

School of Transportation Newsletter

The **FUTURE** of **LEARNING**

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Issue XC



Wheels & Wings

Automotive Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship Programs

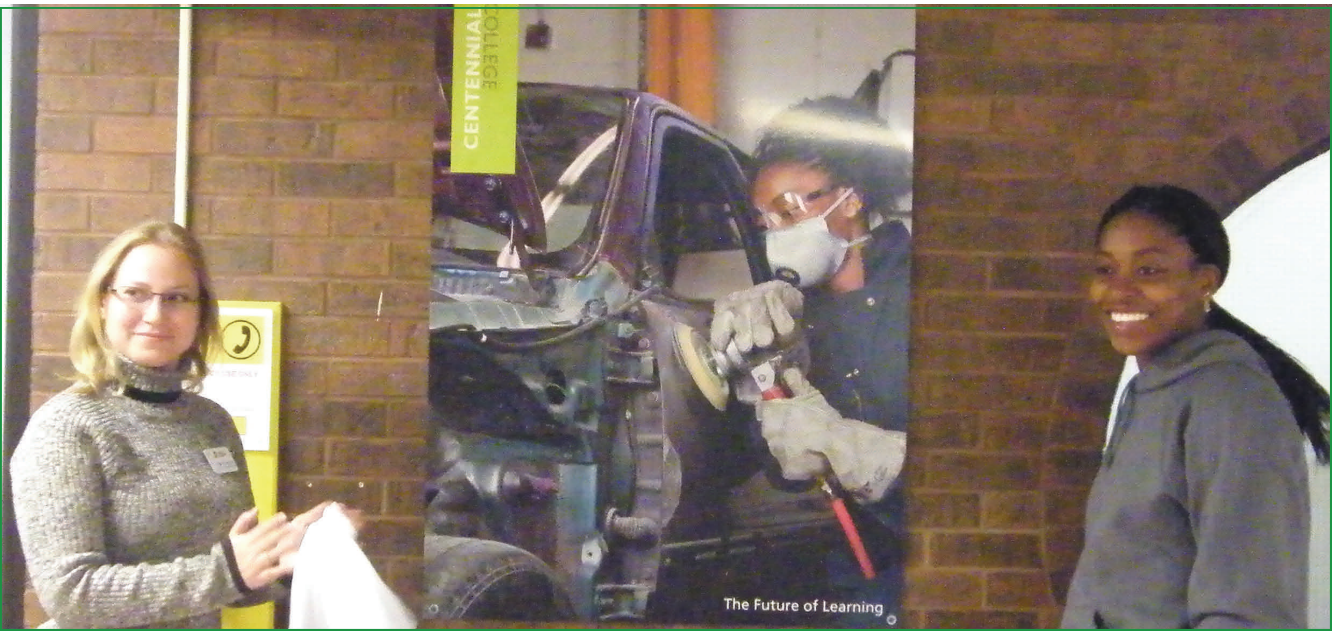


The School of Transportation's first Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship program was launched in September 2005 in response to a "call for proposals" that came to colleges from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. The ministry was interested in hearing ideas for programs that combined the Automotive Service Technician apprenticeship content with a co-op work experience that also met the requirements for a two-year Ontario College diploma. The programs had to be designed to allow multiple entry/exit points with apprenticeship and/or post secondary credits earned along the way. The co-op placement requirement was built in to provide for that all-important, real-world, hands-on experience that is the essence of all apprenticeship programs. Colleges throughout Ontario came up with a wide variety of plans in a number of different trades. Not all of them saw the light of day and some that did have withered on the vine in the years since inception with reduced annual funding or, in some cases, funding withdrawn altogether. SoT's model has thrived, however, with a fully funded new program introduced every year. Our first industry partner in 2005 was Chrysler Canada Inc, helping us launch the program with donations of numerous cars, light trucks, engines, transmissions, special tools, training for our faculty and access to all the service information that we could wish for. Chrysler is still with the program as strongly as ever, working hard to provide co-op work placements for our students and keeping us up to date technologically with new donations every year.

In September 2009, along with the Chrysler program, we introduced a second Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship program, this one partnered with the TADA (Toronto Auto Dealer Association). Both programs taking in 22 new students. In May 2010 both Chrysler and the TADA program will start another program, again each with 22 students. This cycle will continue through 2012 allowing dealerships to have one student in school and one on the job in their dealerships on an ongoing basis. This will mean that SoT will have three classes of 22 students in school simultaneously on a year round basis.

In addition to being popular with their industry partners, the programs also appear to be very attractive to would-be technicians as we have received over 600 applications for the programs every year. The combination of completion of all of the in-school apprenticeship content, an 8-month, paid work placement in a new car dealership and career advancing business and dealership management courses that lead to a college diploma is a winning combination that appeals to many.

Unveiling Our New Women in Skilled Trades Posters



On Thursday, October the 15th, 2009 the School of Transportation unveiled a sampling of our new Women in Skilled Trades Poster Series. Pictured are (Left) Jane Sahnova—Aviation Student and SoT's CCSAI Rep for 2009-2010 with Melissa Miller, who last year graduated from the Auto Body Program. Melissa has decided to explore yet another trade and this year finds herself exploring life as an 'Ordinary Seaman' with the Canadian Forces (Navy) HMCS YORK and learning how to repair massive ship engines on her way to becoming a Marine Engineering Systems Operator! The Women in Skilled Trades Poster Series was made possible by generous funding from the CCSAI's Transforming the Future Fund. Proposals are awarded based on a project's ability to improve the experience for all students at Centennial College. While the Women in Skilled Trades Poster Series offers women a reflection of self, an affirmation of choice and some welcomed company, it also goes a long way in helping to normalize the notion of women in skilled trades for all students while raising the profile of women in skilled trades at large. Stay tuned for more posters coming to a hallway near you.

Canadian Tire Program Advisory Committee



From Top Left: Steve Tzakas, Lino Correia, Darryl Ormiston, Jesse Martin (student), Steve Ruch, Doug Inglis (Canadian Tire Dealer), Jason Shevlen (CT Service Manager), Rod Brennan (CT Service Manager), Andy Lafond (CT Head Office), Tony Santaguida (student), Dave Weatherhead.

From Bottom Left: Desmond Chatura (CT Service Manager), Peter Panzarella (CT Service Manager), John Morin (CT Service Manager), Mario Jaramillo (CT Dealer and Chair of the Committee), Phil Myers (CT Head Office), Harold Robbins (CT Dealer), Don Reed.

This committee has always had great representation from all levels of Canadian Tire. They have been instrumental in providing the program with direction, equipment support and work placement opportunities for the students. The Canadian Tire MAP enjoys a significant cohort of over fifty students annually. Our thanks to the team.



View the **Canadian Tire MAP** video (1.5 minutes) by clicking [here](#)