

Pontiac Region Manpower Development Project

Project Coordinator Hired

Campbell's Bay, November 14, 2011 – Cégep Heritage College, represented by Lise Bénard, Director of its Continuing Education and International Development Department, and duly mandated by the *Table d'Éducation Outaouais*, launched in September, the "Pontiac Region Manpower Development Project" to conduct a study on the identification of present and future training needs in anticipation of human resource development as well as the identification of worker renewal requirements in the agriculture, agribusiness, tourism and recreotourism sectors in the Pontiac region.

Lise Bénard is pleased to announce that **Greg Graham**, a young, bilingual, dynamic resident of the region, has been hired as Project Coordinator. He is a graduate in Horticulture, a community-minded organizer and agriculturist as well as Councillor for the Municipality of Bristol and owner of *Coronation Hall Cider Mills*, in Bristol.

Greg Graham will be contacting most of the people working in these industries over the winter. His objective, in his own words, is "to find out what you and your employees need to succeed". And he adds, "If you are still in the planning stages, still dreaming of starting a new tourism or agriculture business, I want to hear from you! What skills and training do you think you'll need? What can these educational institutions do to help you succeed?"

This is a **regional project**. It means that everyone will be called upon to participate. It implies major involvement on the part of all educational partners in the Pontiac region, that is, Cégep Heritage College, Cégep de l'Outaouais, the Western Quebec School Board, the Commission scolaire des Hauts-Bois and the Service régional de la formation professionnelle en Outaouais.

The project for the coming year will focus on canvassing the identified regional businesses in order to determine their specific employee training needs in the agriculture, agribusiness, tourism and recreotourism sectors.

As well, and of particular importance, will be the development of strategic partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce, the MRC, CLD, E.Q., SADC, MDEIE, UPA, MAPAQ, ATO along with regional businesses in which all could eventually join and act as the advisory committee for these four (4) sectors: agriculture, agribusiness, tourism and recreotourism for the Pontiac region.

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For more information, please contact: Lise Bénard, Director of Continuing Education/International Development, 819-778-2270, ext. 2802 or lbenard@cegep-heritage.qc.ca