



July 11, 2011

Taras Myhal
Senior Policy Advisor - Colleges Unit
Mowat Block, 9th Flr
900 Bay St.
Toronto ON
M7A1L2

Dear Ms. Myhal,

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) and its 20 community based chapters represent the interests of persons with learning disabilities (LDs) throughout Ontario. In the more than forty years since its formation, LDAO has expanded its activities and services to include youth and adults who have learning disabilities, in postsecondary and employment sectors, in addition to children and families. Many individuals with LDs pursue a career in the trades. Youth and adults with LDs often run into roadblocks in apprenticeships and training programs when they encounter a lack of awareness and acceptance of their need for accommodations. Others, especially those who have been out of school for some time, may not even realize that their academic difficulties are the result of unidentified LDs, and do not know to ask for help.

To address these issues and concerns the Legislation and Policy Committee of LDAO developed a Policy Statement on Apprenticeship that was adopted by the LDAO Board of Directors on June 27, 2011. I have attached a copy of this policy statement for your information and would welcome an opportunity to discuss the recommendations with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Diane Wagner
Senior Manager, Public Policy & Education

c.c. Joanne Brown, Manager, Colleges Unit
Richard Evans, Program Delivery Coordinator