



Sector Table Workshop: Report to Participants February 2017

ICT



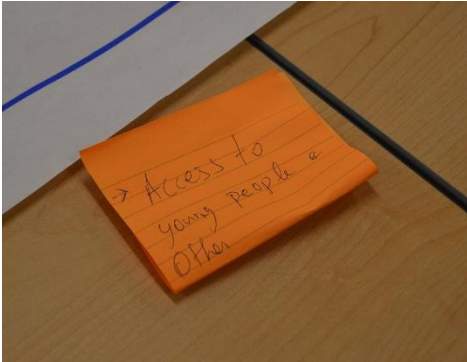
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ICT SECTOR TABLE



Key issues

HR recruitment & retention; knowledge-sharing & communication across sectors; stronger links between industry and higher education; access to capital; acceleration services; education and awareness about ICT businesses and development opportunities in the Valley

Opportunities to explore

promoting opportunities for youth; strengthening links with higher education; working with other sectors

Strong points

proximity to young graduates; excellent institutions & organizations, e.g.: Acadia University (including Acadia Institute for Data Analytics & Launch Box), NSCC, Innovacorp, Refresh Annapolis Valley; quality of life and proximity to Halifax; Valley Community Fibre Network

Weak points & threats

talent competition with urban areas; lack of diversity (workforce and business owners/managers); weak communication network within ICT

Proposed actions in 2017

Pilot a mentoring and connector program (could be cross-sectoral).

Engage with partners to strengthen connections between students and post-secondary institutions, businesses, investors, and ICT-facing agencies.

Assist with an ICT events newsletter.

Coordinate workshops on sales training.

THE SECTOR TABLE WORKSHOP

On Dec. 7, the Valley REN hosted a workshop in Kentville with more than 60 people from five key sectors in the Annapolis Valley: agriculture, tourism, information and communications technologies (ICT), manufacturing, and sustainable energy.

Our facilitator, Common Good Solutions, led the five "sector tables" in a SWOT analysis.

Key points from the ICT Sector Table are noted here, with suggestions for how the Valley REN can help the business community grow these sectors.

Read the full report [here](#).

Read highlights from [all sector tables](#).

Post your comments [here](#).