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BC Government Announces Program to Support Skilled Immigrants

The Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training announced a program to support and assist internationally trained professionals fully engage and build careers in BC. Technologists and technicians are included, as well, ASTTBC is named in the press release and Executive Director John Leech is quoted.

"This is great news for the 'middle education ground' of diplomas and certificates of technology from institutions such as BCIT, Okanagan College and Camosun College. I applaud the BC Government, Ministers Pat Bell (Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training) and John Yap (Advanced Education, Innovation and Technology) for this initiative" said ASTTBC Executive Director.

Click [HERE](#) to view the entire Press Release.

ASTTBC has been working with the two Ministries to assure internationally trained professionals (ITPs) that they will face an open, fair and equitable process to get their credentials fully recognized and move as quickly as possible to full and meaningful employment as a technologist or technician.

ASTTBC, with financial support from Government, has developed a number of initiatives to support and assist ITPs:

- * adopted 'Provisional' registration to help ITPs identify with employers their qualification as either a technician or technologist*
- * consulted with ITPs, employers and others to gather as much intelligence as possible as to the needs and interests of ITPs and employer requirements for technical skills*
- * created Technology Registrations Canada, with financial support of Human Resources development Canada, a software package which allows any person anywhere in the world to log in and complete, at no cost, a self-assessment against the National Technology Benchmarks*
- * formulated a mentoring scheme in partnership with the Immigrant Employment Council of BC*
- * appointed an ITP Leadership Council*
- * created a web site to house information relating to ITPs*

"The partnership between the BC Government and ASTTBC has significantly helped ITPs with more work planned later this year and into 2013," concluded Leech. "We are making solid progress and continue to learn of new and better ways