

Labour Market Report

Centre for Skilled and Internationally Trained Professionals



Centre Update

June was a great month for the Centre's clients, as 14 clients found employment in diverse fields including engineering, health care, information technology, medicine, and sciences.

The Centre has also seen an increase in inquiries from newcomers with some post-secondary education from outside of Canada, including internationally-educated tradespersons, since our client base has expanded to include occupations outside of the professional realm. We will continue to develop innovative programming and initiatives to address the needs of our diverse clients – keep an eye out for new workshops and seminars that will be taking place over the next few months!

One new offering is Workplace Training, a program that will subsidize the wages of clients working and training on-the-job. A lack of Canadian experience is often a barrier for certain clients, and we are hopeful that this program can assist overcoming that challenge.

The Centre is pleased to welcome Diane Mortensen, formerly of Target Employment, who has begun working as a workshop Facilitator. Judith Hewko will join her as the second Facilitator. We know they will do a great job!

Employment Standards: Protecting Personal Information and Privacy

When an employer collects personal information from an employee, the employer must state the purposes for the collection and how the personal information may be used or disclosed. Normally, employers collect personal information directly from employees, but privacy legislation does allow for indirect collection in some cases. For example, information may be collected from a previous employer as part of checking references. Employers can only collect work-related information about a job candidate.

Examples of the most common types of personal information collected by employers include:

- name, address, telephone number, date of birth
- Social Insurance Number
- resumes and references
- education history
- beneficiary information.

Employers normally use personal information for purposes such as:

- staffing, including recruitment, resignation and termination
- payroll and benefits, including hours worked and scheduling shifts
- performance evaluation
- training and development programs
- workplace health and safety programs

A few employees will have access to your personal information if they need it to do their job. For example, your supervisor and the payroll clerk may use information on a regular basis.

Your employer also has an obligation to restrict access to your information by people not working in your company. However, some information will be disclosed to certain organizations: for example, to Canada Revenue Agency for tax purposes or to a benefit provider such as Alberta Blue Cross.

Privacy legislation permits employers to give out information about employees in certain circumstances, such as:

- providing an employee's business contact information in a company phone book or website
- contacting family in an emergency
- assisting in a law enforcement investigation
- passing along information to a third party when the employee makes the request, for example, to confirm the employee's salary with a bank

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- disclosing information when required by law, such as during an investigation into a workplace accident.

As a worker, you have a right to:

- request access to your own personal information and to receive an explanation for any information that is withheld
- know how your personal information has been used or released
- ask for a correction if there are mistakes in your personal information.

(information taken from *A Guide to Rights & Responsibilities in Alberta Workplaces*, Government of Alberta, AHRE 2005)

Occupational Specific Group Meetings & Centre Events

- IMG Meetings*: See Anna
- IEG Meetings*: See James
- IEV Meetings*: See Judith
- July 20 – Cultural Awareness workshop
- July 2 – Centre closed in lieu of Canada Day

Special Thanks

The Centre would like to thank:

- Bill Santo, Assistant Registrar with APEGGA, for his presentation to the Centre's engineers about the registration process for IEGs;
- Drs. Kamran Golmohammadi, Rasool Askarifar, Maria Figura, Amandeep Brar, Prabhu Sonpar, and Hossein Dashti - for sharing and donating materials for examination preparation;
- Drs. Shakibeh Edani, Andrey Vizhul, Jaled Yehya, and Rekha Soni – for providing expert input into developing resources for the simulated clinical examination; and
- Drs. David Arguello and Evgheni Plohotniuc - for promoting the idea of an electronic forum among Edmonton's IMG's and for setting up such a forum.

Monthly Reflection

“People become really quite remarkable when they start thinking that they can do things. When they believe in themselves they have the first secret of success.”

– Norman Vincent Peale

July Events

- **July 7, 11am-3pm – Edmonton Chinese Engineers Society Annual Member Appreciation Barbeque** (Hawrelak Park, Site #2): <http://www.eces.cc/>
- **July 28, 1-4pm – Capital Modern Special Curators' Tour**, \$20 (Art Gallery of Alberta, 100, 10230 Jasper Ave): walk-through tour through Capital Modern exhibit and guided bus excursion of key sites; discussion with key city architects.

Remember to pick up a copy of the free and low-cost calendar of events happening in and around the city!