

APPRENTICESHIP AND CERTIFICATION BOARD MINUTES

April 16, 2026

100 - 111 Lombard Avenue

BOARD MEMBERS		STAFF	
Palson, Tanya Coey, Ramona Henry, Shawn Herntier, Warren Laycock, Glenn Lavallee, Meghan Paul, Carol Castel, Ron (present until 12:20) Sharma, Aarti	Chair Employer Representative Employer Representative Employee Representative Employee Representative (Virtual) Secretary Employer Representative Employee Representative (Virtual) Employee Representative	Bezdzietny, Jodie Platt, Julie (Virtual)	A/Director, Policy, Strategic Initiatives and Board Operations Senior Strategic Associate
REGRETS		GUESTS	
Beauchamp, Rene Taran, Chris	Employee Representative Public Interest Representative	Chung, Gabriel	Manager, Training Standards

1.0 OPENING AND ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

1.2 Approval of Agenda Motion 2026.04.01

Closed.

The Apprenticeship and Certification Board (Board) motions to approve the April 16, 2026 agenda as written.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

1.3 Approval of Previous Minutes Motion 2026.04.02

Closed.

The Board motions to approve the January 29, 2026, minutes as written.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

2.0 UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR AND DEPARTMENT

2.1 Board Chair Update

Closed.

- Manitoba Budget 2026 released, significant increase in funding for apprenticeship.
- Fees regulation has been amended - new personal contribution structure in place that aligns with the length of time apprentices are in technical training. Some training will see fee increases, other will decrease, no significant changes.
- Premiers Business Job Council had initial meeting and will be creating sub committees.
- Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship meeting scheduled May 27-28, and the National Skills Competition scheduled May 29.
- For June 2026 Board meeting will look to extend invitation to ADM, and include discussion related to ratios.

2.2 Executive Director Update

Closed.

- Manitoba Budget 2026 committed to increase of \$7.7M in apprentices training funding and \$550K for staffing.
- Apprenticeship Manitoba Information System (AMIS) will replace the current system. Pending sign off on the contract from Innovation and New Technology before proceeding to development. Anticipate 2 years to full implementation.
- Budget increase of 23% for apprenticeship which aligns with increase in people in technical training, this continues to rise.
- Block 2 technical training registration is scheduled for May 1-14, 2026. It will include a dedicated opening day/time for apprentices to call in using HSAP incentive credits. There will also be separate day/time for registration into courses at Assiniboine College and University College of the North prior to opening courses at Red River College Polytechnic.
- National initiative through the FLMM and CCDA to establish an online certification verification tool. Users submit name, trade and certification number and the tool will verify if credential is valid. No private information is disclosed with use of this tool and it is not searchable.
- Expecting announcements related to Tarriff Response funding for individuals, employers and communities impacted by tariffs.

3.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS, TRADES AND DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS

3.1 Sector Agreement Appointments

Closed.

- Two applications for Sector Committees have been received.
- Information on the Sector Committees application process will be shared with the Board for broader awareness and distribution.

Motion: 2026.04.03

The board motions to approve the appointment of two individuals to the Manufacturing Sector Committee as employer representatives, for the terms as written.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

3.2 Trade Designation Status – Electrologist

Carried forward.

- The board reviewed the status of the Electrologist trade and discussed considerations for resolving the current moratorium on new apprentice registrations into the trade:
 - As the compulsory certification requirement remains in place without a functioning certification pathway, interested individuals cannot enter the profession, and those trained elsewhere cannot legally practice in the province.
 - Practitioners interested in providing these services may continue to seek certification through existing national associations.
- Manitoba's system must adapt to changing workforce and industry needs. Public health oversight of personal service businesses would continue through existing regulatory frameworks.
- The board also reviewed additional input from the Service Sector Committee on the matter.

Motion: 2026.04.04

The board motions to recommend to the Minister to de-designate Electrologist trade in Manitoba.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

3.3 Trade Designation Request – Arborist **Carried forward.**

- An application was submitted to the board requesting designation of the Arborist trade. The Arboriculture profession focuses on the care, maintenance, and management of trees in commercial, municipal, and private-sector environments.
- The Canadian Arborist industry is actively pursuing Red Seal designation. Designation in Manitoba would result in a fifth participating jurisdiction and meet the national threshold for Red Seal recognition.
- The Arborist trade is distinct with no overlap to other designated trades, and Manitoba currently lacks a formal training or apprenticeship pathway (relying instead on employer-led and voluntary options).
- The application is supported by survey data from over 130 respondents and employers committed to hiring apprentices.

Motion: 2026.04.05

The board motions to recommend to the Minister to designate Arborist as a voluntary trade in Manitoba.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

3.4 Trade Designation Request – Powerline Technician **Carried forward.**

- The board is awaiting Minister approval for consideration of trade designation with proposed next steps to include an industry survey and engagement with stakeholders.
- The board considered factors that support Powerline Technician to transition from an occupation to a Red Seal trade and determined that further consultation may not be necessary, noting strong industry support.

Motion: 2026.04.06

The board motions to recommend to the Minister to transition Powerline Technician from an occupation to a compulsory certification trade.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried

3.5 Trade Designation Request – EIFS, Stucco and Drywall **Closed.**

- In response to the industry request to designate a trade related to Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS), stucco and drywall, the Board reviewed industry presentation information, survey results, demonstrated industry support, jurisdictional scan results, and additional trade scope analysis.
- After thorough consideration and discussion, the board decided not to proceed with designating EIFS, Stucco and Drywall as a voluntary trade or occupation in Manitoba.
- The applicant will be contacted by the Chair with a response and with their appreciation for contributions to the skilled trades.

