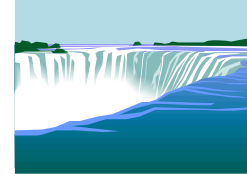


Niagara County Workforce Development Group
ZOOM Meeting



May 27, 2020 @ 9 a.m.
Meeting Minutes

Item	Result
Welcome/ Introductions	Attendees/Organizations Dennis M/ACCES-VR; Karen K /NCCC; Mike K/NCET; Bonnie R/WDB; Joe B1/ DSS; Mike C./NCCED; Mike S./NU; Renee P. /SUNYAB; Brandon B./NYSCB; Jola S./OTDA; Chandra W./NCET; Don J./NCET
Minutes from April meeting	Accepted without corrections
REPORTS	Mike K.- <u>OJT's that kept going during COVID:</u>
NCE&T Career Center	Laminator at Virtual Polymer Compounds in Lockport Fiberglass Fabricator at An-Cor (OJT completed) Warehouse Manger at Maple Grove Floral (OJT completed) Insurance Agent at Michael Casseri Agency in Williamsville (OJT completed) <u>OJT's that stopped during COVID:</u> Electronic Assembler at LAR Electronics – not sure when he's coming back Machinist at Caron Manufacturing – may not be coming back for a few more weeks Insurance Agent at Laura Capizzi Agency – started back on 5/18 <u>OJT's that started/starting during COVID:</u> Sales/Marketing -Social media person at Hahn's Sales and Service Sales Engineer at Virtual Polymer Compounds <u>Intake this morning</u> at 10 a.m. for a Appliance Repair person at DC Appliance Repairs. Chandra W.- Kathy Krebs will officially retire on June 8 and Chandra will take

	<p>her place as the Business & One Stop Services Manager.</p> <p>The career center (One Stop) is expected to reopen to job seekers on June 8 by appointment only. It has not yet been decided when partners will be able to use the space. Modifications to the building are being made including a plexiglass screen for the registration desk and markings on the floor to encourage social distancing.</p> <p>The career center has been helping with recruiting efforts for business including Home Depot right along. And will be doing the same for Amazon as it opens its new facility in Tonawanda</p> <p>Don J.- introduced himself as director of the one stop center and quipped about his need to approve Chandra's appointment.</p>
WDB	<p>Bonnie R.- Reported that classroom training continues a virtual basis for the seven courses at three schools. The \$4k scholarship is still available for training. Use virtual meetings and virtual but not electronic signatures have been approved for use with OJT.</p> <p>The "Opportunities Await", youth training event will be held on June 17 & 18 from 11 A to 4p. The target audience is out of school youth ages 16-24. Free gaming and food gift cards will be available for the first 100 registrants for this event which has been modified to a virtual format by Ealy & Associates who originally proposed a series of in person meetings, but was able to quickly modify the agenda accordingly. You can email any names/emails/ mailing addresses for out-of-school youth to invite to the June events to: tlittle@ealyandassociates.com</p>

	<p><u>N.B.-The link for Out-of-School Youth to register for the free virtual events is live and the registration is open!</u> http://niagarawdb.com/Events</p>
NCCED	<p>Mike C.- The center for economic development is anticipating reopening in phases. Most employees have been telecommuting but plans to return to the office are being developed. the center offers resources to assist business with reopening plans and has been working with private sector businesses to assist with COVID 19 resources.. Phase 1 of our general economic environment is progressing well and it appears that the start of phase 2 is around the corner. We are looking into holding a virtual small business workshop in mid-June.</p>
NCCC	<p>Karen K.- Training Courses are virtual : PPE will begin today and others start soon... 6/2/2020 <u>Hospitality Management</u> 6/2/2020 <u>Supply Chain Management</u> 6/15/2020 <u>Google IT Support Professional</u></p> <p>Also the GOALS Program</p> <p>Qualifying youth between the ages of 18-24 looking to further their education and start a successful career.</p> <p>Recent meeting with IBM looks like it will open some doors.</p>
OTDA	<p>Jola S.- Waiting for the Pause to be lifted so OTDA work can restart</p>
DSS	<p>Joe B1- third week back I the office full time with a 20 % reduction in staff until Aug 3. Focus of work has shifted.</p>
ACCES-VR	<p>Dennis M.- October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). We are looking Businesses that have gone above and beyond to employ or retain workers with disabilities over the past year and especially during the pandemic emergency. If you know of an employer that fits these criteria, please</p>

	<p>let me know. This year's NDEAM business awards will most likely take place in a virtual format.</p> <p>BTW- not mentioned during our meeting but of interest anyway, maybe... The ADA turns 30 this summer and Vocational Rehabilitation will celebrate 100 years of service on June 2.</p>
NU	<p>Mike S.- Entire staff is working remotely. A virtual career fair was recently held through Career Echo with 400 candidates and 50 employers. It was an easy and relatively inexpensive event (\$4500) Final plan for classes in Fall has not been completed as the situation continues to see almost daily change,</p>
NYS CB	<p>Brandon B- Challenges with serving participants via video chat. Other challenges are summer internships and remote job saves.</p>
SUNYAB RESTORE	<p>Renee P.- RESTORE is an employment program that targets women who have been touched by the Opioid Crisis in some way either directly or indirectly. The project was just getting started when the Pandemic hit.</p> <p>Participants are being sought in Niagara and Erie countries.</p> <p>Planning is underway to do a Lunch and Learn for potential participants in a virtual format.</p>
Additional information not otherwise classified.	<p>Chandra/Bonnie-Summer youth will take place in some form still to be determined.</p> <p>No extension was possible for the youth grant under WIOA.</p>
<p>NEXT MEETINGS – ZOOM hosted by NCCC @ 9am</p> <p>JUNE 24</p> <p>JULY 29</p> <p>AUGUST 26</p>	<p>We have scheduled virtual meetings for the next three months. See dates at left If restrictions are sufficiently lifted during this time to allow for in person meetings, we will consider changing our format accordingly.</p> <p>Thanks to all who attended today!</p>

Respectfully Submitted: Dennis Martinez