



December 19, 2016

Dear Apprentice/Employer/Stakeholder

In October 2016, amendments to the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications General Regulations and all trade regulations were published. These amendments will be implemented on April 1, 2017 and will impact your apprenticeship program.

Changes were made to align our programs with recommendations to harmonize apprenticeship training in Red Seal trades across the country. Nova Scotia is an active participant on harmonization initiatives at both the national level and in the Atlantic region. Harmonization means that apprenticeship programs will be better aligned across the country, resulting in more consistency and efficiency in the way people enter the trades and work toward certification.

In order to move forward with harmonization efforts, Nova Scotia agreed to adopt common system policies and to harmonize key elements in our apprenticeship programs. A summary of the changes to the regulations are available at [www.nsapprenticeship.ca](http://www.nsapprenticeship.ca) under 'Trades'.

For copies of the regulations, please visit:

- For compulsory trades: <http://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/rg2/2016/RG2-2016-10-14.pdf>
- For voluntary trades: <http://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/rg2/2016/RG2-2016-10-28.pdf>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 1-800-494-5651 or by email at [apprenticeship@novascotia.ca](mailto:apprenticeship@novascotia.ca). You can also contact a training consultant in your area and a list of training consultants is available at <https://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/contact/training-consultants>.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Kennedy".

Kim Kennedy  
Director, Programs and Operations