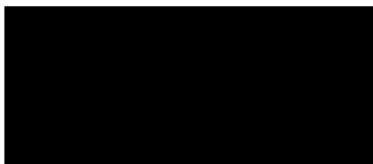


June 3, 2019



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015* [Our File #: AESL/035/2019]

On May 23, 2019 the Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour received your request for access to the following records/information:

“April 2019 decision note titled College of the North Atlantic.”

I am pleased to inform you that your request for access to this information has been granted and the requested record is attached.

The *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015* (act) requires us to provide an advisory response within 10 days of receiving the request. As this request has been completed prior to day 10, this letter also serves as our Advisory Response.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Completed Access to Information Requests website within one business day following the applicable period of time.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (709) 729-4276 or SharonSeaward@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



SHARON SEAWARD
ATIPP Coordinator

Attachment

Decision/Direction Note
Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour

Title: College of the North Atlantic

Decision/Direction Required:

- Direction is sought on whether to provide College of the North Atlantic (CNA) with \$323,000 under the Labour Market Partnership (LMP) program to support sector engagement and research to develop a training strategy regarding Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) – Aerospace Development.
- It is recommended that \$323,000 be provided to CNA in 2019-20 under the LMP program to support stakeholder engagement, research and strategy development activity to address emerging workforce development needs specific to non-destructive testing within the aerospace sector.

Background and Current Status:

- In 2016, as part of *The Way Forward: A vision for sustainability and growth in Newfoundland and Labrador*, the Provincial Government committed to modernizing CNA, noting that its campuses hold significant potential for enhanced roles as centres for entrepreneurship, innovation, research and development, community access and capacity building.
- Currently CNA offers a broad-based 35-week industrial oriented NDT program at its Port-aux-Basques (PAB) campus – targeted at manufacturing, oil and gas, and power generation.
- With the increased demand for new aircraft entering into service, the market for non-destructive testing is expected to expand significantly. According to a report by market research firm MarketsandMarkets, the global NDT market was valued at US\$12.98 billion in 2015 and is projected to reach approximately US\$18.88 billion by 2020.
- According to Employment and Social Development Canada, over the 2013-2022 period, NDT expertise is expected to be in high demand, with approximately 32,500 job openings but approximately 27,000 job seekers.
- R&D performed by aerospace manufacturing totaled \$1.7 billion in 2017. The aerospace manufacturing industry contributed close to a quarter of total manufacturing R&D in Canada and was over seven times as R&D intensive as the manufacturing average.
- For aerospace manufacturing, the need to test components is paramount, especially when it comes to new advanced materials. For example, as aerospace designs move towards composites, new NDT methods are being sought to help ensure the integrity of wings and control surfaces.
- The Province faces a critical talent shortage in aircraft maintenance, driven by insufficient training capacity. One identified area for potential growth is in NDT – Aerospace Development training.
- To support an additional NDT training location in the province, CNA is required to submit an application to Natural Resources Canada due to material regulatory requirements.

Analysis:

- CNA advises that \$323,000 will be required to support sector engagement, research and strategy development work to gain a deeper understanding of the aerospace sector's workforce challenges, particularly regarding NDT training – aerospace development.
- CNA will engage with sector stakeholders, including industry and students, to research and develop a strategy on training resources needed, including conceptual design for future facilities work to support relevant skills development and ensure safe program design and implementation.
- The Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (TCII), through *The Way Forward*, is committed to coordinate and facilitate an Aerospace and Defence Regional Innovation Systems (RIS) pilot for Gander and area. The RIS pilot is focused on collaborating and connecting the knowledge and resources of a wide variety of key stakeholders, namely partnership of business, academic and government. The approach aims to encourage greater collaboration and build connections to critical sources of knowledge, especially with respect to research and development, technology adoption and innovation.
- Discussions to date through the RIS process between industry and CNA have resulted in the identification of a potential initiative for an aerospace-specific NDT pilot project. TCII advises that the idea of an aerospace-specific NDT component might be an opportunity based on a sense of market size, growing industry demand and relevance specifically to the sector. This approach could also help enhance value and capabilities in CNA's Aircraft Maintenance Engineering program.

Alternatives:

Option 1: Allocate \$323,000 to CNA under the LMP program to support stakeholder engagement, research and strategy development activity specific to non-destructive testing within the aerospace sector. **(Recommended)**

Advantages:

- Supports CNA's efforts to deliver labour market relevant training to address workforce challenges.
- Increases employability of individuals in the aerospace sector.
- Supports the Provincial Government's commitment to support aerospace and defence sector development.

Disadvantages:

- Requires targeting of federal funds to CNA during a period of fiscal restraint.

Option 2: Do not allocate \$323,000 to CNA under the LMP program to support stakeholder engagement, research and strategy development activity specific to non-destructive testing within the aerospace sector. **(Not Recommended)**

Advantages:

- Does not require targeting of federal funds to CNA during a period of fiscal restraint.



Disadvantages:

- Does not support CNA's efforts to deliver labour market relevant training to address workforce challenges.
- Will not increase employability of individuals in the aerospace sector.
- Does not support the Provincial Government's commitment to support aerospace and defence sector development.
- Does not help grow the economy.

Prepared/Approved by: C. Ennis-Williams, in consultation with G. Skinner (TCII)/W. Mavin
Ministerial Approval:

April 2, 2019

J Langer
