

Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
BRIEFING NOTE FOR PREMIER

Date: June 22, 2011

Issue: Provincial funding for the BC shipbuilding sector and a new marine training centre

- As with many other goods producing industries, marine-specific trade and occupations are facing aging workforces and will soon be in need of new and younger workers. A recent report has forecasted there will be more than 1,000 openings for British Columbia-based shipbuilding production workers in 2013. According to the report, if Seaspan Marine Corporation was to earn the Centre of Excellence designation for naval vessel construction through the NPSP, this figure could jump to approximately 6,800 job openings.
- In 2008, industry representatives formed the British Columbia Shipbuilding and Repair Industry Human Resources Committee to develop a strategy that would ensure there was a skilled workforce to meet industry demands over the next ten years.
- The committee completed a comprehensive training needs assessment of the industry. This assessment identified the need for a one-stop centre to lead and coordinate training that reflected specific requirements of the shipbuilding and repair industry. This training centre would be required regardless of the outcomes of the NPSP.
- On May 31, 2011, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation signed a two-year \$550,000 agreement under the Labour Market Partnerships (LMP) program to support the establishment of a new industry-led marine training centre.
- The funding will be used to develop skills development training for those new to trades, an upgrading program to help trade workers from other industries move into the marine sector and a supervisory training course for experienced workers. The developing and piloting of these new programs will be completed by June 2013. In addition, funding will be used to establish the centre's governance mechanism and provide initial management capacity.
- Seaspan Marine Corporation and BC Ferries have confirmed contributions to the centre totalling \$500,000.
-

S13, S16

Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation

Q/As

Marine Training Centre Funding – June 2011

Q 1. What is the \$550,000 in funding going towards?

- We are investing this \$550,000 to help develop comprehensive training programs for shipbuilding and ship building industries which will be part of an industry-led marine training centre.
- The programs will include skills development training for those new to trades, an upgrading program to help trade workers from other industries move into the marine sector along with and a supervisory training course for experienced workers.
- In addition, funding will be used to establish the centre's governance mechanism and provide initial management capacity.

Q 2. Is this funding dependent on Seaspan being awarded a major procurement contract though the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy?

- No it is not. The Province is very supportive of developing the shipbuilding and ship repair industry and training will be needed regardless of the outcome of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy.

Q 3. Who is involved in administering the program?

- The lead provincial organization in developing these programs is the Resource Training Organization. The RTO was established in 2006 to oversee the development and management of apprenticeship programs for the resource sector.
- In 2007, the shipbuilding and repair industry was added to the RTO's mandate.

Q 4. Is the Province of British Columbia going it alone on this industry training program and marine centre?

- No we are not. This marine research and training centre is a collaborative effort. Partners include Seaspan Marine Corporation, BC Ferries, the Vancouver Island Technology Park (VIATeC), the BC Marine workers and Boilermakers Union, Camosun College, First Nations along with federal government representation.

Q 5. Is this program necessary?

- Yes it is. The maritime sector in B.C. is very important industry and as with other goods producing sectors it is facing an aging workforce.
- It contributes hundred-of-millions of dollars into our economy and directly and indirectly employs thousands of British Columbians.
- We need to make sure B.C.'s shipbuilding industry is viable and has the human resources to compete and thrive well into the future.

Q 6. Can you provide an example of the need for future workers?

- A March 2011 report commissioned by an industry human resources committee forecasts there will be 1,000 openings for production workers, especially for marine fitters, shipwrights, electronics technicians and riggers, in 2013. This is based on current requirements
- Now if we factor in a successful bid by Seaspan for the Naval Centre of Excellence designation through the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy, 6,800 additional job openings could be spawned and the size of industry's workforce could increase to more than 11,000 people from 3,000 employees in 2008.

Q 7. Can you provide more details about the actual, physical marine training centre?

- As this is a partnership, I'm not in a position to announce many details of the centre at this time, but the plan is for it to be located next to the Esquimalt Graving Dock.
- I'm here today to discuss the province's contribution to the operation.
- I hope our partnership will be able to announce the final details of the marine training centre in a few short months.

Q 8. Will the province provide on-going, annual funding as it does with public, post-secondary institutes?

