

Institute of Skilled Trades Industry Bulletin – April 2026

The next IST Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 4.

Updates - April 2026

Attendance policies for apprenticeship technical training and pre-apprenticeship

Members reviewed updated attendance policies from NSCC and the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency (NSAA) for both apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship.

Status: In progress

Accountability framework

Members reviewed a draft accountability framework designed to strengthen system performance. The framework includes targets related to graduation, job attachment, progression and Red Seal outcomes.

Status: In progress

Full trade review

Between January and April 2026, NSCC and NSAA completed full trade review sprints with industry, taking an in-depth look at 4 trades. The Council received an update on the progress of these reviews. The next set of trades for upcoming sprints has now been confirmed.

Status: Implementation planning in progress for next set of trades

\$25M investment from the Province

Members discussed the Province's \$25 million investment over 5 years and industry engagement in prioritizing the annual spending, including equipment, tools, shop improvements and maintenance.

Status: Implementation planning in progress

Work placement improvements

Members discussed current work placement challenges and reviewed pilot initiatives to strengthen employer engagement and student opportunities.

Status: Planning underway