



Provincial/Territorial (PT) Ministers Meeting

Date: July 15, 2026 2:00-4:00 Atlantic

Location: Halifax Convention Center, Argyle Suite

Time	Item	Lead / Presenters
2:00-2:05 (5 mins)	1. Roll Call, Land Acknowledgement and Logistics	Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat Andrea Moe, Director, Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM) Secretariat
2:05-2:10 (5 mins)	2. Opening Remarks - Opening Remarks by Minister Young - Vision for the meeting Desired Outcome - Ministers share a common understanding of the objectives and purpose of the meeting	Nolan Young Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Nova Scotia (NS)
2:10-2:40 (30 mins)	3. Roundtable -Workforce Measures – Apprenticeship and the Skills Trades Desired Outcome - Perspectives of Ministers regarding the new federal investments in skills, training systems and apprenticeship announced in the 2026 Spring Economic Update are shared. - Common P/T perspectives are established for sharing with federal colleagues. <u>Supporting documents:</u> - Technical questions sent to ESDC related to Workforce Measures - Team Canada Strong Initiative	Nova Scotia (Deputy Minister or Minister)



2:40-3:20 (40 mins)	4. Roundtable - Labour Market Transfer Agreement (LMTA) Desired Outcomes - Provincial and territorial perspectives on opportunities to modernize the Labour Market Transfer Agreements (LMTAs), including considerations related to timelines, funding challenges (such as the expected decrease to the Workforce Development Agreement envelope), and the federal–provincial/territorial relationship, are identified and consolidated. - Common P/T priorities and recommendations for the future of the LMTAs are established to support engagement and discussions with federal counterparts on potential modernization approaches. <u>Supporting document:</u> - Working Group Presentation	British Columbia (Deputy Minister or Minister)
3:20-3:40 (20 mins)	5. Labour Mobility - Discussion will include common P/T perspective on the proposed digital credential pilot - Discussion about CAALL work underway and common P/T perspectives on next steps in this area. - Discussion will include common P/T perspective on any additional actions needed to further reduce barriers for Canadian workers. Desired Outcomes - Ministers have a shared understanding of PT perspectives, progress made and best practices in labour mobility. <u>Supporting documents:</u> - Working Group Presentation	New Brunswick (Deputy Minister or Minister)
3:40-3:55 (15 mins)	6. Review of July 16th FPT Agenda - Agenda for the FPT Ministers meeting is reviewed and PT perspectives and expectations are shared.	Nova Scotia (Deputy Minister or Minister)
3:55-4:00 (5 mins)	7. Closing Remarks - Minister Young provides closing remarks	Nolan Young Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Nova Scotia (NS)



Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FPT)

Ministers Meeting

Date: July 15, 2026 - 18:00 - 20:00 Atlantic

Location: Halifax

Time	Item	Lead / Presenters
18:00 – 20:00 (120 mins)	1. Dinner Attendees: Ministers Location:	

Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FPT)

Ministers Meeting

Date: July 16, 2026 8:45-16:25 Atlantic

Location: Halifax

Time	Item	Lead / Presenters
7:45	Breakfast available Location:	N/A
8:30 – 8:45 (15 mins)	FPT Ministers Group Photo Location:	N/A
8:45 – 8:50 (5 mins)	1. Roll Call, Land Acknowledgement and Logistics	Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat Andrea Moe Director, Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM) Secretariat
8:50 - 9:00 (10 mins)	2. Opening Remarks - Opening Remarks by Co-Chairs - Vision for the meeting	Nolan Young Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Nova Scotia (NS)