- Our contribution is to support start-up key activities in the two-year inception plan of the research and training centre.
- Once up-and-running, this centre is envisioned as being self-supporting by industry. We're providing some seed money along with expertise in developing and implementing training programs.

Q 9. Are there other current options to train marine workers in B.C.?

- Yes there are.
- A number of related trades programs, such as metal fabricator, machinist and painter are offered by private and public institutions in B.C. but none of these are specifically aimed at the shipbuilding and ship repair as what will be offered through this marine training program.

Q10. Does this funding eliminate any plans for an industry subsidy to attract the Federal contract?

- I have promised to do all I can as BC's chief salesperson to help secure one of those contracts.
- So I won't close the door to any possibility that might help achieve that goal.
- However, we think this investment will show the federal government that BC is behind its shipbuilding industry and wants to grow the industry at the educational level so it's stable for decades to come.

Key Messages:

- The shipbuilding industry is part of the history of B.C.
- The Province is continuing to strengthen this job producing industry by training new workers
- This program will provide more proof to the federal government that British Columbia can meet the needs for skilled workers over the life of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity right here.

An opportunity to train skilled workers who will work and develop B.C.'s shipbuilding industry...

An opportunity to raise our children to believe that they could have a future in the shipbuilding industry too.

I am proud that we are joined here today by three students who realize the opportunity that is before us. Jason Pepper, Mila Puharich and William McMorland have all chosen a career in this field and if we are successful in this bid there will be thousands of stories just like theirs.

Last week, British Columbia's bid for one of two federal shipbuilding contracts worth \$33 billion earned the support of six western premiers...

Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba support us. So do Nunavut, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

They all recognize that success in B.C. means success for everyone involved in Western Canada's supply chain.

This is a project that will span two generations.

This is a big deal for British Columbia, and it requires a big commitment from all of us.

That's why we're committing \$550,000 in funding to develop a training program for the marine/shipbuilding sector...

Which will be part of an industry-led marine training centre.

The funding will be used to establish the centre's system of governance...

To develop training for new workers, to upgrade programs for those in other trade who are moving into the marine industry...

There will be also be supervisory courses for experienced workers, so B.C. can keep, retain and draw the best of the best in the industry to our shipyards...

We know we can't do this alone: this marine research and training centre is a collaborative effort.

That's why we're partnering with Seaspan Marine Corporation, BC Ferries, the Vancouver Island Technology Park (VIATeC)...

The BC Marine workers and Boilermakers Union, Camosun College, First Nations, along with the federal government.

I'm here today to tell you that your provincial government is behind the shipbuilding industry all the way.

We will do whatever it takes to bring shipbuilding jobs to B.C., and we will train and retain the people we will need both now and in the future.

Winning this contract means \$35 billion and that holds tremendous potential for British Columbia.

Winning this contract means 6,800 additional job openings in B.C.

Winning this contract means growing an industry with a deep-rooted history in our province.

It has put food on the table, a roof overhead, clothed children and sent them to school.

And it will provide thousands more families with a secure, viable future being built right here in B.C.

-END-

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2011PREM0078-000781
June 27, 2011

Office of the Premier

Premier announces support for shipbuilding job training

VICTORIA – The Province is supporting B.C.'s robust shipbuilding industry with a \$550,000 investment to develop training strategies for workers within a new industry-led marine training centre, announced Premier Christy Clark today.

"This will give British Columbians the opportunity to seize the jobs in the marine industry - good solid jobs that support families," said Premier Clark. "The shipbuilding industry has been such an important part of our province's history. We are committed to supporting the industry so that jobs will be there for generations to come."

Programs will include skills development training for those new to trades, an upgrading program to help trade workers from other industries move into the marine sector and a supervisory training course for experienced workers. Funding will also be used to establish the centre's governance mechanism and provide initial management capacity.

"I'm pleased the Province has come forward to support ship builders at this important time for our industry," said George MacPherson, president of Marine Workers and Boilermakers Industrial Union, Local No. 1. "There is a strong need for B.C.'s shipbuilding and ship-repair industry to recruit and train new workers. This industry-led training program will help us keep marine jobs in B.C., where they belong."

