

August 9, 2022

**PROVINCE PROVIDES MORE THAN \$8 MILLION TO
MANITOBA BUSINESSES THROUGH CANADA-MANITOBA JOB GRANT
TO SUPPORT WORKFORCE TRAINING**

The Manitoba government is providing more than \$8 million to Manitoba businesses through the first intake of the 2022-23 Canada-Manitoba Job Grant to support the province's workforce training needs, Economic Development, Investment and Trade Minister Cliff Cullen announced today.

"Funding for training initiatives contributes to the development of a skilled, adaptable workforce, which then addresses the recruitment and retention issues exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Cullen. "The Canada-Manitoba Job Grant is a proven tool that encourages employer investment in employee skills training. This program is great news for the province. We are getting Manitobans and Manitoba families back to work. In the month of July, Manitoba saw the lowest unemployment rate in the country, along with setting a record for the lowest percentage the province has seen since the labour force statistics series started in 1976. The Canada-Manitoba Job Grant, along with previously announced supports, is helping to create fantastic job opportunities all across Manitoba."

The first intake of the 2022-23 Canada-Manitoba Job Grant, which closed June 10, will provide 375 businesses with more than \$8 million in funding. More than \$5.7 million of this funding will support training to help businesses adapt their operations to address the impacts of COVID-19, which is critical to the province's post-pandemic recovery and will result in nearly 5,500 employees trained, the minister noted. An additional \$2 million in funding will be available for applications received in the second intake period, which will open in September 2022.

The Canada-Manitoba Job Grant provides funding received through federal labour market transfers to support employers' workforce training needs. Each year, the Government of Canada provides more than \$3 billion for individuals and employers to obtain training and employment supports through the labour market development agreements (LMDAs) and the workforce development agreements (WDAs) with provinces and territories. Over one million Canadians benefit annually from this programming and support. In 2021-2022, approximately \$97 million was allocated to Manitoba under these agreements, with over 25,000 Manitobans receiving upwards of 80,000 training and employment supports.

Further, between 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, over 9,000 Manitobans received LMDA or WDA-funded training and employment supports while also receiving federal emergency benefits such as the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and Canada Recovery Benefit.

"Together with the Manitoba government, we're making sure workers across the province have the training they need to get good jobs and build rewarding careers," said Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion. "As our economy recovers from COVID-19, we need to make sure Canadians are well positioned to seize the opportunities that the post-pandemic world brings."

Employers can apply for up to \$10,000 per employee, with an overall maximum of \$100,000. Employers with 100 or fewer employees can receive 75 per cent of eligible training costs; employers with more than 100 employees can receive 50 per cent of eligible training costs. To qualify, the training must be delivered by a third party.

Eligible training costs include:

- tuition fees;
- mandatory student fees;
- textbooks, software and other required materials; and
- exam fees.

For more information on the Canada-Manitoba Job Grant, visit:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/jec/busdev/financial/cmjg/index.html>.