Motion: 2026.04.07

The board motions not to proceed with designating EIFS, Stucco and Drywall as a voluntary trade or occupation in Manitoba.

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried

3.6 Gasfitter Trade – Technical Training **Carried forward.**

- Technical training for gasfitter was last updated 2011. Gasfitter Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS) was updated in 2024.
- After consultation with industry representatives and training providers, the Gasfitter technical training standards were redeveloped to reflect a four level framework aligned to the 2024 RSOS for Gasfitter. In February 2026, the Industry Working Group approved the proposed Gasfitter technical training standards and in March 2026, the Mechanical/Electrical Sector Committee approved the proposed technical training standards.
- The board discussed the proposed changes and requests additional information related to the proposed four-level structure and its alignment with other jurisdictions so that Manitoba's model does not add additional time and training requirements.
- The board requests the Industry Working Group, with additional recruitment, to reconsider the training requirements for Gasfitter (Class A).

Motion: 2026.04.08 **The board did not approve the technical training standards as presented and requests the Industry Working Group to reconsider training requirements for Gasfitter (Class A).**

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried

3.7 Sprinkler Fitter Trade - Technical Training **Closed.**

- Technical training for Sprinkler Fitter trade was last updated in 2018 and RSOS was updated in 2025.
- Through the RSOS process that integrated the harmonization initiative, there was national consensus to have four Levels of training. As a result, Sprinkler Fitter technical training standard was redeveloped from a three level (9-9-9) to a four level (7-7-6-7) technical training framework.
- Once change in regulation is completed, individuals currently in program will finish at Level 3 and those starting in Level 1 will transition to the 4 Level program.

Motion 2026.04.9 **The board motions to accept the recommendation by the Mechanical/Electrical Sector Committee to approve the proposed Sprinkler Fitter technical training standards.**

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried

3.8 Technical Training and Regulation Schedule – Board Workplan (26/27) **Closed.**

- The Board has a strategic plan in place for 2023-2028. Annual plans are put forward regarding program updates to trades over the upcoming fiscal year.
- In 2026-27, 38 trades have been identified for redevelopment activities to align with the harmonization initiative, provincial requirements, or industry need.
- 16 trades have been identified as potentially requiring a regulatory or by-law amendment in order to be implemented.

Motion 2026.04.10 **The board motions to approve the 2026-27 Board Work Plan.**

Consensus of 7 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried

4.0	NEW BUSINESS	
4.1	Recognition of Manitoba Apprenticeship Agreement in Ontario	Carried forward.
	- Manitoba contractors working in northwestern Ontario are being advised to register apprentices in Ontario. - While registration would be required when working for an Ontario employer, it may not be necessary for Manitoba-employed apprentices who work in Ontario but do not train in Ontario. - For questions regarding apprentice mobility, a resource guide is available on the website outlining requirements for movement into and out of Manitoba. Journeypersons and apprentices must comply with the regulatory requirements and licensing conditions of the jurisdiction in which they are working. (For reference, added link: mobility-transfer-guide-2025.pdf) - The Executive Director will connect with Ontario to raise the matter and confirm the process, with an update to the board.	
4.2	Technical Training	
	A concern was raised regarding potential practices that could compromise exam and assessment integrity. Any concerns related to training should be reported to the Executive Director by those directly involved, for review.	
5.0	UPDATES	
5.1	Apprenticeship Modernization	Closed.
	Due to time constraints, Executive Director to provide update to board members via email.	
5.2	Enforcement Working Group	Closed.
	Pending Minister direction on audit strategy for compliance.	
5.3	Governance Working Group	Closed.
	- Working group session for annual report information sharing will take place in May. - Will be tendering for facilitator to hold a one day strategic planning session.	
5.4	Apprenticeship Campaign	Closed.
	- As part of Manitoba's website redevelopment, also redeveloped the apprenticeship program brochure and client resources. Resources have been distributed to career development organizations and Manitoba offices; also available on the website. - Campaign under development and anticipated launch in late summer.	
6.0	REGULATIONS/BY-LAWS FOR BOARD APPROVAL AND BOARD CHAIR SIGNATURE	
6.1	NIL	
7.0	FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS	
7.1	Apprentice Supervision Ratios and Data – June 2026. Annual Report – June 2026	
8.0	CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION	
8.1	Board Correspondence Tracker	Closed.
	Clarification required on number of board engagement results, A/Director, Policy, Strategic Initiatives and Board Operations will follow-up.	

9.0	CHECK-IN
-----	----------

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 9.1 | Round-table | Closed. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">No follow-up actions arose from the round table discussion. | |

10.0	CALENDAR EVENTS
------	-----------------

- | | |
|------|--|
| 10.1 | Highest Achievement Awards 2026 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scheduled for May 7, 2026 – invitations forthcoming. |
| 10.2 | Next board meeting |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scheduled for June 26, 2026. |

11.0	IN CAMERA (if required)
------	-------------------------

11.1	NIL
------	-----

12.0	ADJOURMENT
------	------------

12.1	Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.
------	--------------------------------

June 26, 2026

***Date approved by the
Apprenticeship and
Certification Board***

Original signed by

***Tanya Palson, Chair
Apprenticeship and
Certification Board***

Original signed by

***Meghan Lavallee, Secretary
Apprenticeship and
Certification Board***