

Investment and Economic Prosperity Committee (IEPC) City of London 300 Dufferin Avenue London, ON N6A 4L9

April 30, 2012

Dear Chair and Members of the IEPC;

I am writing on behalf of the Job Developers Network of the Employment Sector Council London-Middlesex (ESCLM) in support of City Councillor Paul Hubert's "Hire 1" Initiative.

The ESCLM Job Developers Network (JDN) comprises more than 20 Job Developers and Employer Liaison professionals from across the ESCLM's public and nonprofit organizations (our membership list is attached). Our members work to directly connect employers with the best job seeker candidates through:

- provision of free and expert job placement and matching services
- workplace placement, experience, and training services and supports
- accessing government funding and financing programs for employers and job seekers
- education about job development resources and opportunities available in our region
- building relationships between our region's employer demands and our workforce supply

Our members have recently formed the JDN because we recognize the benefits of taking a collective approach to workforce development initiatives. We believe our network represents a unique and innovative sector-wide collaboration: a key community resource for ensuring job seekers enter our workforce with the skills that employers require to meet their needs.

The ESCLM JDN is committed to participating in the design and development of the "Hire 1 Initiative" and we sincerely hope that its work will go forward. As critical "interveners" between job seekers and employers, we have significant experience and expertise in identifying and overcoming the systemic barriers faced by both job seekers and employers seeking the best hires. A significant part of our work involves developing best practices and streamlined supports for encouraging employers to hire from our diverse local talent pool.

We look forward to hearing of the progress of the "Hire 1" initiative and trust that you will recognize both the value of this project to the employment sector, as well as the value we can bring collectively with regards to this and other workforce development initiatives.

Sincerely,

Carol Stewart

Project Manager, ESCLM

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A network of not-for-profit employment and training interests providing strategic employment solutions.

Unréseaud'intérêts en emploi et formation, fournissant des solutions stratégiques.

## **ESCLM Job Developers Network:**

Nadine Chin-Lalonde, Collège Boréal Zeina Choucair, WIL Employment Connections Claudette Faulkner, Pathways Skills Development John Farrell, Pathways Skills Development Glenn Granger, WOTCH Community Mental Health Services Marlene Graydon, Community Living London Grace Johnson, London Employment Help Centre Karen Kloibhofer, Fanshawe College, Community Employment Services Kristina Le Claire, WIL Employment Connections Yvonne Lindsay, Community Living London Bonnie Macklin, WIL Employment Connections Jan Maguire, Fanshawe College, Employment Service Elgin Heather Maiorana, Goodwill Industries Paula Massiah, Nokee Kwe Tiffany Pringle-Austin, Youth Opportunities Unlimited Linda Pollard, London Employment Help Centre Nancy Priestley, WOTCH Community Mental Health Services Cathy Sommers, WIL Employment Connections Marg Smith, Leads Employment Services Carol Stewart, ESCLM Mike Stuart, Community Living London Rob Thompson, Community Employment Choices, Strathroy Maria Torres, London Employment Help Centre Wayne Warmington, London Training Centre Susie Webster, Community Employment Choices, Strathroy Bob Wendt, Pathways Skills Development

Jillian Winters, WOTCH Community Mental Health Services