

Minutes of the
Workforce Development Council
Tuesday, October 13, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
TEAMS Meeting

Members present: Dave Farnsworth, Pat Bertagnolli, Randy Burckhard, Jason Ehlert, Tifanie Gelinske, Tony Grindberg, Dr. Mark Hagerott, Jan Kamphuis, Janelle Klinke, Bryan Klipfel, Perry Lubbers, Keith Lund, Guy Moos, Don Shilling, Wayne Sick, Taya Spelhaug, Robyn Throlson

Staff present: Phil Davis, Katie Ralston, Sherri Frieze

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dave Farnsworth called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcoming members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Keith Lund, seconded by Guy Moos to approve the July 15th minutes. Motion carried.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Removing Barriers

Bryan Klipfel

Focus	Recommendation	Funding
Include addressing driver's license opportunities to promote workforce reentry Utilize existing services, employer incentive offered with WIOA funds and addressing dollars for items such as transportation, tools	1. Job Placement Program	
Utilize existing framework of the Pardon Advisory Board. Background investigation for ex-offenders applying for a certificate.	2. Certificate Program	
Educate employers across the state about hiring ex-offenders and benefits of giving a second chance. Promote Pilot & Certificate Programs.	3. Statewide Marketing Campaign	Proposed \$50 thousand (consulting with Sara Otte Coleman will be done)

Recruit & Retain

Pat Bertagnolli

Focus	Recommendation	Funding
American Workforce Policy Advisory Board Call to Action	4. Sustained funding for Technical Skills Training Grant	\$2.5M
Transition from Recovery to Meeting Future Needs	5. Funding for Recruitment Campaign	\$1M to offset training costs for displaced workers
TrainND proposal		\$100,000 to promote the support for displaced workers program in each region 1 to 1 match
Still Need to Recruit		\$1M is requested for programs led by the private sector & other training providers

CAREER EXPOSURE/TECHNICAL SKILLS GAP

Focus	Recommendation	Funding
Earlier, more diverse career exploration	6. Expand Area Career & Technology Centers	\$40M as listed in CTE Budget Support NDUS Budget request for ND Career Builders Marketing (HB 1171)
Addressing the Technical Skills Gap	7. Update, refine career exploration tools in schools – including training for instructors 8. Expand industry/career exploration unit in ND Studies 9. Funding for grant programs to support private sector in creating virtual example of high demand careers.	

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

Katie Ralston

The Occupational Licensing Reform (OLR) workgroup held meetings over the past six months to study North Dakota’s schema for occupational licensing in order to develop a thorough understanding of licensing in our state, discover best practices, compared to other states, engage licensing boards and commissions to identify their processes, and identify the best path for reform.

Opportunity	Recommendation
Populations with Barriers	10. Remove vague or generic terms, including without limitation the phrase “moral turpitude” and “good character.” 11. Establish and making public criminal convictions that will disqualify an applicant from obtaining a license to practice. 12. Implement a pre-qualification process 13. SB 2306 Clean up.
Geographic Mobility	Promote existing practices & encourage expedited application processing for all. Any recognition policies should require than an applicant to be licensed and in good standing in all states where they are licensed, pay applicable ND fees, and meet all residency, testing, and background check requirements.
Process	Annual Data Collection – annual survey

Katie gave an overview of the thirteen recommendations that were presented to the council.

Motion: It was moved by Guy Moos, seconded by Senator Randy Burckhard to approve the thirteen recommendations presented to the Workforce Development Council. Motion carried.

Tony Grindberg abstained from voting.

LEGISLATIVE PROCESS & TIMELINE

Senator Randy Burckhard

- January 5 – Legislative session begins with Governor’s State of State Address
- January 18- Deadline for Representatives to introduce bills
- January 25 – Deadline for Senators to introduce bills
- February 26 – Midway point – crossover for bills, with a four-day break for legislators
- April 28 – Session limited to 80 legislative days

DEVELOP A COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION PLAN

Katie Ralston

Katie will engage a small group from the council to develop a one-page fact sheet listing the recommendations of the council and other divisional information regarding Commerce’s workforce division, proving this to be a valuable tool for educating and communicating to the legislators.

Katie will communicate with the Governor’s staff on the appropriate process needed to complete the submission of the council’s recommendations appropriately. Lastly, Katie will relay information back to the council, regarding discussions had with the Governor’s office of the council’s recommendations submitted.

NEXT STEPS

Dave Farnsworth

The fourth quarter workforce development council (WDC) meeting is scheduled for December 16th as a joint meeting with the Economic Development Foundation (EDF). At that time, the council will need to focus on strategic priorities for 2021.

The first week of December, the executive committee will meet to discuss the agenda for the planned WDC and EDF joint meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

**It was moved by Arnie Strebe, seconded by Robyn Throlson to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.
Motion carried.**