

# News Release

For Immediate Release  
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## IUOE LOCAL 793 WELCOMES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR TRAINING CENTRE

**OAKVILLE** — Mike Gallagher, business manager of Local 793 of the International Union of Operating Engineers which represents nearly 15,000 crane and heavy equipment operators, today welcomed an announcement by the federal government of \$936,162 for the union's training centre.

"This federal funding will greatly benefit our apprentices and Local 793 members as well as people from Aboriginal and Inuit communities who are referred to the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario (OETIO) campuses in Oakville and Morrisburg," he said. "The money will be used to purchase a mobile 50-ton all-terrain crane that has the latest technology and computer systems and upgrade dozers with the latest Global Positioning System and laser technology."

The funds were announced at the OETIO campus in Morrisburg by Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Minister Patricia Hajdu. The money is from the Union Training and Innovation Program (UTIP) which supports union-based apprenticeship training and innovation in the Red Seal trades.

The government is rolling out \$10.2 million in funding to training centres across the country under the UTIP in 2017-18. Under terms of the program, the federal government is providing 48 per cent of the cost of equipment purchases while Local 793 is providing 52 per cent.

Gallagher said he's pleased that Local 793 and the OETIO received 9.18 per cent of the funds available under the program.

"The federal government has recognized that unions like ours play an important role in apprenticeship training. Training delivery agents like the OETIO must keep up with technological changes and we have to ensure we have the most up-to-date equipment so trainees acquire the skills they need to work on jobsites. This funding will help to ensure that happens."

The union plans to have the all-terrain crane on site at its campus in Oakville by the end of October this year. A request for proposals is going out April 6. Total cost of the crane will be \$1,130,00. The union is contributing \$587,438 and the government is contributing \$542,562 in funding. The all-terrain crane will be used to train individuals in the Red Seal trade of mobile crane.

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The funds will also be used to outfit six dozers at the OETIO campus in Morrisburg with GPS systems. Total cost of the project will be \$645,000. The union is contributing \$335,400 and the government is contributing \$309,600.

Another six dozers at the Morrisburg campus will be outfitted with laser capabilities. Total cost of the project will be \$175,000. The union is contributing \$91,000 and the government is contributing \$84,000.

OETIO executive director Harold McBride says the investment by the federal government will greatly benefit individuals who are getting trained to become mobile crane operators and dozer operators, as well as people from Aboriginal and Inuit communities who are sent to the OETIO for training by mining companies and the board of education for the Territory of Nunavut.

Presently, the OETIO has a full schedule and 70 trainees on site at the campus in Morrisburg, including eight Aboriginal women from northwestern Ontario who are training on loader and haul vehicles.

“At the OETIO, we pride ourselves on having the most modern equipment and technology in the field,” said McBride. “Individuals training to become mobile crane and dozer operators will have access to the most up-to-date equipment which will benefit both the trainees and employers.”

*Local 793 of the International Union of Operating Engineers represents nearly 15,000 highly-skilled crane and heavy equipment operators across Ontario and Nunavut. The union has a head office, banquet hall and training campus in Oakville, and another training campus in Morrisburg.*

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