

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New WorkBC Employment Services Centre Opening in Squamish

Squamish, B.C. – Training Innovations, an established B.C.-based career development company, announces the opening of a WorkBC Employment Services Centre in Squamish. The new employment centre will open on April 2, 2012 and will serve British Columbians eligible to work in Canada and seeking employment.

An initiative by the Ministry of Social Development, the WorkBC Employment Services Centre will integrate all services currently offered through a single door and make it easier to help people find work and provide stability for their families. The Province's new Employment Program of British Columbia will provide services and supports to help unemployed British Columbians get back to work quickly. The program will be delivered through WorkBC Employment Services Centres in communities across the province beginning in April 2012. These centres support the government's Families First commitment and BC Jobs Plan, which will strengthen the economy, creating and protecting jobs for British Columbians.

"All service providers will deliver the full suite of employment services to citizens and will determine the best way to meet the needs of specialized populations," said Minister of Social Development Stephanie Cadieux. "The new WorkBC Employment Services Centre in Squamish will provide quick and easy access to anyone looking for work in the area."

The ministry selected Training Innovations through a competitive process to open WorkBC Employment Services Centres in Port Moody, Squamish and Whistler. The company has more than 20 years experience designing and delivering community-based employment programs in B.C., offering both online and in-person service options.

Training Innovations is partnering with a number of organizations to deliver the services, including Sea to Sky Community Services Society, Community Futures Development Corporation of Howe Sound, Howe Sound Women's Centre Society, Immigrant Services Society of BC, Squamish Nation (Community Achievement Centre), Squamish Physio and Wellness Centre, Life Strategies Ltd., Open Door Group and Douglas College.

"We are delighted to launch this new program, it is a great opportunity to provide a variety of services that meet the needs of individuals and employers in the community," explains Tannis Goddard, President and Founder of Training Innovations. "Having delivered employment services in the Corridor since 2001, I am thrilled that Training Innovations will continue helping address the employment and labour market needs in the Sea to Sky Region."

WorkBC Employment Services Centres offer a wide range of employment programs and services under one roof. This includes individual career counselling, career planning and job search services, skills training, self-employment assistance, a self-directed resource centre, and employer services. The centres also provide services for specialized populations including immigrants, youth, Aboriginal people, Francophones, persons with disabilities, survivors of violence, persons with multiple barriers and people living in rural and remote areas.

"I am confident that the WorkBC Employment Services Centre will make it easier for job seekers identify and connect with the service options are right for them," says Goddard. "I am proud that Training Innovations will help these individuals receive the supports they need to find work as quickly as possible."

About WorkBC Employment Services Centres

For information about the new WorkBC Employment Services Centres visit www.labourmarketservices.gov.bc.ca/community_organizations/btp/successful_proponents.html

For more information on ministry services for unemployed British Columbians visit <u>http://www.labourmarketservices.gov.bc.ca/</u>

More information on WorkBC is available at www.WorkBC.ca

BC Jobs Plan information can be found at www.bcjobsplan.ca/

About Training Innovations

Training Innovations works with governments and other organizations to create and implement results-based career development programs. Training Innovations is known for developing forward-thinking career services, setting new industry standards and maintaining a strong commitment to research and development. This is evidenced by the company's successful community-based career service projects and the development of e-Volve – an unmatched technology platform designed specifically for online career services and e-career guidance. Established in 1992, Training Innovations has won and delivered 21 multi-year contracts funded by federal and provincial governments. To date, the organization has helped more than 20,000 people achieve their career goals and succeed in the workplace.

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