

Business

Oakville company signs joint investment deal

TORONTO - Ontario Training Corporation announced the signing of a \$350,000 investment in a joint training venture with HR Hi-Tech Inc., an Oakville-based company. HR Hi-Tech Inc. has developed a series of innovative modular PC-based software pro-

grams to meet training and human resources management needs of small and medium-sized businesses. This partnership will assist in further research, development and marketing of the company's software packages, and will also result in

their becoming available in French. The software can be sold as self standing modules or as an integrated system. Some or all of the modules will be of specific benefit to companies with as few as 50 employees.

Super Trainer, a unique Canadian product, is a training administration software system which addresses the time constraints and limited resources of today's HR professionals by simplifying the management of training programs. It can track an unlimited number of employees and contains information on courses taken or needed by employees, employee skills, instructor evaluations and training expenses. Super HR, a human resource information system, is a labour saving tool which automates personnel administration and reporting. Super Client gives providers of training an effective and efficient system for the administration of that training.

Currently under development are Super JEV, a job evaluation software system, and Super Assess, a software system which assists management in assessing training needs, analyzing skills, appraising employee performance, and carrying out corporate surveys.

HR Hi-Tech was established in 1986 to develop and market PC-based human resource management systems to assist corporations in increasing organizational efficiency and productivity. Shayne Tracy, President and CEO of HR High-Tech Inc., says the investment by Ontario Training Corporation will help assist in further research, development and marketing of this software and therefore improve the management of human resources and training in Ontario business.

"Today's human resource and training management must respond to an ever increasing need for a well trained labour force. Our products will help them meet those needs efficiently and effectively," Tracy says. "And as a result of OTC's investment, our company will be able to further develop the programs and make them more widely available throughout the province."

Adds Sandra Birkenmayer, President and CEO of Ontario Training Corporation: "The development and implementation of high quality workplace training is becoming critical to Ontario employers as they look for ways to increase competitiveness, and to Ontario employees as they look for ways to adapt to changing skill demands. These software products assist in achieving these goals."

OTC is a unique organization dedicated to advancing quality workplace training in Ontario through its products and services. It places a strong emphasis on meeting the current and strategic training needs of Ontario business and industry. Its products and services include:

- Training Materials and Technology Fund to promote joint venture partnerships in the development of innovative training products and technologies.

- an online system called SkillsLink the most comprehensive series of databases on current training resources in Ontario to provide an efficient means of accessing the right training information immediately.

- a Professional Development division to advocate and support the creation of professional standards for training practitioners and to stimulate the development and use of products and services for the training community.

OTC was established in March, 1988 as a Schedule II Crown Corporation with the Minister of Skills Development as sole shareholder.



Stu Evans, background, and his nephew Tom show why people in Acton of British and East Coast descent can at least get a taste of their heritage whenever they feel like it. They are part of the newly established fish and chip specialty restaurant Towne Friar on Mill Street in Acton. The restaurant's top of the line fish is Orange Roughie, so says Stu. Open only four weeks, business has been booming, he said. Aside from Stu the business' two other owners are his brother Cliff and Cliff's wife, Ann. (Herald Photo)

"Quality" is the motto of new Acton business

A little tradition from the east coast and Great Britain has come to Acton in the form of a fish and chip restaurant, call the Towne Friar.

It was this missing tradition that helped convince the restaurant owners, Cliff and Ann Evans and Stew Evans, decide to open the restaurant.

"A great portion of Acton's populace is from either the east coast of Great Britain." The people of this descent the owners talked with all agreed Acton needed a fish and chip restaurant.

The restaurant opened four weeks ago and is located at 14 Mill Street East in Acton.

Business has been excellent, said Cliff. "We expected to be at the point we are now six months into the future," said brother Stew.

The restaurant offers customers a wide range of fish types including Cod, Haddock and Halibut. The highest quality type fish on the menu, said Cliff is Orange Roughie.

"Quality" is the business' mot-

to, the brothers said.

All of the fish is fresh. As well, the owners, use 100 per cent vegetable oil that is changed weekly.

Acknowledging that some customers at times have had to wait a long time for their order, Stew explained it has just been a matter of getting the kinks out of the system. "But we're faster now and will continue to become even faster," he added.

To ensure the fastest service possible, Stew suggests people phone in the order. There is both eat in and take-out service available.

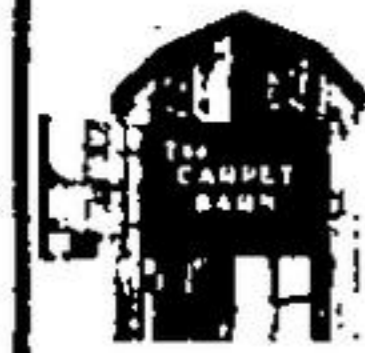
As for expanding the restaurant in the future, Cliff said that it's a possibility but for now they are going to take a "wait and see approach." "Like everything else you have to learn how to crawl before you can walk," said Stew.

The restaurant is open Tuesday's and Wednesday's from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday's from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday's from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday's from noon to 7 p.m.

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