

## **Memorandum**

**To:** Employment Ontario Delivery Partners

**From:** Ken Nakahara  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Employment and Training Division,  
Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills  
Development

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**Subject:** Launch of Protect Ontario Workers Employment Response  
(POWER) Centres

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Dear Employment Ontario delivery partners:

I am pleased to share a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to protect Ontario workers and address the impacts of U.S. tariffs on our communities, employers and key sectors through today's announcement of the Protect Ontario Workers Employment Response (POWER) Centres.

In May 2025, the government committed to investing an additional \$20 million in 2025-2026 to help support workers affected by layoffs and sectors threatened by the changing economic environment.

POWER builds on and enhances the existing ministry-supported Adjustment Advisory Program Action Centres. These centres have helped and continue to help workers, sectors and communities adapt to economic changes while providing workers, who are affected by layoffs, a temporary place to receive services and supports, including job search assistance and referrals to training.

POWER Centres enhancements include building and expanding partnerships to leverage additional resources and expand access to additional training opportunities to support workers, communities, and sectors. Other enhancements include digital access to training and supports, referrals to in-demand training and re-employment supports based on timely assessments of job seekers and local workforce needs and creating training opportunities within the POWER Centres to best support workers.

Our Employment Ontario programming leverages the strength we have in the diverse network of service delivery partners and stakeholders, and the ongoing partnerships and collaboration across this network, to support our communities and clients. We encourage all our delivery partners, including POWER Centres, Service System Managers and other Employment Ontario delivery partners to actively engage and collaborate within their communities to facilitate a seamless and effective client journey.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership as we continue to ensure that workers facing layoffs have the support they need, and our communities and sectors are equipped to deal with the changing economic and labour market landscapes. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for all your efforts, collaboration and commitment to Ontarians through this important work.

If you have any questions, please contact your ministry representative.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by**

*Ken Nakahara*

Assistant Deputy Minister  
Employment and Training Division