

AWIB Executive Director's Report

April 30, 2012

I want to thank all board members for their dedication, efforts, and support as AWIB members. Please let me know how my staff and I are able to assist you in performing your responsibilities as an AWIB member. I want to give special thanks to Linda Hulbert and Larry Bell for their commitment and dedication as AWIB members. I want to welcome the following three new AWIB members:

- R. Corey Baxter, District 8 Representative / International Union of Operating Engineers – Juneau – Organized Labor Seat
- William Bieber, Operations Manager / Barrick Gold Corp. – Donlin Gold – Anchorage – Private Sector Seat
- Terral F. Wanzer, Owner / Best Western Landing Hotel – Ketchikan - Private Sector Seat

NAWB (National Association of Workforce Boards):

Kathy Craft and I attended the NAWB conference on March 11th through March 14th. This was my first attendance as AWIB's Executive Director. It was a very informative conference and a great opportunity for me to visit with Workforce Investment Board (WIB) members and Executive Directors. Listed below are some of the highlights of the sessions I attended:

- WIB meetings should be structured with state wide topics and reports from different departments. The goal of the meetings should be planning for the future workforce needs.
- Role of WIB: workforce development, state and community advocacy, capacity building, and planning for the future.
- Keynote – Rick Stephens – Senior Vice President, The Boeing Company. Mr. Stephens stated that Boeing hires 11,000 people per year and there are over 2.5 million applicants for these positions. He also stated that the training of new employees previously took only three weeks but now the training has expanded to seven weeks.
- Strategies for meeting the need for a skilled and educated workforce: 1. Underlying trends shaping the current global job market; 2. Impact of those trends on the education community; 3. Obstacles that can prevent open dialogue and cooperation; 4. Need for developed nations to focus more resources on career and technical education; and 5. Ways for business and education to work together
- Please see attached website to view post-conference materials - http://www.nawb.org/forum/post_conference.asp

Attached are the following reports for your review:

Alaska Career and Technical Education (CTE) Plan Action Committee, April 11, 2012 Work Session Report – page 2;

2012 Alaska Crew and Cast Advancement Program (AKCCAP) Report Overview – page 5; and

Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership Update – page 7.

**Alaska Career and Technical Education (CTE) Plan Action Committee
April 11, 2012 Work Session**

Marcia Olson, AWIB CTE Coordinator

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is not just another name for vocational education. CTE has adapted and evolved into a program that prepares learners, both youth and adult, to become career- and college-ready, in order to meet the dynamic needs of our state, national, and global economy. CTE today requires a new level of excellence and prepares students (secondary, postsecondary and adult) for a wide range of careers, most of which require some postsecondary training. This training includes apprenticeships, industry certificate or occupational endorsement programs, and two-year degrees, as well as four-year degrees and beyond. Successful CTE programs incorporate rigorous academic and technical standards as well as critical workplace skills such as problem solving, communication, and teamwork.

The Alaska CTE Plan was developed in January of 2010 and was endorsed by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) and approved by the State Board of Education and Early Development and Alaska Board of Regents that spring. The plan addresses the individual need for career preparedness as well as the broader social need for a systemic training and education system in Alaska that is efficient, effective, and coordinated with regional and state current and future workforce needs. The plan includes the input of a broad cross-section of policy makers, educators, employers, state agencies, training institutions and parent representatives. It is the result of leadership and cooperation among three Alaska agencies – the Department of Education & Early Development (EED), the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and the University System (UA) – who remain the leaders of continuing implementation of the plan.

On April 11, 2012, thirteen members of the State CTE Plan Action Committee, representing business and industry, apprenticeships, K-12 schools, rural Alaska, postsecondary institutions, and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) met in Anchorage to review the progress of the Plan to date and to develop recommended priorities for continued implementation of the Plan's six strategies. The participants, most of whom have been with the committee for the past 2 to 3 years, heard remarks from Department of Education & Early Development Commissioner Mike Hanley, University of Alaska President Pat Gamble, and Department of Labor and Workforce Development Acting Commissioner David G. Stone and Assistant Commissioner Greg Cashen, who thanked the participants for their time and contributions to the committee. Each one also reiterated his agency's commitment to CTE and to the CTE Plan.

The committee members worked throughout the day and provided thoughtful comments and recommendations to the three lead agencies to guide the continued work of implementing the Alaska CTE Plan. The group's recommendations will inform the work of the CTE leads and staff from the three as they develop their work plans and goals for FY13.

The priorities will also form the basis for criteria for FY13 CTE Competitive Grants to educational entities, which the AWIB plans to award pending final approval of the FY13 funding from the Alaska legislature.

Before discussing FY13 priorities, CTE staff from the three lead agencies briefed the committee on current implementation activities. Below are a few highlights of the FY12 activities and accomplishments.

