

# Steamfitter-Pipefitter Trade Regulation: Consultation Discussion Guide

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS DUE: April 4, 2011**

## Introduction

This guide is sent on behalf of the Steamfitter-Pipefitter Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC), which is appointed by the Apprenticeship and Certification Board (herein “Board”). PACs make recommendations to the board about

- the standards and requirements for training and certification, and for upgrading, and
- the content of regulations made or proposed to be made by the board.

Before it makes recommendations, PACs must seek input from employers and employees in the applicable trade or occupation.

The Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC will be making recommendations to the board on how to accommodate gas training now that Gasfitter has been designated as an apprenticeable trade. **The Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC is seeking your input on the proposed recommendation below.** Based on the feedback it receives, the PAC may re-evaluate its recommendations. This discussion guide has been created to solicit your feedback on this important matter.

## Background

On May 14, 2008, the Board unanimously approved the designation of the gasfitter trade in principle to support two licences:

1. commercial and industrial gasfitter licence (herein “Gasfitter A licence”); and,
2. domestic gasfitter licence (herein “Gasfitter B licence”).

With the designation of gasfitter as a trade in principle, the Board then established a Gasfitter PAC in November 2008. The Gasfitter PAC developed the Provincial Occupational Analysis in spring 2009 which has since been validated by a diverse working group. The Board formally designated Gasfitter, subject to Ministerial approval, on June 21, 2010 as an apprenticeable trade. The Gasfitter PAC has recommended to the Board a series of provisions that will collectively form the Gasfitter Trade Regulation.

The Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC met on December 16, 2010, February 8, 2011 and February 17, 2011 to discuss how gasfitter training could be accommodated to support the “B” licence. Different options were reviewed as to how the Steamfitter-Pipefitter

trade could accommodate gasfitter training. Its recommended option is outlined below and the Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC is looking for your feedback.

## **Proposed recommendation**

Gasfitter training, which includes both levels of training to obtain the “B” licence, is recommended to be mandatory within the Steamfitter-Pipefitter curriculum. This means that Steamfitter-Pipefitter apprentices would be required to take both levels of gasfitter training within their term of apprenticeship. The term of apprenticeship, in this option, remains at five years, but with a slight reconfiguration. Levels 1-4 will focus on Steamfitter-Pipefitter curriculum coupled with the level one gasfitter training. At the end of level 4, apprentices will write the interprovincial Steamfitter – Pipefitter exam. Level 5 will focus solely on the second level of gasfitter training and at the end of level 5, apprentices will write the provincial Gasfitter exam. The decision to keep the second level of Gasfitter training at the end of the apprenticeship was made by the Board and as such the PAC must accommodate this in its recommendation. Apprentices would thus receive both levels of training for Gasfitter. They would be eligible to apply for a Gasfitter “B” licence using their Steamfitter / Pipefitter Certificate of qualification upon successful completion of the 5-level term of apprenticeship.

***The Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC is asking for your feedback on this important question:***

***Should gasfitter training to support the “B” licence be mandatory within the trade of Steamfitter-Pipefitter?***

It should be noted that apprentices, once successful, would have the option to apply for a “prior learning assessment” in order to receive a Gasfitter Certificate of Qualification without further technical training or examination. To re-iterate, however, the training provided in the five-level Steamfitter / Pipefitter apprenticeship, with or without a Gasfitter Certificate of Qualification, will qualify apprentices for a Gasfitter “B” licence.

## **Response**

### **Feedback**

Your feedback on the proposed recommendation is extremely important in order to develop a responsive trade regulation. Please review the proposed recommendations and submit a written response. *Only written responses with a corresponding name and contact information will be considered.*

If there is any other feedback of which you feel the Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC should be aware, please feel free to send in any additional comments as well.

The Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC will be inviting stakeholders to provide written comments by **April 4, 2011**. There can be no extension given for this deadline.

### **How Feedback Will Be Used**

Feedback gathered through the consultation will be collected and summarized in a Consultation Summary Report, which will be considered as the Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC refines its recommendations. The Consultation Summary Report will be made available to stakeholders.

Respondents should be aware that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Any automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your organization's IT system may not be respected.

### **Contact Information**

Written submissions (including electronic submissions) may be directed to:

Steamfitter-Pipefitter Provincial Advisory Committee  
C/o Karine Levasseur  
Policy Analyst  
Apprenticeship Manitoba  
1010-401 York Avenue  
Winnipeg MB, R3C 0P8  
Fax : 204-948-2539  
E-mail: [apprenticeshipfeedback@gov.mb.ca](mailto:apprenticeshipfeedback@gov.mb.ca)

Thank you for taking the time to provide the Steamfitter-Pipefitter PAC with feedback. Your responses will be taken into consideration by the PAC to help improve the proposed recommendation.