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**NDWDC PLANNING COMMITTEE  
2009 WIA INCENTIVE AWARD PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATION**

**MEETING NOTES  
MARCH 19, 2009**

**MEETING DATE, TIME, & PLACE:** March 19, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., Department of Commerce, Bismarck North Dakota.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Ellingson, Jim Hirsch, Cathy Kruse (teleconf.), Jane Priebe (teleconf.), and Jim Walker.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Candice Dietz

**STAFF PRESENT:** Cheryl Leach

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Jim Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. The purpose of the meeting is to prioritize the proposals for the 2009 Incentive Awards.

**Review of the Incentive Award Proposals:**

Jim Hirsch mentioned that we went through the request for proposal process to acquire our position to access Workforce Investment Act incentive dollars if and when it becomes available to the state. All state agencies met there performance goals so there should be incentive dollars however; we don't know what those dollars will be. We completed the request for proposal process and placed the notice in the paper which produced six proposals. Jim mentioned that the committee needs to set a priority for these six proposals. Jim reviewed the summary of each proposal for the 2009 WIA Incentive Award Recommendations:

***Career & Technical Education's has presented five proposals and priorities:***

**CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION:**

- **Expanding opportunities for Students in Information Technology**  
\$83,000

This project will assist schools to implement new programs and expand existing instructional programs in the high growth Information Technology area, by training instructors, developing curriculum, and purchasing statewide software and licenses to reduce the cost of implementation to all schools in the state. The funding would allow for a cost effective approach to training and provide expensive software to schools that will reduce the cost barriers to schools in implementing IT courses.

- **Career Outlook Update**  
\$50,000

This project will update both the image and the content of the Career Outlook tabloid that has been distributed to ND high school students for 26 years. The Outlook will be updated to a magazine format and the contents refined to promote North Dakota opportunities and provide more relevant career planning information to students.

- **Increasing Math Rigor in CTE**  
\$225,000

This project will provide professional development funding for career and technical programs that will provide CTE instructors with the knowledge and skills to better integrate core academics into their classes. These funds will be used to partner math teachers with career and technical teachers to provide them with better tools to teach the math standards that are embedded in all of CTE curriculum. A recent statewide scientifically conducted study of integrating math concepts into CTE demonstrated that we could increase student math scores on standardized tests by five to ten percent in one semester. This proposal would provide funding to continue this process. Other innovative approaches may be developed by local schools that would also meet the goal of better academic integration.

- **Encouraging Middle School and Nontraditional Students Participation in STEM education and STEM related Careers**  
\$79,200

This proposal seeks funding to advance the awareness and interest of middle school age children in STEM education and STEM related careers. Portions of this proposed project will be focused on nontraditional and underrepresented groups of individuals with the explicit purpose of increasing their interest and offering opportunities for participation in hands on educational experiences that are focused on the areas of 1) nanotechnology, 2) alternative energy/bio-fuels, biotechnology, 3) molecular biology and 4) microelectronics.

- **Emerging Technology Module “Demonstration”**  
\$145,000 First Year  
\$139,000 Second Year (Optional)

The proposal is to implement a “Demonstration Project” through the joint partnership of the Corps of Discovery High Tech Learning Cooperative and the Great Northwest Emerging Technology Cooperative which will expand emerging technology foundation skill training currently available to secondary students to the adult populations and special population groups in Western North Dakota. This training will be provided through a total of eight 5 week High-Tech Learning Modules Sessions throughout Western North Dakota during the first year of the demonstration. The goal would be to have 12 participants in each of the 8 sessions. Target groups include all of the special population groups identified in the Strategic plan.

Jim Hirsch mentioned that the committee could look at the first year and then if there is a second year this could be picked up through stimulus funding or governor set-aside funding.

***Job Service North Dakota has presented one proposal:***

## **JOB SERVICE NORTH DAKOTA**

- **Transferrable Occupations Relationship Quotient (TORQ)**  
\$67,000 One Year License  
\$115,900 Two Year License

TORQ™, the Transferable Occupation Relationship Quotient, is an analytical tool developed by Workforce Associates, Inc., that links occupations based on the abilities, skills, and knowledge required by workers a vast number of occupations. TORQ™ reduces the complexity of transferring from one occupation to another – The Transferable Occupation Relationship Quotient is one single convenient measurement that defines "transferability" between occupations. Based on the abilities, skills, and knowledge from the vast O\*NET™ database from the Department of Labor, TORQ™ can assess any transition with just one number. It's that simple. TORQ™ expands the notion of career pathways into an interconnected web of possibilities based on the factors that

really matter for career mobility – not a specific job that someone is doing or has done, but what someone is capable of doing.

Jim Hirsch suggested that the workgroup prioritize the proposals and if the stimulus money wasn't available to select proposals which could be funded by other sources (WIA Stimulus or WIA Governor Set-Aside).

The committee prioritized the proposals and recommended that WIA Incentive funding be provided to the following proposals based upon availability of funding:

**#1 Emerging Technology Module “Demonstration”**

\$145,000 First Year

\$139,000 Second Year (Optional)

Recommendation to pursue this project using the following funding options:

1. WIA Incentive
2. WIA Stimulus
3. WIA Governor Set aside

**#2 Encouraging Middle School and Nontraditional Students Participation in STEM education and STEM related Careers**

\$79,200

Recommendation to pursue this project using the following funding options:

1. WIA Incentive
2. WIA Stimulus
3. WIA Governor Set aside

**#3 Increasing Math Rigor in CTE**

\$225,000

Recommendation to pursue this project using the following funding options:

1. WIA Stimulus
2. WIA Incentive

**#4 Transferrable Occupations Relationship Quotient (TORQ)**

\$67,000 One Year License

\$115,900 Two Year License

Recommendation to pursue this project using the following funding options:

1. WIA Stimulus
2. WIA Incentive

**#5 Expanding Opportunities for Students in Information Technology**  
\$83,000

Recommendation to pursue funding if sufficient WIA Incentive funding is available.

**#6 Career Outlook Update**  
\$50,000

Recommendation to pursue funding if sufficient WIA Incentive funding is available.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.