

For Immediate Release

November 13, 2019

New women in trades director at Industry Training Authority

Richmond, B.C. – Industry Training Authority (ITA) is pleased to announce that Lisa Langevin has been hired as Director of Women in Trades, a newly created role to ensure that more women see the trades as a viable career and professional pathway.

Prior to her new role at ITA, Lisa was Assistant Business Manager for Local 213 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). She holds a Bachelor's degree in psychology from Simon Fraser University and is a Red Seal electrician. Before joining the IBEW 213 office in 2016, Lisa worked in many aspects of the electrical field, including construction, industrial, and maintenance.

“Lisa Langevin is a champion for change and a role model who has worked hard to encourage and empower women to reach their goals by pursuing and advancing in hands-on, good-paying, and rewarding careers in the skilled trades,” said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. “I’d like to congratulate her on her new role and look forward to working with her and ITA to move the dial and open doors, so everyone has the opportunity to be part of building the best B.C.”

Lisa participated in the Women in Trades labour market project to better understand and identify the barriers women in B.C. encounter entering skilled trades as well as advancing in their trades careers. Lisa was one of the founders of the BC Tradeswomen Society and currently sits on the Board of Governors for the BC Centre for Women in the Trades.

“ITA has a critical focus on bringing more women into trades professions, particularly in under-represented trades, and Lisa will bring great insight through her experience in the trades industry in B.C. and her previous role as an ITA board director,” said Shelley Gray, CEO of ITA. “She’s well-positioned to expand our understanding of the barriers women face and lead a cultural change within B.C.’s trades training system.”

In her new role, Lisa will be working with a variety of stakeholders and industry partners to identify, understand, and disrupt societal and program-related barriers that may prevent women from viewing trades as a primary career choice.

“Both industry and society are ready to move towards equity in employment, and I’m excited to help seat the ITA in a leadership role moving forward towards equality,” said Lisa. “Women’s equal participation in the trades benefits not only those women choosing this career but also industry who are struggling to find a skilled workforce large enough for the upcoming demands.”

There will be nearly 71,000 job openings expected in the trades in B.C. from now to 2028,

providing significant opportunities for women. Yet, despite making up half of the population and workforce, women are under-represented in traditionally male-dominated skilled trades—from carpentry and plumbing to masonry and iron work.

About the Industry Training Authority (ITA)

The Industry Training Authority (ITA) leads and coordinates British Columbia’s skilled trades system. ITA works with apprentices, employers, industry, labour, training providers and government to fund training, issue credentials, support apprenticeships, set program standards and increase opportunities in the trades.

For the past 10 years, ITA has offered Women in Trades Training programs across B.C. In that time, more than 4,000 women have explored trades or taken technical training through these programs, with many moving on as apprentices, journeypersons, and business owners. For more information, visit itabc.ca/witt.

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