# Week Ending May 4, 2018



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## Looking for Curriculm?

Developed for members by members, ASPECT Curriculum continues to provide organizations and their clients the tools they need to succeed.



<u>Click here</u> for a description of what's available and an order form.

## CEO Report

ASPECT Benefits Program now extended to Associate Members

I'm delighted to announce that we are able to extend the ASPECT Health Benfits Program to our Associate members as long as they have at least 3 people within their organization who will be on the plan.



The ASPECT Health Benefits Program is a non-profit program where costs are kept low and profits are reinvested in the program to make it better. Chris Block, from Delta Pacific Benefit Brokers will be contacting members with a letter of introduction from me.

If you are not a member and would like to be, please contact us <a href="mailto:info@aspect.bc.ca">info@aspect.bc.ca</a> and a membership form will be sent to you. Partial proceeds of the ASPECT Health Benefits Program support ASPECT's advocacy work.

**Janet Morris-Reade** 

#### In the News

B.C. VIEWS: Eliminating efficiency for farm workers
Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows News, April 22, 2018

MP Stetski helps create 200 students jobs across riding BC Local News, April 24, 2018

'OK Google, find me a job': New job search feature launches in Canada CTV News, April 26, 2018

Syrian refugees struggling to find housing, jobs in B.C. - but thankful to be here, survey finds

CBC News, May 2, 2018

### How big is B.C.'s tech industry? Georgia Straight, May 3, 2018

#### Province extends job protection for new mothers

BC Local News, May 4, 2018

EPBC RFQ Update



On Thursday, I had the opportunity to meet with Assistant Deputy Minister, Chris Brown, and Jennifer Gough who are overseeing the Employment Program of BC procurement process from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. We had a frank discussion where I shared member feedback from the recent RFQ. Here are some notes:

Government Process - All items to do with the procurement process must go through the Ministry, Procurement Services, and Legal Services before they are released to interested respondents. The government staff in these areas have been working long hours, but the shear amount of work involved means that time is needed to ensure a fair and equitable process.

Questions - The shear number of questions means that topics must be prioritized; simpler questions can be answered quickly but more complex questions take time, and all questions must be vetted through the procurement pipeline (Ministry, Procurement, & Legal). Some questions asked but not answered in during the RFQ process will likely be answered through the RFP process.

Templates & VDR - Because the RFQ is open to all and not just current contractors, certain procurement tools are used to ensure fairness such as the Virtual Document Room (VDR). Changes made to the template once it is released could mean that there are several versions circulating resulting in repondents using different templates. By not updating the template during the process, government mitigates the risk that the process becomes unfair.

Timing - There was a large volume of respondents to the RFQ and it will take some time for government staff to read through and score all the submissions. For this reason, firm dates cannot be provided at this time, but the Ministry will do everything in it's power to provide dates as soon as possible. They are aware of the challenges that contractors face and are doing what they can to provide clarity quickly.

Procurement Process - On your behalf, the Ministry is taking your concerns about the procurement process to their colleagues in Procurement Services. Challenges such as testing out templates before they are released and the virtual document room login hurdles will be addressed among others.

Thank you to the members for your email and your telephone calls. I continue to invite you to share your thoughts so that we may speak on your behalf.

Janet Morris-Reade ASPECT CEO

## ASPECT Member Agency Job Postings

## This service is available to ASPECT members only. Not a member? Join us!

To submit your job postings, please email us at <a href="mailto:info@aspect.bc.ca">info@aspect.bc.ca</a>.

## **Manager of Employment Services**

Boys and Girls Clubs of South Coast BC, Delta Closing Date: This position will remain open until filled More details

### **Employment Facilitator**

Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria Closing Date: Remain open until filled More details

#### **Residential Services Manager**

Delta Community Living Society Closing Date: May 11, 2018 More details

Account Representative Senior Manager, Finance Manager, Settlement

Manager, LINC
DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society

Closing Dates: Various

More details

### **Accounting Clerk**

MOSAIC, Vancouver Closing Date: May 11, 2018

More details

#### Self-Employment Program Manager

Community Futures Central Kootenay, Nelson

Closing Date: May 18, 2018

More details

# Professional Development Events

## **Inclusion BC Rise Up! Conference**

May 24-26, 2018 Kelowna, BC Click here for details

### Canadian Association for Supported Employment Conference

June 19-21, 2018 Halifax, NS Click here for details

### **BCCDA Lunch Series**

June 27, 2018 Vancouver, BC Click here for details

### **ASPECT Conference**

November 8-9, 2018

Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort, Victoria Mark Your Calendars: Details coming soon!

## ASPECT BC Health Benefits Plan and Health Tips!

Partial proceeds support ASPECT BC and the work we do -- Enrol now!

The ASPECT Health Benefits program is available to ASPECT members and is delivered by our partner, Delta Pacific Benefits Brokers.

For more information please contact Christopher Block directly:

Delta Pacific Benefit Brokers Ltd. 300-6935 120th St. Delta BC, V4E2A8 604-590-0680 ext. 103 1-877-231-4899 ext. 103





Christopher Block

ASPECTIVES is the newsletter of the Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training (ASPECT). It is distributed weekly to more than 2,600 contacts within the employment and community-based training sector. Attributed articles represent the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of ASPECT.