

Nova Scotia Automotive Glass Technician

Trade Designation



Background

By Industry request, the NS Automotive Sector Council announced an initiative in April 2007 to assist Industry in measuring businesses level of interest to designate the Automotive Glass Technician as a trade under the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Trades Qualification Act. This important development follows the Collision Repair Industry changing its designation from voluntary to compulsory certified.

Industry Advisory Committee

To oversee the strategy, interested business leaders and the NS Automotive Sector Council formed an Industry Advisory Committee. The Committee's purpose is to direct the research strategy, identify the benefits and impact on the workforce and to review industry feedback provided through surveys, regional communication meetings and dialogue.

Industry Businesses

Adrien Deveau	A J's Glass
Cliff Faulkner	GCF Glass
Gary Salkus	Apple Auto Glass
Robert Downing	Global Auto Glass
Jon Sutton	Standard Auto Glass
Ken MacMillan	Coastal Auto Glass
Ron Tibert	Scotia Auto Glass
David Keddy	Valley Glass & Mirror

Industry Resources

Walter Roy	NSSC
Graham Conrad	Automotive Trades Association
Blaine North	North's Auto Body
Lindsay Gates	CRANS
Corrie Robley	NS Automotive Sector Council
Richard Sharpe	NS Apprenticeship Training Division

Research Process

Industry input was gathered through a formal survey, four regional communication meetings and business interviews. The collection of data was analyzed and presented by an independent research firm for validation in February 2008.

Survey Findings

- 82% of employers support trade designation, 14% were opposed, 1 co. did not answer the question.
- 53% support voluntary certification, 32% support compulsory certified (4 no response).
- 82% prefer the trade to be independent from the Motor Vehicle Body Repairer (Metal and Paint) trade.
- Training preferences include community, modular classroom or online training between January and March.
- Two primary concerns raised included 1) how designation might impact small independent shops and 2) how employers would encourage experienced technicians to agree to achieve certification and/or participate in future training.

Industry Communication Meetings

- 35 of 59 businesses (60%) attended regional meetings.
- Meetings were held in Stellerton, Kentville, Yarmouth and Dartmouth.
- In 3 of 4 meeting, there was unanimous motion to move forward with trade designation. At the fourth meeting, the majority voted to move forward.
- Meetings included a presentation on the history and purpose for the study.
- Businesses were educated on the NS Apprenticeship model.
- Each meeting allowed for a substantial amount of question and answer period.
- The Council heard from employers of the benefits and concerns of trade designation.

Report Recommendations

1. Move forward with formal application to Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Board for trade designation
2. Conduct labour force demographic research study
3. Continue Industry communications efforts
4. Establish Industry Certification and Standards Committee (ICSC)
5. Continue partnership with Apprenticeship Training and Skill Development Division

Next Steps

1. The Committee and Sector Council will host an Industry Meeting on April 9, 2008 to review questions and explain the Industry report.
2. The Committee will proceed with submitting the application on behalf of the Industry in April 2008.

Contact Information

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The complete Final Report and Frequently Asked Questions are available at:
www.AutomotiveSectorCouncil.ca/glass

Helping Nova Scotia's Automotive Industry Develop and strengthen its' Workforce.