



January 23 2018

Ms. Jennifer Lamantia, CEO
Workforce Development Board
159 King Street, Suite 208
Peterborough, ON
K9J 2R8

RE: Workforce Development Board submission to lead the Skills Catalyst Fund

Dear Jennifer,

On behalf of the Northumberland Manufacturers' Association (NMA), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Workforce Development Board (WDB) in a proposal to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAEDSD) to pilot a project under the Skills Catalyst Fund.

The NMA is a not-for-profit organization that provides services to manufacturers in Northumberland County to help its members remain competitive in the global marketplace. WDB continues to work with the NMA to understand the needs of the manufacturing sector, and providing innovative solutions to connect industry needs to the local workforce.

Should the proposal be approved, it is understood that funding will be provided by MAESD to the successful proponent to undertake the work required to execute the pilot. While actual allocation has yet to be confirmed, NMA is prepared to assist the project through an in-kind contribution in the following ways:

- Identify key trends in the local manufacturing sector;
- Work with WDB to identify current and future workforce development needs to support local industry sector growth;
- Make recommendations with project partners, including local district school boards on video content development ideas to support the local manufacturing sector;

The above noted contributions will add considerable value to the pilot and represents an in-kind commitment estimated to be approximately \$1500.00 during the life of the project. A partnership between WDB and NMA will build the strength of our current relationship to benefit our future workforce and our local economy.

We look forward to being a part of this great initiative, and fully support this application.

Sincerely,

Darlene Robertson
Executive Director
Northumberland Manufacturers' Association