



# Issue Update

## ITA ISSUES REPORT

B.C.'s Industry Training Authority (ITA) is reporting that it has exceeded the targets it has set for increasing participation in industry training.

According to the ITA release, the number of apprentices and employers actively involved in industry training in B.C. continued to increase throughout January, extending a nine-month growth trend that began last year. As of Jan. 31, 2005 there are 18,985 apprentices registered, up by 4,309 or 29 per cent from 14,676 on March 31, 2004. There are also 9,720 employer/sponsors training apprentices, up eight per cent over the same time period. The ITA's initial target was to increase the number of apprentices/trainees by 30 per cent and employers by 18 per cent in three years so they are well ahead.

The ITA advises that growth in youth participation is also exceeding targets, due primarily to the launch of the ACE IT secondary school program. While 400 students were expected to enroll in the first intake this month, actual registration is likely to be greater than 1,100, with an additional 700 to 900 students forecast to participate in the second intake later this year.

In addition to registered apprentices, the ITA estimates that there are more than 10,000 British Columbians currently enrolled in Entry Level Trades Training (ELTT) programs at B.C. post-secondary institutions. That makes an increase of 17 percent in ten months for industry training over all. Construction generally represents approximately half of the industry training in the province.

The entire ITA release can be reviewed on-line at: <http://www.news.gov.bc.ca/>

## Building BC's Future!

The mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the representation of, and service to, British Columbia's construction industry.