	Desired Outcome Ministers share a common understanding of the objectives and purpose of the day	Patty Hajdu Minister of Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario (Canada)
9:00 – 9:05 (5 mins)	3. Forum of Labour Market Ministers context setting and forward planning - Presentation on the intent of the FLMM, current objectives and future shared opportunities for collaboration Desired Outcome - Ministers share a common understanding of the FLMM that can guide discussion on key priorities <u>Supporting documents:</u> - TBD	Presenters: Jennifer Miller Federal Senior Official Co-Chair, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Employment and Social Development Canada Vanessa Chouinard PT Senior Official Co-Chair Associate Deputy Minister, Labour, Skills and Immigration, NS
9:05 – 9:20 (15 mins)	4. Context Setting Presentation - Canada's 2026 Labour Market: The Skills Gap, AI Transition, and Productivity Desired Outcomes - Ministers share a common, evidence-based understanding of current labour market conditions and emerging trends in Canada - Ministers affirm priority labour-market challenges and areas of shared focus affecting workers, employers, and communities across the country. <u>Supporting document:</u> - TBD	Stefano Scarpetta Employment, Labour and Social Affairs OECD
9:20 – 9:35 (15 mins)	Q&A with presenter	All
9:35 – 10:00 (25 mins)	5. Presentations by Industry Employer Representatives Desired Outcomes Ministers understand industry/employer perspectives on supporting the skilled trades and other FLMM priorities.	TBC
10:00 – 10:10 (10 mins)	Q&A with presenters	



10:10 – 10:20 (10 mins)	Coffee Break	N/A
10:20 – 10:35 (15 mins)	6. Workforce Measures - Apprenticeship and the Skilled Trades - Identify areas of complementarity between federal, provincial, and territorial measures supporting apprenticeships and the skilled trades. - Identify potential areas for further investment to accelerate apprentice progression and completion rates. - Determine opportunities for collaboration to better support workers and meet current and future labour market demand, while balancing pan-Canadian alignment with regional labour market needs. Desired Outcome - Ministers share a common understanding of the measures announced and agree to identify how investments can be implemented to improve progression and completion rates. <u>Supporting document:</u> - TBD	Patty Hajdu Minister of Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario (Canada) Nolan Young Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Nova Scotia (NS)
10:35 - 10:45 (10 mins)	7. Youth Labour Market Overview in Canada – Working Group Presentation Desired Outcomes - Ministers are provided with a clear overview of how FLMM work is advancing this key priority area. <u>Supporting document:</u> - Working Group Presentation	Youth Labour Market Overview in Canada Working Group
10:45 - 11:20 (35 mins)	8. Youth Labour Market Overview in Canada – Discussion Desired Outcomes - Ministers share perspectives on issues of primary concern on youth employment, including issues affecting youth from equity seeking groups - Ministers discuss initiatives underway to improve youth employment, including gaps, complementarities, and opportunities for increased coordination to maximize impacts - Ministers confirm the direction proposed by senior officials	TBD
11:20 – 11:30 (10 mins)	9. Labour Market Transfer Agreement (LMTA) Modernization: Working Group Presentation Desired Outcome - Ministers are provided with a clear overview of how FLMM work is advancing this key priority area - Ministers develop an understanding of the current state of LMTA modernization	Labour Market Transfer Agreement Modernization Working Group



	<u>Supporting document:</u> - Working Group Presentation	
11:30 – 12:25 (55 mins)	10. LMTA Modernization: Discussion - Roundtable discussion on Labour Market Transfer Agreements. Desired Outcomes - Ministers endorse the development of guiding principles that ensure flexibility, responsiveness, and accountability in modernized agreements. - Ministers confirm the direction proposed by senior officials	TBD
12:25 – 13:00 (35 mins)	Lunch	
13:00 – 13:10 (10 mins)	11. Labour Mobility – Working Group Presentation Desired Outcomes - Ministers are provided with a clear overview of how FLMM work is advancing this key priority area. - Receive update from Labour Mobility Working Group and progress on next steps. <u>Supporting document:</u> - Working Group Presentation	Labour Mobility Working Group
13:10 - 13:35 (25 mins)	12. Labour Mobility: Discussion - Discussion on recent progress, highlighting key successes to date and – consistent with First Ministers' direction - identifying opportunities to further strengthen labour mobility. Desired Outcomes - Ministers reaffirm commitment to delivering on the Labour Mobility Action Plan, and maintaining momentum to reduce barriers to labour mobility, ensuring alignment with pan-Canadian objectives. - Ministers provide direction on next steps on digital solutions for occupations outside the skilled trades	TBD
13:35 – 13:45 (10 mins)	13. Update from FLMM – FMRI Taskforce, Foreign Credential Recognition Desired Outcome - Debrief from FMRI Deputy Minister Meeting - Next Steps <u>Supporting document:</u> - N/A	Erin Connell, Working Group Co-Chair and Director General, Employment and Social Development Canada
13:45 - 14:00 (15 mins)	14. Communiqué (Part 1)	TBD



