



Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

Oshawa MP pleased with Targeted Initiative for Older Workers

For immediate release.

OTTAWA, 18 October 2006 – Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, is pleased to support the Conservative government's new initiative for Older Workers announced this week by the Hon. Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development.

Minister Finley introduced the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers (TIOW), a two-year, \$70 million program designed to help older workers in communities of 250,000 or less with ongoing high unemployment or a high reliance on either a single employer or an industry affected by downsizing or closures.

"Canada's New Government is taking action to assist older workers who have been left jobless by industry downturns. I support this federal and provincial bilateral program which will see skills upgrading and work experience to help older workers stay in the workforce," commented Dr. Carrie. "Throughout my professional career I have benefited from the wisdom and skills of older colleagues, and I have experienced the positive impact they have on companies and communities when they are continually incorporated."

Any person who is between the age of 55-64, who has lost his or her job, and needs skills for successful integration into new employment and lives in an eligible community, may apply to this program. Projects will include activities such as skills assessment, counseling, skills upgrading and work experience for new jobs.

The provincial and territorial governments will share the costs alongside the Federal government and will be given significant flexibility in identifying vulnerable communities for programming, and in designing and delivering projects. The TIOW will target communities experiencing ongoing high unemployment and/or a high reliance on a single employer or industry (i.e., 20 per cent of the labour force) affected by downsizing or closures.

"The working people of Oshawa can benefit from the skills and talents of older workers and this initiative is aimed at doing just that."

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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