

OTTAWA, Ontario July 22, 2008 – The Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council (CPISC) is pleased to announce the start of In-depth study of human resource issues facing the printing and graphic communications industry.

“The printing and graphic communications industry faces a number of challenges related to rapid technological changes, changing workforce, and a lack of skill standards,” says Jeff Ekstein, Co-chair of CPISC. “To address these challenges, CPISC is undertaking a study that will allow CPISC to develop a clear profile of the industry and explore in-depth current and emerging human resource issues.

“The information gathered during the in-depth study of human resource issues and in consultation with the sector is an important step that will allow CPISC to develop a solid human resource strategy for the printing and graphic communications sector,” says Marie Eveline, Executive Director of CPISC.

In 2003, a sector study was published to provide information and statistical evidence for the printing industry. While the sector study brought to light a number of challenges that the industry is facing, it also provided background information for a workshop of the sector stakeholders held in June 2004 to validate the industry’s support for creation of a sector council, formed in 2006. As industry continued to face challenges related to human resource issues, CPISC has determined the need to update and refine the information in the sector study. Building on the information gathered during the Labour Market Information and Skills and Technology Roadmap projects, CPISC is now in a better position to develop a more current industry profile, and reaffirm the issues of importance to the sector and explore in-depth a number of emerging questions.

“To date, the Labour Market Information project has enabled us to obtain accurate and current labour market statistics, indicators and information on the printing industry, and the Skills and Technology Roadmap project has allowed us to identify technological trends and how technology impacted human resource and workforce developments,” explains Duncan Brown and “ the results of these projects will serve as a basis to initiate a dialogue with the industry on the issues of importance to the sector and to update the 2003 sector study.”

The Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council, funded by the Government of Canada’s Sector Council Program, is a not-for-profit organization responsible for the human resources strategy for the printing and graphic communications sector.

For further information:

Marie Eveline, Executive Director, (613) 688-0293, ext. 2

Duncan Brown, Co-Chair, (613) 230-5200, ext. 281

Jeff Ekstein, Co-Chair, (905) 660-1515, ext 224