investments are directed toward SIAST campuses and regional colleges across the province, with a specific focus on creating training opportunities outside of Regina and Saskatoon.

Distribution of training by institution

		Number of opportunities			
		Basic education ¹	Trades and skills	Health education	Total
SIAST	Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology	694	120	70 ²	884
Regional colleges		491	885	58	1,434
ATCC	Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission	–	84	–	84
SIIT	Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies	80	35	–	115
DTI	Dumont Technical Institute	15	52	–	67
Total		1,280	1,176	128	2,584

¹ Includes provincially funded income support

² Available in 2007/08

\$30.3 million for post-secondary education capital

Saskatchewan's Eight-Point Plan for Education and Training

In the 2006 Speech from the Throne, the Government of Saskatchewan outlined eight priorities for education and training in the province.

1. Expand training opportunities to meet labour market demands.
2. Unveil a new partnership between business, labour and our training institutions to provide counsel to government to meet Saskatchewan's evolving labour needs.
3. Strengthen and expand our regional training model to bring education closer to students and better link training to learners, job-seekers and employers.
4. Expand partnerships with First Nations and Métis peoples to enhance education and skills training.
5. Expand Saskatchewan's Literacy Program, despite the federal government's withdrawal of funding.
6. Continue the freeze on university tuition.
7. Receive and act on a comprehensive review of access to post-secondary education.
8. Host a Youth Summit that links young people, business, employers and government in building a bright future for youth in our province.

strengthen and expand
our regional training
meet Saskatchewan's
evolving labour needs
\$52.6 million



Saskatchewan Labour Market Commission

The Government of Saskatchewan is partnering with key stakeholders to ensure provincial labour market issues are fully addressed. The new Saskatchewan Labour Market Commission will include representatives from labour,

business, training institutions and government. It will provide strategic advice directly to government on substantive provincial, regional and sectoral labour market trends, issues and strategies.

Immigration

5,000 immigrants annually by 2008

The Government of Saskatchewan believes that skilled immigrants can play a major role in meeting the province's labour market needs. As a result, it has launched a bold strategy to attract 5,000 immigrants annually to the province by 2008.

The Province is on track to meet its goal of 800 nominees for 2006-07, and increased investments in language training, employment and other services will help newcomers create a new home in Saskatchewan.

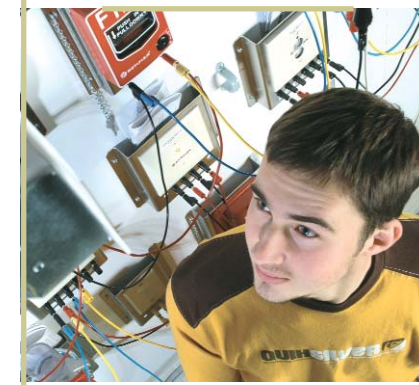


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Government of
Saskatchewan



OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH



A major investment in
Saskatchewan training and
post-secondary education