	- Review and update communiqué based on morning discussions. Supporting document: - Draft communiqué	
14:00 – 14:10 (10 mins)	15. Major Projects and Employer-Driven Needs: Presentation Desired Outcome - Ministers share a common understanding of the Major Project Office’s mandate, collaborative approaches, and early insights on anticipated workforce challenges in advancing nation-building projects.	TBD Dawn L. Farrell Chief Executive Officer of the Major Projects Office (MPO)
14:10 – 14:20 (10 mins)	16. Major Projects and Employer-Driven Needs: Working Group Presentation Desired Outcome - Ministers are provided with a clear overview of how FLMM work is advancing this key priority area. Supporting document: - Working Group Presentation	Supporting Major Projects and Employer-Driven Needs Working Group
14:20 – 14:40 (20 mins)	17. Major Projects and Employer-Driven Needs: Discussion Desired Outcomes - Ministers hold a strategic dialogue on FPT collaboration on nation-building projects, including work with Indigenous communities. - Ministers direct FLMM officials to identify and propose solutions to jurisdictional barriers for upcoming major projects	TBD
14:40 – 14:50 (10 mins)	Coffee Break	N/A
14:50 – 15:00 (10 mins)	18. Innovation, Productivity & AI-Enabled Economy: Working Group Presentation Desired Outcome - Ministers are provided with a clear overview of how FLMM work is advancing this key priority area Supporting document: - Working Group Presentation	Innovation, Productivity and an AI-Enabled Economy Working Group



15:00 – 15:15 (15 mins)	19. Innovation, Productivity & AI-Enabled Economy: Discussion - Ministers share perspectives on how innovation and AI can drive productivity growth. - Ministers share best practices on (or discuss) PT measures to support an AI-enabled workforce. Desired Outcome - Ministers confirm areas of further analysis of AI on workers as proposed by senior officials	TBD
15:15 – 15:20 (5 mins)	20. Summary of Meeting Outcomes - Recap of the discussions and direction to Senior Officials. Desired Outcome - Ministers agree on priorities and direction to senior officials to prepare for the next ministers' meeting. <u>Supporting document:</u> - N/A	Vanessa Chouinard PT Senior Official Co-Chair Associate Deputy Minister, Labour, Skills and Immigration, NS Jennifer Miller Federal Senior Official Co-Chair, and Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Employment and Social Development Canada
15:20 – 15:30 (10 mins)	21. Communiqué (Part 2) - Review and approval of meeting communiqué <u>Supporting document:</u> - Draft communiqué	TBD
15:30 – 15:40 (10 mins)	22. Closing Remarks Co-Chairs provide closing remarks	Minister Hajdu Minister Young
15:40 – 16:00 (20 mins)	Health Break and Media Prep	
16:00 – 16:25 (25 mins)	Media Availability Location:	Minister Hajdu Minister Young



Draft Communiqué

The Forum of Labour Market Ministers (FLMM) met in Halifax to discuss shared labour market challenges and opportunities across Canada. The meeting was co-chaired by the Honourable Patty Hajdu, federal Minister of Jobs and Families, and the Honourable Nolan Young, Nova Scotia's Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration.

Minister Hajdu opened the meeting with an announcement of an additional \$2 billion over five years starting in 2026-27 for new bilateral agreements with provinces and territories to expand access to pre-apprenticeship and technical training.

Ministers listened to presentations on the impacts of global economic uncertainty, including trade-related pressures on workers, employers and Pan-Canadian labour markets. Ministers also met with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to discuss the current and future outlook for Canadian labour markets and leaders from Nova Scotia's construction industry.

Ministers reaffirmed the need to help workers and employers adapt to emerging technologies, strengthen skills development, address labour gaps, support long-term economic growth and foster inclusive participation in the labour market.

Discussions focused on five shared priorities: bolstering the skilled trades workforce, Labour Market Transfer Agreements (LMTAs), improving labour mobility and foreign credential recognition, improving pathways into the labour market for youth, and supporting workers in an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled economy.

