



# Centre for Workforce Development

June 22, 2022

RE: Chantal Fraser, Founder and Owner, Empowered Path Inc.

I have been working in the Local Workforce Planning Board system since 2008. The Boards depend on community collaborations and partners to help address the challenges faced by the labour market. In 2016, I had the opportunity to come to Eastern Ontario as the Executive Director of the East Central Ontario Training Board which was rebranded in 2018 to the Centre for Workforce Development (CFWD). I had barely settled in when I was introduced to Chantal Fraser. Since that time, she has been one of those key partners you rely on for collaborations, communication, connections and research.

We've collaborated on planning and hosting several different events and projects since 2016 including: events for Quinte Small Business Week, events in support of creating a Regional HR Strategy, the annual review of the Regional HR strategy, professional development events for employers and human resources professionals, and more.

Chantal is the Founder and Owner of Empowered Path Inc. In 2021, her company was the successful consultant on an RFP process to conduct independent research into virtual platforms that online job fairs could be held on and provide prioritized recommendations about which platform would be the best to work within. The platform was for use by Employment Ontario Employment Services (EOES) providers to provide a more convenient method to host job fairs for employers and job seekers across Eastern Ontario.

She led a team of consultants, on behalf of the CFWD, who conducted the research. Chantal kept the lines of communication open between CFWD and her project team, who met all the stated objectives. Her team also went beyond what was expected, researching over 30 potential platforms and conducting a test run of the top five. The final report that Chantal provided was clear and easy to understand, providing

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recommendations that CFWD followed. The platform selected was used to conduct 27 virtual job fairs in a three-month period in early 2022 and is still in use today.

Chantal is a pleasure to work with, whether on a community collaboration or as an independent consultant. She actively listens to everyone involved in collaborations and shows her appreciation for what each of us brings to the team. Chantal clearly communicates expectations and keeps her teams on track to meet deadlines. She is adept at leading discussions and finding a path forward, so that objectives are met or exceeded.

I would not hesitate in recommending Chantal or Empowered Path Inc. as both an excellent community collaborator and independent researcher. I would be happy to answer inquires about any level of involvement that Chantal has had with CFWD.

Yours truly,



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