



November 8, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Career Kick Start

We are writing this letter of support for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) endeavors to increase the number of students who will graduate from colleges and universities with experiential learning or work integrated learning opportunities and would support their application to the Ministry's Career Kick Start program.

UOIT and the Northumberland Manufacturers' Association (NMA) have an established working relationship through the Office of Research Services and, in fact, a UOIT faculty member has sat on the NMA's Board of Directors for many years in the past.

The Northumberland Manufacturers' Association (NMA) is a Not-for-Profit organization incorporated in 2004 with a direct membership of 44 manufacturers and has been actively representing over 212 manufacturers in Northumberland County for over ten years. The purpose of the NMA is to promote continuous improvement, innovation, high performance and productivity enhancements through collaboration, education and advocacy. The NMA strives to deliver value added programs such as Workshops, Strategic Focus Groups and a Member Benefits Program.

The NMA sees value in the UOIT application to the Ministry's Career Kick Start program and would look forward to the proposed partnership identified in the UOIT application. Any assistance that UOIT could offer the Small to Medium Sized (SME) manufacturers to understand their business needs, the talent that is needed and how this aligns with available university programs would be very beneficial.

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We see the NMA able to assist the UOIT with

1. Specific mailings to the Membership highlighting program opportunities
2. Host events where UOIT representatives would be able to interact directly with NMA Members
3. Assist with ongoing promotion of the program at pre-determined NMA events and in one-on-one interactions with NMA members, facilitated by the NMA.

It is hoped that through programs such as Career Kick Start young talent would be attracted to the Northumberland area and in turn, would aid to the growth and prosperity of the community and help Northumberland grow.

Sincerely



Dan Ross
President