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# Supported Employment Service Delivery Advisory Group Meeting

October 20, 2017

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# Purpose

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- To provide an overview of Supported Employment (SE) phase one implementation
  - Background
  - SE Program Overview
  - Phased Implementation
  - Program Delivery: Consortium Delivery Model
  - Community Consultation

# Background

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- On June 5, 2017, Access Talent, Ontario's employment strategy for people with disabilities was launched to help more people with disabilities connect to job opportunities and more businesses connect to a talented and underutilized labour pool.
- Launching Supported Employment (SE) and integrating employment services for people with disabilities in a gradual, phased approach is a key action for the strategy's goal of creating seamless, person-centred employment and training services:
  - Supported Employment will create high-quality, consistent services for job seekers with disabilities who require more intensive support and provide targeted services for employers.
- The Employment Ontario network will also continue to serve people with disabilities through its current programming and the ministry will work towards enhancing these services to better serve these individuals.

# SE Program Overview

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- Design of the Supported Employment program was based on, and informed by:
  - Research on best practices for employment supports for people with disabilities, and lessons learned from existing programming both within Ontario and in other jurisdictions;
  - External consultation with a range of stakeholders, including service providers and community organizations with expertise in serving people with disabilities
  - Consultation and advice from partner ministries.
- The program consists of the following the components:
  - Employability Skills
  - Job Search
  - Job Matching
  - Job Coaching
  - Job Retention

# Phased Implementation

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- Supported Employment will be implemented in phases, gradually integrating existing employment services for people with disabilities:
  - Ontario Employment Assistance Service (OEAS) - MAESD;
  - Ontario Disability Support Program-Employment Supports (ODSP-ES) - MCSS ; and,
  - Mental Health Vocational Employment Program (MHVE) - MOHLTC.
- The first phase of Supported Employment will be offered in three communities.
  - Timmins, Cornwall and Belleville
- A phased approach to implementation will allow the province to work closely with existing service providers to roll out the program in specific communities, gather feedback from providers and individuals accessing the program and make improvements or adjustments before further phase in.

# Consortium Delivery Model

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- Building off of the success of other jurisdictions, we have been exploring a consortium service delivery model with phase one providers.
- A group of two or more service providers have pooled their resources and are working together to deliver Supported Employment services.
- A lead service provider, on behalf of the other service providers in the consortium, is the holder of the Transfer Payment Agreement with the ministry and assumes accountability for all program activities, outcomes and funding.

# Consultations

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- Consultations with phase one service providers began in July 2017, with two sets of workshops in each community
- As a result of these consultations, the ministry has received valuable on-the-ground input to the program design and implementation plans.
- A Provincial Reference Group and separate Community Working Groups will be established once the program has launched. These groups will:
  - Share best practices and promising practices of service components and;
  - Provide input, advice, and feedback on various aspects of SE Phase One Implementation to inform roll-out of future phases

# Next Steps

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## Date: Task

January 2, 2018: Phase One start up activities begin

April 1, 2018: Phase One client intake begins

Spring 2018: Establish Provincial Reference Group Community Working Groups