

Infrastructure Funding Announced by Federal Government Will Assist the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council Address Long-term HR Issues Facing the Sector

Penticton B.C. - February 18, 2008 — The Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, today announced funding for the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council (CTHRC) to address the industry's long-term human resource issues and help ensure that Canada continues to have a competitive and successful tourism industry, now and in the future.

Speaking at the Wine Country Visitor Centre in Penticton, Minister Day announced \$3 million over four years in funding to support the infrastructure of the CTHRC.

"The Government of Canada is taking steps to create the best-educated, most-skilled and most flexible work force in the world," said Minister Day. "This partnership will help keep Canada's tourism industry strong as it finds solutions for present and future labour shortages."

The CTHRC will receive the funding through the federal government's Sector Council Program. This funding will provide the CTHRC with stable ongoing funding that will enable the Council to focus on implementing programs and projects that respond to the human resource needs of the tourism sector. The CTHRC's infrastructure funding, announced today, will allow the Council to respond to skills needs, strengthen human resource development, create new opportunities, and promote professionalism in the Canadian tourism industry.

"The Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council is very appreciative of the continued support of Human Resources and Social Development Canada," said Ms. Wendy Swedlove, President of the CTHRC.

"That support allows the Council to continue to bring its partners and stakeholders together to discuss and address labour market issues in the tourism sector. This funding will also assist the Council in disseminating information on occupational standards, workplace training resources, and professional certification programs that enhance skills and productivity."

For more information, please contact news@cthrc.ca