FY12 Activities

- providing information and resources for implementation of Personal Learning and Career Plans (PLCPs) at all levels
- development and delivery of distance courses that are geared towards high school students and that may also qualify for postsecondary credit
- adoption of new regulations concerning teacher qualifications for an industry or CTE content expert who does not have a regular teaching certificate
- training of a CTE leadership cadre that includes CTE leaders who work at all levels of education or training
- completion of a CTE facilities and program inventory for Regional Training Centers (RTCs) and for high schools
- awarding of nearly \$570,000 in state CTE funds to 15 grantees, including school districts and University of Alaska (UA) programs, to expand or develop CTE programs or to update facilities or equipment
- development of models for successful secondary to postsecondary transitions for learners in the healthcare field; working on models for other CTE areas
- updating and revision of UA system career clusters and pathways and developing inventories of UA programs in various industry sectors
- continued use of WorkKeys® assessments at schools and Job Centers; increased use of WorkKeys by employers and training programs
- development of a Teacher Externship program through UAA; continuation of Teacher Externship program sponsored by Alaska Process Industries Career Consortium (APICC)

The Action Committee's recommendations for FY13 priorities for each CTE Plan Strategy:

- 1. Strategy 1: Make transitions planned and accountable for both successful student progress and systemic cooperation.**
 - A. Continue the focus on transitions – from one level of education to the next and from education and training into the workplace.
 - B. Expand the use of Personal Learning and Career Plans (PLCPs) and the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS).
- 2. Strategy 2: Align curricula at all training institutions to meet current industry standards – including academic, professional, and technical skills – from elementary through secondary to postsecondary and professional development levels.**
 - A. Develop an implementation plan for meaningful use of WorkKeys® and WorkKeys results within secondary and postsecondary programs and in business/industry.
 - B. Align CTE curricula from secondary to postsecondary and from one postsecondary program to another through articulation agreements, credit transferability, and sharing resources & staff.
 - C. Continue and expand integration of academic skills, i.e., math and reading, into CTE courses and programs.

- D. Promote effective partnerships between schools and training programs and local/regional employers and industries.
- 3. **Strategy 3: Identify and promote career and technical education delivery models that ensure that all Alaskans have the opportunity to attain the knowledge and skills needed for further training and careers.**
 - A. Examine a variety of CTE delivery models that are being used or could be used in Alaska.
 - B. Identify or develop criteria by which programs or delivery models may be evaluated.
 - C. Develop models to effectively teach, assess, and document employability skills (also known as personal skills, soft skills, essential skills) in all CTE programs.
- 4. **Strategy 4: Recruit, develop, support, and retain high-quality CTE teachers and faculty.**
 - A. Consider industry qualifications for teacher certification.
 - B. Explore feasibility of allowing a “Type M” teaching certificate to be transferrable from one district to another.
- 5. **Strategy 5: Maximize the use of public facilities for training.**
 - A. Continue to update inventories of secondary and postsecondary facilities.
 - B. Identify challenges and best practices that prohibit or encourage sharing of facilities.
- 6. **Strategy 6: Establish and maintain sustainable funding mechanisms for a successful CTE system for youth and adults.**
 - A. Investigate best practices for industry to take advantage of the State of Alaska corporate tax credit for contributions to qualified training programs.
 - B. Encourage education and training entities to leverage existing funding, e.g., the 1% vocational education factor for secondary schools and TVEP funding for postsecondary programs.
 - C. Promote best practices in making CTE programs sustainable.



2012 Alaska Crew and Cast Advancement Program (AKCCAP) Report Overview

Jason Bluhm, AWIB Program Coordinator

Legislative appropriations outlined in the capital budget, in the amount of \$486,000, were made available to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB), to offer, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), competitive grants for training Alaskans and establishing Alaska workforce development programs in the film and television industry for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013, June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

Through the 2012 Alaska Crew and Cast Advancement Program (AKCCAP) the AWIB sought projects that provide career and technical education that will adapt to emerging demands and opportunities in the film and television industry and prepare Alaskans for success in the industry. The AWIB may make individual grants under this program in an amount not to exceed:

- \$30,000 for Program Development (including facility rentals).
- \$10,000 for curriculum materials that are recognized by the film/TV industry.

Fourteen Grant applications were submitted and reviewed by a committee that consisted of two AWIB members and one DCCED staff. This committee recommended seven applicants to both commissioners of DOLWD and DCCED and all seven were approved. The total funding awarded is \$257,350. The seven applicants approved are;

- **Talking Circle Media \$40,000** – through its Crew Academy of Alaska, will provide training on live sets, locations and studio sound stages of film and television productions with a five-part curriculum. Participants will also receive career and job search counseling and job placement resources.
- **Alaska Crew Training (ACT I) \$39,700** – for Production Boot camp 101: Cast & Crew Training will offer classroom and hands-on intensive crew trainings in rural and urban communities providing participants with an overview of production for entry- and mid-level positions.
- **Alaska Crew Training (ACT I) \$39,800** – for ACT I Week Intensive Level I and II Program to prepare attendees for entry-level, on-set opportunities in film and video production, including examining the knowledge and skills expected of a production assistant, teaching attendees to hold entry-level positions in the grip or electric departments.
- **IATSE Local 918 \$40,000** – for professional film technician training that will include classes taught in Anchorage and Fairbanks and video streaming classes accessible to rural Alaska through the University of Alaska Anchorage. Classes will include fundamentals of filming, grip, electrics, safety and set etiquette.
- **Affinityfilms, Inc. \$17,850** – to train individuals who already have a good working knowledge of film production, but who have not worked as script supervisors before, about film and commercial shoots in Alaska.
- **KPU Telecommunications \$40,000** – for the Southeast Alaska Film Training Consortium to provide a web-based class in which students explore the concepts surrounding beginning video production. Emphasis will be on pre-production, camera operation, recording procedures, electronic field production, lighting and audio.

