

Institute of Skilled Trades Industry Bulletin - May 2026

The next IST Council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 1**.

Updates – May 2026

Government of Canada Spring Economic Update

The Council received an update on the Government of Canada's Spring Economic Update. A significant focus of the update related to the skill trades and supporting apprenticeship in particular.

Status: Implementation planning in progress

NSCC application process

The Council discussed the NSCC screening process and how to strengthen it for IST programming. This will include introducing and enhancing a system to ensure that applicants have access to information and opportunities to make more informed decisions about which trade to pursue.

Status: Implementation planning in progress

Equipment upgrades and maintenance

The Council reviewed current equipment selection processes at NSCC and discussed how to get industry more engaged in the process.

Status: Implementation planning in progress

External relations and engagement

Members reviewed a draft external outreach and engagement outline and discussed how to increase external involvement with programming decisions.

Status: In progress

Standardized curriculum delivery across all campuses

Members provided input on the training standards and standardized curriculum across programs.

Status: In progress

Snapshot of Enrolment for September 2026

The Council discussed the status of enrolment for September 2026 and where industry can help promote to fill seats.

Status: In progress

Skilled trades awareness, exposure and promotion and what needs to be done going forward

Members discussed the work already being done by system partners in the skilled trades and what gaps exist to ensure that the promotion and understanding of the trades receive consistent and meaningful awareness across schools, career transitioners, newcomers, and communities.

Status: Implementation planning in progress

IST Program Mix Planning

The Council discussed what labour market information data should be used to ensure we're focusing on market-driven needs.

Status: Implementation planning