

AGREEMENT to IMPROVE TECHNICAL SAFETY, INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMMERCE, and the MOBILITY of CERTIFIED TRADESPEOPLE in ATLANTIC CANADA

Whereas under Chapter 4 - Regulatory Notification, Reconciliation and Cooperation of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (“CFTA”), the Provinces, Territories and the Federal Government agreed to reconcile regulatory measures that act as a barrier to trade, investment or labour mobility within Canada;

Whereas the Governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador (the “Parties”) are signatories to the CFTA and wish to promote an open, efficient, and stable domestic market for long-term job creation, economic growth and stability by reducing and eliminating, to the extent possible, barriers to the free movement of certified technical safety tradespeople, goods, services, and investments within the Atlantic Region and Canada;

Whereas the Parties wish to advance the goals by aligning the requirements for training, certification, and licensing, and expedite registration processes while recognizing the legislative authority of each Party to regulate for their respective province, technical safety trades, such as fuel technicians, power engineers, and elevator mechanics, among others;

Whereas in December 2017 the Council of Atlantic Premiers committed to improve interjurisdictional commerce, technical safety, and the mobility of certified tradespeople in Atlantic Canada;

Recognizing an opportunity to underline and build on the existing obligations within Chapter 7 – Labour Mobility of the CFTA;

Therefore, the Parties agree as follows:

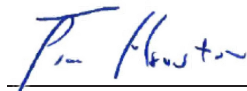
1. Parties will continue to identify opportunities for regulatory alignment, including reconciling legislative, regulatory and policy measures for all areas of technical safety across jurisdictions;
2. Parties will, where appropriate, endeavour to harmonize or mutually recognize safety standards in order to remove barriers to operating between jurisdictions so long as the standards that must be met are appropriate to each jurisdiction’s needs;
3. Parties will build on the obligation of Chapter 7 of the CFTA requiring certifications and licenses be issued as expeditiously as possible by establishing a timeline for Parties to review, assess, and provide a response to completed applications submitted by certified technical safety tradespeople from another province or territory to facilitate labour mobility and support industry;
4. Parties will, to the extent practicable, consider cross-jurisdictional consistency as a principle behind policy, regulation and legislation preparation and application;
5. Parties will coordinate and share information on harmonization and mutual recognition opportunities, issues, and challenges.

In applying these principles, the Parties recognize:

- Maintaining a high standard of technical safety and ensuring the public interest remain the primary goals;
- The legislative authority of each Party over technical safety will continue to be recognized and respected;

- Local unique needs and circumstances, including needs of local stakeholders will need to be balanced against these principles.

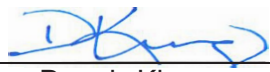
This Agreement will enter into force on July 1, 2023.

 June 27, 2023

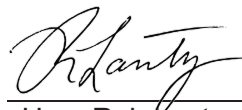
 Hon. Tim Houston Date
 Premier
 Province of Nova Scotia

 June 27, 2023

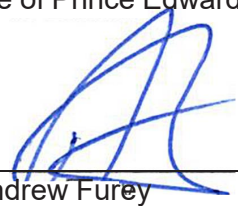
 Hon. Jill Balsez Date
 Minister of Labour, Skills & Immigration
 Province of Nova Scotia

 June 16/23

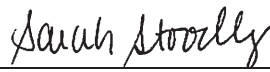
 Hon. Dennis King Date
 Premier
 Province of Prince Edward Island

 June 6, 2023

 Hon. Rob Lantz Date
 Minister of Housing, Land and Communities
 Province of Prince Edward Island

 JUN 20 2023


 Hon. Andrew Furey Date
 Premier
 Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

 May 25, 2023

 Hon. Sarah Stoodley Date
 Digital Government and Service NL
 Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

 June 19, 2023

 Hon. Blaine Higgs Date
 Premier
 Province of New Brunswick

 June 19, 2023

 Hon. Kris Austin Date
 Minister of Public Safety
 Province of New Brunswick