- **University of Alaska Fairbanks, Film Program \$40,000–** for Film Reel Alaska Mentoring Experience Phase II - Production & Post-Production to provide three tiers of training to applicants in pre-production, production and post-production using live film shoots to mentor students in all departments and positions on a small film set.

The remaining funds not awarded directly through this competitive grant process, may be made available to individual Alaskans through Individual Training Accounts (ITAs). ITAs may be used to cover participation in these training programs. ITAs may only be spent inside the State of Alaska by Alaskan residents. Organizations not receiving these AKCCAP competitive grants may be included as training providers for purposes of ITAs but must be certified through the Alaska Film Office.

Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership Update

Julie Frizzell, DBP Program Coordinator

This is a report of the current activities of the sub-grantees of the Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership Grant program for upgrading the skills of incumbent workers or new workers in the renewable energy and energy efficiency related jobs. The funding for this grant will end January 2013. To date, more than 600 of the 700 participant target for training has been reached. This information is current as of April 23, 2012.

Alaska's Apprenticeship and Training Coordinator Association (AATCA) - training apprentices and journeymen in energy efficiency construction trades skills.

- Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committees (JATCs): The Alaska Joint Electrical Apprenticeship Training Trust (AJEATT) held Alternative Energy Systems Classes for apprentice and journeymen. The course covered applicable National Electrical code sections on wind, solar, and hydro electrical power generation.
- AATCA Program Coordinator made presentations at several job fairs around the state.
- Mini-grants were awarded.
- 84 participants have completed training.

Upcoming activities:

- Duct Leakage, Electronically Commutated Motors and Refrigeration classes.
- Alaska Finishing Trades Institute paintings/coatings simulator class for efficient placement in buildings to gain energy efficiency and ensure the integrity of internal and external building envelopes.
- Machine Control Modeling: Grade Checking level IV with GPS Controls for achieving energy savings.
- Job Fair presentations.

Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) - Power Plant Operator Training

- Participants are power plant operators in rural Alaska training at AVTEC to attain Advanced Power Plant and Hydro Plant certifications. Currently 10 participants attending Power Plant Operator Course and 7 are attending Advanced Power Plant Operator Course to complete in May.
- 28 participants have completed training.

Upcoming activities:

- Continuation of training for the spring semester.

Alaska Works Partnership (AWP) - AWP is developing curriculum for Energy Efficiency for Commercial Construction Workers & Upgraded Weatherization Tech I Training.

- AKDOL on-site monitor visit took place April 3-4, 2012. A report is being finalized and will be sent to AWP.
- Weatherization Training: Lead Safe Renovator, Weatherization (Wx) Tech I w/ OSHA 10, Blower Door, (Building Performance Institute) BPI Recertification Building Analyst, BPI BA Written and Field Testing.

- 164 participants have completed training as of April 5, 2012.
- Commercial Construction Energy Efficiency course first draft has been completed and will be distributed to Alaska Housing Finance Committee advisory members for further review. Corresponding instructor's manual near completion.

Upcoming activities:

- Commercial Construction Energy Efficiency instructor training will occur in June 2012.

Alaska's Institute of Technology (AVTEC) training for Wind Technicians, as well as Industrial Electrician, Power Plant Operator (wind), Advanced Power Plant Operator (wind), and Hydro Plant Operator and training for Energy Efficient HVAC technicians. Current grant activities:

- Industrial Electricity class achieved full enrollment; most students have opted to specialize in Wind Tech. Students are following NCCER Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician curriculum.
- An on online version of the wind technology curriculum is being developed.
- Testing new curriculum with 11 enrolled HVAC students.

Upcoming activities:

- Remaining feeder cable and final connection of the wind turbine to the utility will take place in May depending on ground conditions.

Yukon Inter-Tribal Watershed Council – training for solar and wind. This project is just getting started.

Upcoming activities:

Training for solar electric design and installation (grid-direct), solar hot water design and installation, and wind system design and installation. The training will be conducted by Solar Energy International for 125 participants.

The Alaska State Energy Sector (ASESP) - In process and upcoming:

- A modification request is in process to utilized remaining \$200,000 or more for creating a Green Tech certificate or endorsement by the University of Alaska based on the Oregon Green Tech program, customized for Alaska.
- FY13 applications for project operators soon to be available for input in EGRAMS.
- Enhanced Desk-Side Monitor by US DOL will occur the week of May 14-18, 2012.
- Continuation of monitor efforts.
- Quarterly Narrative due May 15, 2012.
- Review and negotiation of project operator grants for FY13.
- Close out of FY12 grants.
- ASESP Sustainability Plan due to US DOL July 2012.