



Flexibility and Innovation in Apprenticeship Technical Training (FIATT) Pilot Programs

British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)

BCIT is offering training that combines online and time in the classroom for gasfitters, steamfitter/pipefitters, plumbers and refrigeration and air conditioning technicians. The online component will include instructor-led sessions and real-time instructor support to overcome apprentice isolation. Virtual forums for apprentice interaction will be set up, with both structured and unstructured tasks for online classes to complete. Ten web-based simulations and 36 videos and animations will ensure the learning is interactive and engaging.

Collège Boréal

Collège Boréal's project will offer online and classroom training to 40 to 50 carpentry and heavy-duty equipment technician apprentices in both French and English.

New Brunswick Community College (NBCC)

NBCC's pilot project will increase the use of innovative educational technology in two Red Seal training areas. Specifically, NBCC proposes to increase the online element and enhance software simulator use in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technician program, as well as incorporate both online elements and simulator technology into the welding program. These initiatives will lessen the time apprentices have to be away from their home and families. Additionally, a mobile welding lab will allow NBCC to conduct outreach and promotional activities, targeting rural and underrepresented students, including those in First Nation communities.

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC)

NSCC is offering apprentice construction and industrial electricians access to a mobile learning lab. The unit will travel to up to 13 campus locations, community centres and employer sites. Live, web-based broadcasts between campuses and employer sites will reinforce theoretical concepts by connecting the technical training content to work tasks. The mobile lab gives apprentices in Nova Scotia an opportunity to receive training which would have otherwise been unavailable in their community. NSCC will also offer all 33 theory courses in an online interactive platform for construction and industrial electricians. These three alternative approaches to technical training are expected to reach up to 80 apprentices in Nova Scotia and an additional five in Prince Edward Island.

Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario (OETIO)

OETIO is purchasing six new crane simulators for mobile and tower crane operators as a part of its pilot project. As many as 120 apprentices will spend an additional 60 hours of seat time operating either the actual crane or a simulator, drawing on a performance database that tracks apprentice progress against their peers. By enabling practical learning of more complex employer-driven training scenarios, apprentices will have the opportunity to rehearse difficult and/or dangerous scenarios in a controlled environment. Operating Engineers will work with employers to design these scenarios and ensure skills are transferrable to real-life conditions.



Portage College

Portage College's pilot project is providing access to online and classroom training for 48 rural heavy equipment technician apprentices, reducing their time away from work while also providing hands-on learning opportunities.

Red Deer College

Red Deer College is offering upfront technical training in the welding trade, beginning with simulator training in the home community of their First Nations partners, as a part of its pilot project. The remainder of the cohort preparation will include on campus training, online learning, innovative testing models, personal development and a co-op work placement. This community-, college- and industry-integrated approach is intended to increase the access to apprenticeship training for 50 Indigenous participants and, ultimately, support them as they achieve trade qualification.

Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Saskatchewan Polytechnic is implementing a pilot project with both online and classroom components reaching 152 apprentices. Trades include construction electrician, plumber, heavy-duty equipment technician and truck and transport mechanic. The aim is to support learning that is highly interactive with faculty, so learners benefit from the instructor's advice and guidance and do not feel isolated. To create greater connections between online learning and on-the-job training, apprentices will be assigned homework requiring them to ask their supervising journeypersons questions. The responses will be integral to online class discussions.

Thompson Rivers University

As a part of its pilot project, Thompson Rivers University will offer 60 pipefitter apprentices who are unemployed or changing careers, opportunities to complete the upper levels of their training in an accelerated manner that combines online learning and in-class labs.

Yukon College and Aurora College

Yukon and Aurora Colleges will offer online and onsite technical training in the carpenter, oil heat system technician, gasfitter, heavy duty mechanic, plumber and automotive service technician trades as a part of their joint pilot project spanning both Yukon and Northwest Territories. This project will create greater access to training for 40 Indigenous and northern/rural apprentices. The intake of participants will be continuous, based on matching an apprentice with an instructor and tutor in a northern community as requests are made.