

APPRENTICESHIP AND CERTIFICATION BOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 29, 2026

100 - 111 LOMBARD AVENUE

BOARD MEMBERS		STAFF	
Palson, Tanya	Chair	Bezdzietny, Jodie	A/Director, Policy, Strategic Initiatives and Board Operations Manager, Policy, Legislation and Board Operations Manager
Beauchamp, Rene	Employee Representative	Slessor-Lutz, Ayla	
Coey, Ramona	Employer Representative		
Herntier, Warren	Employee Representative		
Laycock, Glenn	Employee Representative		
Sharma, Aarti	Employee Representative		
Lavallee, Meghan	Secretary		
REGRETS			
Castel, Ron	Employee Representative		
Henry, Shawn	Employer Representative		
Paul, Carol	Employer Representative		
Taran, Chris	Public Interest Representative		
ABSENT		GUESTS	
		Cavy Braun, Manitoba Wall and Ceiling Association Inc.	

2026.01.01

OPENING AND ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Closed.

Motion 2026.01.01

The Apprenticeship and Certification Board (Board) motions to approve the January 29, 2026, agenda as written.

Consensus of 5 in favour *0 opposed* *0 abstained*

Carried.

1.2 Approval of Previous Minutes

Closed.

Motion 2026.01.02

The Board motions to approve the October 29, 2025, minutes as written.

Consensus of 5 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained

Carried.

1.3 Review of Previous Board Meeting Evaluation

Closed.

2026.01.02

UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR AND DEPARTMENT

2.1 Board Chair Update

Closed.

- Sharepoint site forthcoming to share materials with the Board.
- In addition to materials directly related to agenda items, Supplemental Information will be shared with the Board for background and reference. These materials shared with the Board reflect previous requests, ongoing work, and regular program updates, and may be referenced during the round table portion of the meeting.
- Shared with the board that Aarti Sharma was appointed as a business representative to the Education, Training and Workforce Development subcommittee of the Premier's Business and Jobs Council. Tanya Palson serves on the Clean Energy Economy subcommittee.
- Acknowledged closure of Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology (MITT) and their involvement in delivery of pre-employment programs and technical training for the Industrial Mechanic (Millwright) trade in partnership with University College of the North. The department will manage this as more information is available.
- Additional items of note were referenced for later agenda items.

2.2 Executive Director Update

Closed.

- Apprenticeship Manitoba continues to work to fill vacancies, including the role of Communication and Board Coordinator. Acting Operations Officer & Industry Liaison is now in place, following a retirement.
- Communications recently circulated about updates to the Accreditation of Pre-Employment Programs policy regarding observation only experiences in compulsory trades pre-employment programs.
- Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship Spring 2026 meetings to take place in late May, coincide with national Skills competition.
- Path to Net Zero Strategy released, Apprenticeship Manitoba shared information on alignment and opportunities, including upskilling in certain technologies, evolving Red Seal Occupational Standards and technical training to include/reflect new low-emission technologies and changes to code.
- Technical Training Registration Week (TTRW) in two blocks for 2026/27:
 - First TTRW took place end of November 2025 for courses scheduled April 1 - July 31, 2026.
 - Second TTRW to take place mid-April for courses scheduled August 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027. The second registration block will account for approximately two thirds of all seats for 2026/27.
 - Interest lists will be opened after the second TTRW takes place. Additional courses may be added based on identified demand. Information about how interest lists are managed will be provided next meeting.

2026.01.03

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS

3.1 Trade Status – De-designation Guidelines

Closed.

- Provided an overview of proposed trade and occupation de-designation guidelines, including timing criteria and a process. The Board noted its support for the guidelines, as written. Feedback included consideration to amend The Apprenticeship and Certification Act to include a de-designation process, including consultation parameters, given that designation is grounded in legislation.

3.2 Electrologist Trade Designation Status

Carried Forward.

- The board discussed the status of the Electrologist trade and considerations for resolving the current moratorium on new apprentice registrations into the trade.

Motion 2026.01.03

The Board moves to advance the matter of Electrologist trade status, including consideration of de-designation, to the Services Sector Committee in spring 2026 for stakeholder input, with the matter returning to the Board in April 2026 for decision and recommendation to the Minister.

Consensus of 5 in favour
Carried.

