



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Valley Regional Enterprise Network Launches Regional Workforce Development Strategy

The Valley Regional Enterprise Network (Valley REN) is developing a comprehensive Regional Workforce Development Strategy to address and provide recommendations to develop/attract and retain labour in the Annapolis Valley region.

To assist with the strategy development, the Valley REN engaged MDB Insight Inc, one of Canada's leading specialist strategic planning and economic development firms.

A critical component of the Valley REN Regional Workforce Development Strategy is surveying, which seeks input from local stakeholders, employers, job seekers, high school and post-secondary students regarding workforce opportunities and challenges across the Annapolis Valley region.

Stakeholder engagement will include telephone and online surveys, and the information received will be strictly confidential. The surveys launch Monday, March 29th, 2021.

The project and the completed strategy will be available to stakeholders by September 1st, 2021.

The Valley REN is working closely with members of the Workforce Supports Response Team (part of the Regional Economic Recovery Taskforce) and a steering committee with representation from Acadia University, Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), Nova Scotia Works and the Annapolis Valley Regional Centre for Education (AVRCE).

"As the largest post-secondary institution in the Annapolis Valley, we recognize and value the role we play in developing a ready workforce in support of established and emerging industries, but also in nurturing the confidence and skills of future entrepreneurs" Michelle Larsen, Manager, Co-operative Education, Acadia University.

The Regional Workforce Development Strategy will assess what the needs are now and build an understanding of future needs. It is a future-thinking, multi-year plan that will be carried out by stakeholders in the region.

"Listening to businesses and industries of all sizes, we know that access to talent is critical to their success and sustainability. We are happy to have the support of community stakeholders and the business community to develop this strategy" says Jennifer Tufts, CEO, Valley Regional Enterprise Network.

For more about the Valley Regional Enterprise Network (Valley REN) visit: <http://www.valleyren.ca/>

To learn more about MDB Insight Inc, please go to: <https://mdbinsight.com/>

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