

Skills2Sector Project: Sector Based Workforce Development

Building local capacity in the Agricultural and Mining sectors in Ontario to employ people who have a disability

ODEN and a consortium of partners have launched Skills2Sector – a sector based, workforce development project to create labour market partnerships that will eliminate the barriers to employment for people who have a disability and who are under presented in the Agricultural and Mining sectors in Ontario.

Through this project, opportunities for job seekers will be created to learn about the necessary skills and competencies needed for in-demand jobs in these sectors. Job seekers will have access to learning platforms through LinkedIn and other industry specific training. Job seekers will access to other experiential opportunities to obtain the skills needed to thrive in these sectors.

Why these two sectors?

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada, named Ontario the country's centre for mineral exploration and mining financing in 2019. More than 150,000 people are employed in mineral exploration and the economical value of mining production in Ontario is \$10.1 billion (<https://www.pdac.ca>). This industry will see a labour vacancy close to 80,000 workers over the next 10 years with some 60, 000 a direct result of retirement. (Source: Mining Industry Human Resources Council, MiHR, 2020).

In Agriculture, over 800,000 people or 1 in 8 people are employed in the sector generating 37 billion dollars. The labour deficit will double by 2029, with a need for 123,000 workers. To illustrate the economic hardship of this labour deficit, in 2017, the sector had a short of 16,500 workers that cost the industry 2.9 billion dollars. (Source: Canadian Agricultural Human Resources Council, How Labour Changes Will Shape the Future of Agriculture: Agriculture Forecast to 2029, Aug 2019)

Why participate?

Both Mining & Agriculture sectors are looking to reach nontraditional talent pools to address their labour needs. They want to reach YOU.

This is an opportunity for job seekers and students in later years high-school or post-secondary, who identify as having a disability, to learn about how they can prepare to enter two sector that have in-demand, well paid and sustainable employment opportunities.

[Fill in the survey](#) to learn more about how you can participate and benefit from the many experiential opportunities with this project and be closer to landing a job that can be transformed into a life-time career.

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