Bolstering the skilled trades workforce

Ministers discussed the need to strengthen Canada's skilled trades workforce to support major infrastructure projects, foster long-term economic growth and address labour shortages. They highlighted the importance of apprenticeship, training and certification systems in helping workers access opportunities and meet employer needs. Minister Hajdu outlined details of the \$6 billion federal initiative that aims to recruit, hire and train

up to 100,000 new Red Seal skilled trades professionals by 2030-31. Ministers underscored that success of this initiative depends on strong collaboration between federal, provincial and territorial governments, building on the apprenticeship, training and certification systems that provinces and territories have built over decades, while respecting the jurisdiction of provinces and territories. Ministers also emphasized the importance of connecting training with real jobs.

Labour Market Transfer Agreements

Ministers discussed the importance of Labour Market Transfer Agreements (LMTAs) in supporting Canada's labour market needs.

Provincial and territorial ministers underscored the importance of federal investments in LMTAs keeping pace with population growth, inflation, and supporting the advancement of major projects. Ministers agreed to advance improvements to the existing agreements including identifying best practices, reducing administrative burden and ensuring strong results for Canadians. They also raised areas for further discussion, such as allocation formulas, emphasizing that no province or territory is worse off.

Provincial and territorial ministers also raised concerns regarding planned federal reductions to Workforce Development Agreements (WDA) funding.

Improving labour mobility and foreign credential recognition

Ministers discussed the progress made to date on reducing barriers to labour mobility and improving foreign credential recognition across Canada. They acknowledged that significant progress has been achieved in advancing the Labour Mobility Action Plan to make labour mobility faster, more transparent and with fewer requirements for certified workers to fill jobs wherever they are available.

Ministers stressed the need to accelerate work on labour mobility. Interested jurisdictions will task their deputy ministers to launch a working group to develop more ambitious measures to help Canadians begin working more quickly, and to develop a

digital platform to support this objective. The working group will report to Ministers by fall 2026.

They agreed to work together with the Forum of Ministers Responsible for Immigration through the Joint Task Force to address barriers facing internationally trained professionals at all stages, from pre-arrival to labour market integration.¹

Improving pathways into the labour market for youth

Ministers agreed on the important need to help young people successfully enter the workforce through employment services, training, work-integrated learning and employer partnerships.

They discussed the need to identify promising models that improve youth pathways into the labour market and share their best practices to meet the evolving needs of youth and employers.

¹ Because of its responsibilities regarding immigration, Québec is not bound by this decision and participates as an observer in any discussions regarding foreign credential recognition.

Supporting workers in an AI-enabled economy

Ministers discussed the impacts of AI on workers and employers and shared approaches to understanding the effects of AI on labour markets and skills needs. They agreed on the importance of continued collaboration to better understand the impacts of AI on jobs, productivity and workforce development. Ministers committed to deepening their analyses to better contribute to effective workforce and training policies and programs for Canadians.

Ministers reiterated their commitment to continued collaboration on shared labour market priorities and agreed to meet again next year.

About the Forum

The FLMM was established in 1983 as an intergovernmental forum focused on strengthening cooperation on federal, provincial and territorial labour market priorities.

Quotes

“The Forum of Labour Market Ministers is an important platform for federal, provincial and territorial partners to come together, share perspectives and advance practical solutions to support Canadian workers and employers. At a time of rapid economic and technological change, we are strongest when we work together to build a workforce that is ready for the jobs of tomorrow and to create more opportunities here at home. By continuing to collaborate closely, we can strengthen our economy from within, ensure Canadians have the skills to succeed, and build a more resilient, inclusive and competitive country for the future.”

– The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Jobs and Families and Co-Chair of the FLMM

“Labour market challenges are being felt across the country, and addressing them requires strong collaboration between all orders of government. This meeting was an important opportunity to share ideas, strengthen partnerships and focus on practical solutions that help more Canadians connect to good jobs, build skills and contribute to a strong economy. Nova Scotia was proud to host these discussions and continue advancing this important work with our federal, provincial and territorial partners.”

– The Honourable Nolan Young, Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration of Nova Scotia and Co-Chair of the FLMM