0 opposed

0 abstained

- 3.3 EIFS, Stucco and Drywall Finisher – Trade Designation Application** **Carried Forward.**
- The Board conducted a public survey in December 2025 to gather industry feedback on the potential designation of a trade related to Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (EIFS), stucco, drywall, or plaster.
 - Reviewed results of industry survey, which were limited due to a low number of respondents.
 - The industry applicant was invited to present. They discussed the issue of consumer confidence, and prioritization of standardized training as opposed to certification only. They indicated that regulatory requirements, including those related to apprenticeship supervision and wages, were not expected to present compliance issues for industry.
 - Additional information was provided by the industry applicant on employers that perform exclusively exterior or interior work and the limitations this may pose to meeting the scope of trade for on-the-job training, if hiring Drywall or Lather (Interior Systems Mechanic) apprentices.
 - The Board requested Apprenticeship Manitoba conduct further analysis on scope of related trades and training opportunities, and the topic return to the April 2026 Board meeting.
- 3.4 Powerline Technician – Designation Application Transition to Trade** **Carried Forward.**
- This matter is paused and will return to the April Board meeting.
- 3.5 Sector Committee Appointments** **Closed.**
- Update provided on current Sector Committee vacancies. There are four in Manufacturing, one in Mechanical/Electrical, three in Service, and one in Transportation. Noted that targeted recruitment activities for food and beverage representatives on Service Sector Committee have not yet resulted in applications.
 - Additional follow-up required on one recently received application for the Manufacturing Sector Committee to determine eligibility.
- Motion 2026.01.04** *The Board motions to appoint one individual as an industry representative to the Mechanical/Electrical Sector Committee, and one individual as an employer representative to the Transportation Sector Committee for the terms as written.*
- Consensus of 5 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained*
- Carried.**

2026.01.04 NEW BUSINESS

- 4.1 Nil.** **Closed.**

2026.01.05 UPDATES

- 5.1 Apprenticeship and Certification System Review** **Closed.**
- The Executive Director noted the *Apprenticeship Review and Action Plan* was recently posted to the apprenticeship program website. A number of priorities align with ongoing activities of Apprenticeship Manitoba, and with the broader Provincial Economic Development Strategy. Implementation will be overseen by the department, with input from the Board. The Board will be provided regular updates on implementation progress and outcomes.
- 5.2 Enforcement Working Group** **Closed.**
- Questions related to compliance and enforcement were shared with Sector Committees from November - December 2025. Results were summarized and shared with the Working Group, and then with the Board.

- The Working Group met with related Ministers in December 2025 and subsequently identified areas of priority.
- The Working Group proposed next steps including further discussion with the Minister to gain agreement on areas of priority. An interdepartmental meeting would then be requested, to inform a paper by the Working Group on enforcement policy and procedure.

Motion 2026.01.05 *The Board motions for the Working Group to proceed with a letter to the Minister and interdepartmental meeting request, and return to the board with a list of recommendations in spring 2026.*

Consensus of 5 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstained
Carried.

5.3 Governance Working Group Closed.

- Board Chair requests that all Board members review the Mandate Letter from the Minister, the *Apprenticeship Review and Action Plan* and the Board's Strategic Plan.
- Next steps include a facilitated session with Working Group Members to ensure the Board's activities meet mandate and strategic direction and opportunity areas. All board members welcome to attend.
- Outcomes and recommended next steps will be brought forward to the April board meeting.

2026.01.06 REGULATIONS FOR BOARD APPROVAL AND BOARD CHAIR SIGNATURE

6.1 Nil

2026.01.07 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 7.1 26/27 Board Workplan – Technical Training and Regulation Schedule (June)**
- 7.2 Apprenticeship Campaign (April)**
- 7.3 Sector Committee Meetings – Spring 2026 (April/June)**
- 7.4 2025/26 Program Statistics (June)**
- 7.5 2025/26 Apprenticeship and Certification Board Annual Report (June)**

2026.01.08 CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION

8.1 Board Correspondence Closed.

- The Manager, Policy Legislation and Board Operations presented the correspondence tracker, which summarizes Board correspondence and related actions since the last meeting.
- The Board reviewed the tracker for information purposes; no follow-up actions were required.

2026.01.09 CHECK-IN

9.1 Round-Table Closed.

- Discussed Board Members appointment to the Premier's Business and Job Council. Board to develop letter to the Council on priorities in apprenticeship and certification system, and offer to present to the council.
- Discussed the Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM) and interest in pre-fabricated homebuilding.
- Discussed Ratio Adjustment Tracking Report. Revisit in June 2026 when 2025/26 data available.

2026.01.10

CALENDAR EVENTS

10.1 Highest Achievement Awards

Scheduled for May 7, 2026. All Board members invited, formal invitation and RSVP timeline forthcoming.

10.2 Approved Board Meetings upcoming in 2026

April 16, June 25 and October 15, 2026.

2026.01.11

IN CAMERA (if required)

11.1 Nil

2025.10.12

ADJOURNMENT

12.1 Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

April 16, 2026

*Date approved by the
Apprenticeship and Certification
Board*

Original signed by

*Tanya Palson, Chair
Apprenticeship and Certification
Board*

Original signed by

*Meghan Lavalley, Secretary
Apprenticeship and Certification
Board*