
News Release

For immediate release
April 4, 2013

Government of Canada invests to help youth in the Greater Toronto Area get jobs

Toronto, Ontario—The Government of Canada is providing support for youth in the Greater Toronto Area to help them gain the skills, knowledge and experience they need to enter and succeed in the job market. The announcement was made by Bernard Trottier, Member of Parliament for Etobicoke–Lakeshore, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development.

“Our government’s top priorities are creating jobs, economic growth and long-term prosperity,” said Mr. Trottier. “The Government of Canada’s Youth Employment Strategy is helping youth develop the skills and gain the experience they need to get jobs now and prepare for the workforce of tomorrow.”

JobStart is receiving over \$509,000 from the Skills Link program to help youth overcome barriers to employment. Skills Link is part of the Government of Canada’s Youth Employment Strategy (YES).

Participants will develop their employability skills through workshops on topics such as computer skills, résumé preparation and job searching techniques. They will also gain meaningful on-the-job experience in the high-demand construction, retail and automotive repair sectors.

“JobStart is grateful for the funding granted by the Government of Canada that will significantly enhance our employment services for at risk youth in the Etobicoke area.” said Heather Sant, Executive Director of JobStart. “This project will help youth find work in the high demand sectors of automotive repair and maintenance, construction or retail or return to school to complete their high school education.”



With an annual budget of more than \$300 million, YES helps youth, particularly those facing barriers to employment, obtain career information, develop employment skills, find jobs and stay employed. YES includes the Skills Link and Career Focus programs and the Canada Summer Jobs initiative, which creates thousands of job opportunities for students every summer.

Economic Action Plan 2012 provided an extra \$50 million over two years to enhance YES with a new initiative that connects young Canadians with jobs that are in high demand and helps them develop tangible skills and gain work experience. Economic Action Plan 2013 proposes an additional investment of \$70 million over three years to support 5,000 more paid internships.

Youth employment programs are part of the Government of Canada's broader strategy to create an educated, skilled and flexible workforce. The Government underscored its commitment to this strategy in Canada's Economic Action Plan. A key component of the Plan is to create more and better opportunities for Canadian workers through skills development. To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit actionplan.gc.ca.

The Government of Canada is helping youth plan their careers, learn new skills and find jobs through enhanced online services available at youth.gc.ca.

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This news release is available online at: actionplan.gc.ca.

Backgrounder

The **Youth Employment Strategy** is the Government of Canada's commitment to help youth make a successful transition to the workplace.

Skills Link helps youth facing barriers to employment, including youth who are single parents, youth with disabilities and youth in rural and remote areas, to develop the skills and gain the experience needed to find a job or the confidence to return to school.

Career Focus provides funding to employers to hire young post-secondary graduates to give them career-related work experience and help them acquire skills to transition into the job market.

Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers and small businesses with 50 or fewer employees to create summer job opportunities for young people aged 15 to 30 years who are full-time students intending to return to their studies in the next school year.

To learn more about Canada's Youth Employment Strategy and other youth employment initiatives, please visit youth.gc.ca.