"Camosun College has a long-standing and proven track record with respect to supporting the training needs of the regional marine industry", said Camosun College President Kathryn Laurin. "We're excited to be a key partner in this innovative new industry-led initiative and applaud the Province for investing in the training needed for development of this key economic sector."

As with many other goods producing industries, marine-specific trade and occupations are facing aging workforces and will soon be in need of new and younger workers. A recent report has forecasted there will be more than 1,000 openings for B.C.-based shipbuilding production workers in 2013.

According to the report, if Seaspan Marine Corporation was to earn the Centre of Excellence designation for naval vessel construction through the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy, this figure could jump to approximately direct and indirect 6,800 job openings. The Province is committed to awarding the funding for shipbuilding training regardless of the outcome of the \$35-billion National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy competition.

"Seaspan is pleased to be involved in the development and construction of a new shipbuilding industry training centre," said Jonathan Whitworth, Chief Executive Officer of Seaspan Marine Corp. "Regardless of the outcome of the NSPS project, the partnership between Seaspan, the Province and the entire ship building community is committed to training future generations of ship builders."

"A strong maritime industry is vital to our province's ability to export its goods and commodities to overseas markets in Asia," said Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. "This is a core area of our economy and I'm pleased to see so many partners working together to advance B.C.'s shipbuilding and ship repair industry."

The Resource Training Organization (RTO) of British Columbia will work with partners to establish an industry-led board of directors that will oversee the proposed training and research centre. The RTO was formed in 2007 to guide the development of standards and content of apprenticeship training in a range of sectors, including the shipbuilding and repair industry. The RTO is supported by the Industry Training Authority, the Crown agency responsible for managing and expanding BC's industry training and apprenticeship system.

"It is through the support of government that innovative partnerships are being created to help British Columbians prepare for the looming labour market challenges and to position our Province for long-term economic expansion," said Doug MacLaren, Chief Executive Officer, Resource Training Organization of British Columbia

The Province's funding for this project is being provided through the Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Development Agreement.

Contact:
Chris Olsen
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
604 220-1640

Connect with the Province of B.C. at www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Ship Building Trade Training Funding Announcement

Address: Jack White Building, Camosun College,
4461 Interurban Road, Victoria

Event Summary: Announce \$550,000 in funding to develop a training program for marine/shipbuilding sector, which will be part of an industry-led marine training centre.

Key Message: This program will provide more proof to the federal government that British Columbia can meet the needs for skilled workers over the life of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy.

Action/Visual: Premier Christy Clark

Audience: Approximately 40 industry leaders, instructors and students

Date: Monday, June 27, 2011

Time: 10:00am

Time	Event Itinerary
9:55am	Premier Christy Clark arrives for pre-brief with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathryn Laurin, President of Camosun • Jonathan Whitworth, CEO of Seaspan • George MacPherson Marine Workers and Boilermakers Union • Minister Ida Chong (Event MC)
10:00am	Platform party proceeds to event area
10:02am	MC Ida Chong welcomes guests and introduces Premier Christy Clark
10:04am	Premier Christy Clark gives remarks
10:08am	MC introduces Kathryn Laurin
10:09am	Kathryn Laurin gives remarks
10:11am	MC introduces Jonathan Whitworth
10:12am	Jonathan gives remarks
10:15am	MC introduces George MacPherson
10:16am	George MacPherson gives remarks
10:18am	MC explains the demonstration with Premier Christy Clark and Camosun students. She asks everyone to put in their ear plugs for the demo.
10:19am	Premier moves over to the Water Jet Cutter (used in precision cutting of the steel plating for ships) with two students from Camosun. They explain to the Premier about the machine and show her how to operate it and help her do a cutting NOTE: Ear plugs are required for the demo. The Premier will push the buttons and the machine will run for about 2 minutes.
10:23am	Demo concludes, MC announces that the Premier can take questions from the podium. Moderated by Chris Olsen
10:24am	Media scrum NOTE: there will be refreshments out and time for mingling after the scrum.
10:45am	Premier Christy Clark departs

MLAs Attending:

Minister Ida Chong, Community, Sport & Cultural Development

Contacts:

Susan Haddon.....

S22

Materials	Required	Received	Additional Notes
Speaking Notes	Yes		
Q&A	Yes		
Backgrounder	Yes		
Report	No		
Regional Scan	No		