



BC labour supply strategies for small businesses

Presentation to the Government of British Columbia

July 30, 2007

COALITION OF BC BUSINESSES

Advancing Labour Policies that Work



Who we are:

The Coalition of BC Businesses represents the voice of over 50,000 small and medium-sized businesses in the development of BC's labour and employment policies

Coalition members:

- BC & Yukon Hotels' Association
- BC Chamber of Commerce
- BC Real Estate Association
- BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association
- BC Trucking Association
- Building Owners & Managers Association
- Building Supply Industry Association of BC
- Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors
- Canadian Home Builders' Association - BC
- Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association
- Council of Tourism Associations of BC
- Go2 Tourism HR Association
- Independent Contractors and Businesses Association
- Insurance Brokers Association of BC
- New Car Dealers Association of BC
- Retail BC
- Vancouver Board of Trade
- Western Silvicultural Contractors' Association

BC government is working toward solutions:

- Small Business Roundtable
- WorkBC
- Provincial Nominee Program
- 10 by 10
- WorkLife BC
- ACE-IT (ITA's high school trades training program)

... among others

Labour shortage is the No. 1 challenge for BC small businesses:

- Labour shortage most acute in BC's small communities
- BC small and medium-sized businesses are proactive & innovative in filling positions
- Business examples

Alberta is taking action with focused leadership and resources:

- Formation of Ministry of Employment, Immigration and Industry
- Expansion of Provincial Nominee Program
- Increase in immigration spending

Alberta's labour supply commitment:

- Immigration program spending up to \$73.6 million (2009/10) from \$59 million (2006/07)
- PNP spending will increase to \$7.6 million (2009/10) from \$1.6 million (2006/07)
- Provincial immigration nominees expected to increase to 8,000 (2009/10) from 522 (2005/06)
- Ten-year labour force development strategy

Toward a healthy and competitive BC economy:

- High-level coordination, leadership and resources
- A “made-in-BC” labour supply strategy
- Simple and accessible solutions for BC small businesses

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