



7th Floor, Frost Building South
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Telephone: 416 325-0400
Facsimile: 416 325-0374

7^e étage, Édifice Frost sud
7, Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Téléphone : 416 325-0400
Télécopieur : 416 325-0374

OCT 05 2009

Mr. Tony Elenis
President and CEO
Ontario Restaurant Hotel & Motel Association
2600 Skymark Avenue
Suite 8-201
Mississauga, Ontario
L4W 5B2

Dear Mr. Elenis:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Ontario Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit. I appreciate your taking the time to share your recommendation on this issue.

The ATTC was introduced in the 2004 Ontario Budget to encourage the hiring of apprentices in certain skilled trades. The ATTC was one of several initiatives announced by the Government of Ontario to strengthen the province's apprenticeship system.

The objective of the ATTC is to focus the government's limited resources on sectors where there are looming skills shortages and areas that are central to Ontario's ability to export products and compete in a global economy. Qualifying skilled trades include designated construction, industrial and motive power trades as well as certain service trades. The trades covered by the ATTC account for approximately 80 per cent of apprenticeship trades.

It may interest you to know that along with introducing initiatives like the ATTC that will increase participation within the apprenticeship system, the Ontario government has committed to providing additional funding for apprenticeships. Recent investments include \$55 million over three years to Colleges and Training Centres for infrastructure, equipment modernization, and facilities updating to create greater training and skills upgrading capacity in Ontario.

.../cont'd

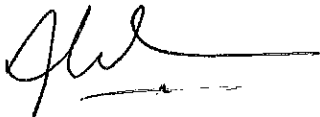
Ontario has also made further investments in the apprenticeship system, including supporting out-of-school youth by expanding academic upgrading options and instituting an Apprenticeship Scholarship and Employer Signing Bonus. As well, training centre capacity will be expanded over the next three years as part of a \$970 million government program called Building Places to Learn.

The 2008 Ontario Budget also announced \$560 million over three years for skills training, including the introduction of the Second Career Strategy, expansion of apprenticeships and improvements to equipment for in-school training.

Please be assured that your recommendation has been taken under advisement.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duncan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dwight Duncan
Minister