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★ OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTIFICATION ★

Issued: November 23, 2010

**Programs: Dairy Production Technician 1
Dairy Production Technician 2 (Herdsman)**

To: ITA Training Providers
HortEducationBC
All School Districts

**RE: REF: 2010 023
NEW DAIRY PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN 1 AND DAIRY PRODUCTION
TECHNICIAN 2 (HERDSMAN) PROGRAMS**

Timing: Effective: Immediately

Information: Please be advised that ITA has approved program standards for two new apprenticeship programs, Dairy Production Technician 1 and Dairy Production Technician 2 (Herdsman). Program profiles and program outlines are available on the ITA website at www.itabc.ca.

Training delivery for **Dairy Production Technician 1**, based on the new Dairy Production Technician program outline, is effective immediately and will begin a pilot delivery in November 2010.

A summative evaluation will be produced after this pilot delivery of the in-school training. The results of the evaluation and any changes to the program standard will be advised in a future OPSN.

Dairy Production Technician 2 is anticipated to begin delivery in Fall 2011.

Background

HortEducationBC has been approved as the industry training organization (ITO) responsible for the dairy production programs.

Since 2008, the BC Milk Producers Association (BCMPA) and dairy employee representatives have worked closely together developing training standards and a new two-level, progressive credential training program which represents the current needs of the dairy production industry.

The new programs replace the Dairy Production Technician program with a progressive credential and two-tiered apprenticeship training program, which is largely workplace-based.

The new programs feature:

- two distinct apprenticeship programs, Dairy Production Technician 1 and Dairy Production Technician 2 (Herdsman), each resulting in a provincially recognized ITA Certificate of Qualification;
- program content which represents the current needs of the dairy production industry;
- in-school technical training consisting of one level per program, each delivered over 5 weeks, in the form of short modules (one or two weeks at a time) and focusing on specific competencies
- 1,000 work-based training hours per program; and,
- an ITA Certificate of Qualification examination for each program.

Transition of Current Apprentices

The ITA, in cooperation with HortEducationBC, has developed an implementation plan to transition currently registered apprentices into the new programs.

Assessment

In-school Training

Training providers delivering Dairy Production Technician 1 or 2 in-school technical training are required to enter the following assessment result for each apprentice in ITADirectAccess:

- An in-school mark in the form of a percentage
(min. 70% is required for a pass)

The in-school mark should be a combined theory and practical assessment determined on the basis of theory and practical subject competencies within the program outline. The theory and practical competency weightings are to be determined by the individual training provider through the pilot program.

The ITA in collaboration with HortEducationBC will initiate a review and update of the assessment guidelines for the new Dairy Production Technician apprenticeship programs and will advise training providers of any changes to the assessment structure.

Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) Exam

In order to be certified, apprentices registered in Dairy Production Technician are required to write a C of Q exam and achieve a mark of 70% or greater after completing each level of their in-school training.

C of Q exams may be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure.

The ITA will administer and invigilate the C of Q exam and score and record exam results in ITADirectAccess.

For more information contact: Cory Williams
Industry Training Authority
Tel: (604) 214-8749
Email: cwilliams@itabc.ca

Copy: ITA Staff