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HOUSE OF COMMONS
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The Government of Canada helps youth in the Saskatoon area prepare for the job market

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SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN, June 13, 2011—Local youth who face barriers to employment will get job preparation training and work experience through the Government of Canada’s support for an employment program. Mr. Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon–Wanuskewin, made the announcement today on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development.

“For many young Canadians, making the transition to the job market is a challenge, especially in today’s environment,” said Mr. Vellacott. “That’s why our government is creating opportunities for youth to succeed through support for initiatives like the Ready to Work program.”

With assistance from the federal Skills Link program, the Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council will help 10 youth develop the skills and experience needed to find a job or the confidence to return to school.

The project participants will attend group-based employability workshops that cover topics such as problem solving, communication and teamwork, with a special focus on using these skills in the tourism industry. They will also be able to apply their new skills in a mock restaurant kitchen. Following the workshops, the participants will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience through tourism-related job placements in the community.

Skills Link helps youth facing barriers to employment, such as single parents, Aboriginal youth, youth with disabilities, recent immigrants, youth living in rural and remote areas, and youth who have dropped out of high school.

The Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council will receive over \$79,000 in federal Skills Link funding to support its Ready to Work program.