

**THEME NOTE: "Joint Collaboration with Canadian Community Colleges"**

**PREAMBLE**

In order to promote human resource development and training to address the growing needs of skilled and trained manpower in the infrastructure and construction sector in their respective countries, Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC) and Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) have agreed to focus on the development of collaborative initiatives in the following areas:

- To support information and knowledge-sharing resulting in a better mutual understanding of each country's construction sector;
- To identify opportunities for beneficial long-term relationships designed to support the development of the construction sector in both countries;
- To facilitate the formation of India/Canada partnership arrangements between private sector companies and training institutions;
- To explore the potential for increased mobility between Indian and Canadian instructors and workers.

It may kindly be noted that, CIDC was established by in 1996 by the Government of India and the construction industry to support the growth of India's construction sector in a number of ways including through holistic human resource development and collaborative initiatives that will address the skill requirements of the construction industries. CIDC employs 500 staff and 150 consultants in a network of regional offices and training centers across India.

ACCC is the national and international voice of Canada's network of publicly-funded colleges, institutes of technologies and other post-secondary educational institutions, which focus on the development of advanced skills for the Canadian economy. ACCC's 150 member institutions provide a range of qualifications for full-and part-time learners that include certificates, diplomas, applied degrees and post-graduate credentials. ACCC members work closely with employers to identify labour market needs; to shape curriculum; to provide practical attachment for learners and to design and deliver apprenticeship and customized training for existing employees.

**COMMUNITY COLLEGES, CANADA:**

Colleges and technical institutes are dynamic institutions constantly changing to meet the economic and social needs of the communities they serve. Their uniqueness lies in their combination of employer-centred curricula within extremely comprehensive learning institutions which respond to national economic policy.

Community Colleges share the primary functions of responding to the training needs of business, industry, the public service sectors and the educational needs of vocationally oriented secondary school graduates.

Historically, these institutions offered diplomas and certificates, not degrees. However, many have university transfer programs and some are now offering degree programs.

### **Significant features of Canadian colleges are:**

- Business/industry linkages, including training contracts as revenue-producing activities
- Technical and vocational teacher and trainer training industry-based curriculum development;
- Co-operative education programs; institutional management development; and integrated human resource development planning for industry at the regional and local levels.
- As the learning needs of society changes, Canada's colleges and institutes are be at the forefront, providing leadership for future social and economic development.

### **Canada's Community Colleges continue to be catalysts for change both nationally as a collective and individually within their local environments:**

- In working with the national and provincial/territorial governments, colleges have developed a unique capability in education, training and human resource development
- As partners with the federal government, colleges have contributed to policy development in a broad range of sectors.
- Colleges work both in support of, and as an advocate to, federal departments and agencies.
- Community Colleges share these competencies with partner institutions in over 60 countries.

### **ADVANTAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

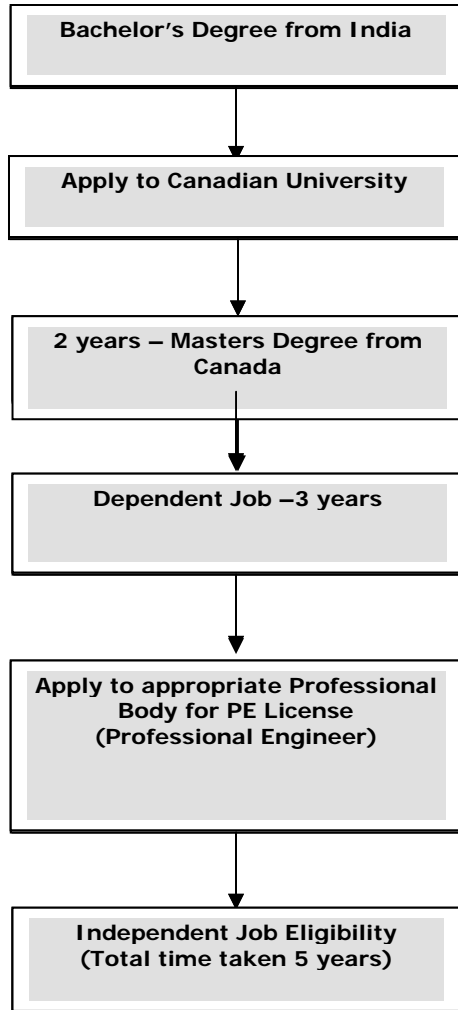
Apart from contributing to the growth and development of the Canadian Economy, Community Colleges with their successful broad-based socio-economic appeal and curricula, offer a great opportunity to overseas institutions for joint leveraged initiative to build partner internal capacities as well as cater to the ever increasing demand for skilled work force within their respective geographies.

### **For Indian Institutions this association is likely to translate in following tangible benefits:**

1. Provides partner's access to new technologies
2. Provides foreign exposure which is crucial to work in Global environment
3. Wider choice of courses to offer
4. Cross-Cultural study programmes and bundling of courses
5. Launching finishing courses
6. Develop course modules with participation of international faculty
7. Opportunities for international degree and certification
8. More opportunities for participation and contribution in International Seminars and Conferences and cross-border exchange of intellectual capital
9. Engineering being a regulated profession in Canada, a student / prospective migrant is able to complete the formalities for becoming and Professional Engineer (Independent Job) in lesser time and cost by enrolling in a Community College Course when compared to the conventional University degree course. An illustrative example and progression is demonstrated in Figure 1 below:

## Canadian University Education

### Stream 1



## Canadian Community College

### Stream 2

