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January 2014

ASTTBC Supports InSPIRE Advisory Committee

ASTTBC is providing ongoing support to the InSPIRE Advisory Committee, a group of industry and sector representatives whose mandate is to assist with Skills Canada BC's trades and technology career exploration and information sessions at high schools throughout BC. A number of presentations were delivered at pilot schools/classes in the interior of BC and other Metro Vancouver Schools. Work on this portfolio is ongoing.

ASTTBC will assist by providing pertinent technology career path information for presentations and support documents to secondary students. The BC Government initiative is welcomed by ASTTBC as the Association has asked the Government to put in place a technology awareness scheme.

"This is a GREAT initiative," said Executive Director John Leech. "ASTTBC and the ASTTBC-appointed Technology Education and Careers Council has been advocating for a program that would excite young minds about technology and tech education and careers. The InSPIRE program should do the trick."

TECC Chair, Sid Siddiqui, PEng on learning of the InSPIRE initiative indicated that the model should help draw attention to technology education and careers as well as to the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists. TECC has met each year with the BC Government Cabinet Ministers responsible for education, advanced education and jobs. In each of the meetings TECC spoke to industry's need for greater numbers of technology professionals.

ASTTBC Manager, Member and Program Development, Jason Jung, is ASTTBC's rep on the InSPIRE Group. Jason reports solid progress on the pilots and looks forward to further refinements to the program as the Group learns from the early experiences.

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