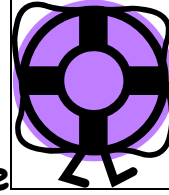


Marine Workforce Development Committee
Bulletin #9, May, 2008



This bulletin provides an update of activities of the Marine Industry Workforce Development Committee (MIWDC) of B.C. The mandate of the Committee is to undertake human resource research and planning and develop strategies to address skills shortages in the recreational marine industry of BC. A list of the steering committee members is also included.

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR A DYNAMIC NEW TRADE - MMT

Great news! You can register now for the new Marine Mechanical Technician (MMT) Apprenticeship Training Program. This new competency-based apprenticeship program recognized by the BC recreation marine industry and the provincial Industry Training Authority (ITA) is now accepting names of those interested to participate in the pilot delivery phase for the MMT training program. The training will begin in January, 2009 with the 3 Core training modules. To learn more or to register, please go to the ITA website at <http://www.itabc.ca/> (Click on Apprentices & Trainees, click on Forms, then click on the first form - Apprentices and Sponsor Registration). A copy of this Form is also accompanying this Bulletin.

The **MMT** has been developed by the MIWDC in conjunction with recreation marine industry companies and the West Coast Boatyard Association, the BC Marine Trades Association and the BC Yacht Builders Association.

As described in previous bulletins, the new program will be an apprenticeship program that will incorporate best practices of work-based training and practical competency assessment. It will lead to a Certificate of Qualification as a Marine Mechanical Technician with 5 endorsements for the type of engine and drive systems: Diesel Engines, Gasoline Engines, Outboard Engines, Outboard Engines, Stern Drives and Inboard Drive Trains. The technical training will start with core

module common to all endorsements in January, 2009 and the Endorsement training will begin in the spring of '09.

MMT RFPs: A Request For Proposal (RFP) was issued May 23rd by the ITA to select a contractor to develop the necessary learning resources for the new MMT training program to build on the review and gap analysis conducted during the past year. Proposals must be sent to ITA by June 30th. Please go to the ITA website at <http://www.itabc.ca> for a copy of the RFP and more details. Another public tendering process to select training providers for the Core pilot phase will be undertaken in a few months.

For more information or if you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Betty Notar, Chair, MIWDC, at 250-480-0086 or bettynotar@shaw.ca

Career Marketing Strategy

Following a competitive tendering process, the Committee awarded a contract, with funding support from Service Canada, to Vancouver-based Curve Communications Inc. to research and develop a marketing strategy to attract more people into the recreation marine industry and also the new MMT training program. The final report which reflects a comprehensive marketing strategy for the industry has now been presented to the Committee. The Committee is considering next steps.

Vancouver Boat Show held this past February proved to be very productive in marketing the Committee's activities and the new MMT training program. There was very good response to presentations made by Campbell Black of WCBA and Drew Irwin of the BC Yacht Builders. Many employers, employees and members of the general public visited the Committee's booth and indicated interest in the new MMT training program. Many thanks to the BCMTA for all their support and assistance!

For further information about the MIWDC please contact the Chair of the Committee, Betty Notar at bettynotar@shaw.ca or call her at 250-480-0086.

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