



NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR RECRUITMENT

Most employment sectors in Canada report that there will not be enough workers to fulfill society's needs for goods and services. The Forest Products Sector Council recently released a report projecting a shortage of 40,000 -120,000 workers in the forest sector alone. This issue is particularly challenging in northern regions where natural resource development opportunities abound, the population pool is small, and communities are working diligently to maintain a good quality of life for their citizens.

Two important industries in Northern BC, mining and forestry, have similar labour needs and skill sets. Field technicians, truck and equipment operators, trades people and registered professionals are critical to the continued success of the natural resources sector.

What we did and where we are

In collaboration with the College of New Caledonia, Resources North Association (RNA) managed a listserv to keep interested parties informed about recruitment activities and opportunities in Prince George. Meanwhile, several regional and provincial groups in the mining and forestry sectors have developed recruitment-related initiatives of their own.

Opportunities for cross-sectoral collaboration

With funding from the Natural Resources Canada, Forest Communities Program, and the Forest Products Sector Council and others, RNA and several partners will be planning a Natural Resources Recruitment Workshop to explore the range of existing recruitment initiatives in the forestry and mining sectors, identify barriers and solutions to recruitment, and opportunities for collaboration. A diverse group of stakeholders are involved in the steering committee including academic institutions, non profits, professional associations, and industry.

Planned activities 2012

- **April 2012 Workshop** to explore existing initiatives, barriers and solutions for recruitment in the natural resources sector for Northern BC.



For more information on this and our other projects, contact us:

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