

# Employment services streamlined

Job-seekers in Halton Hills and Milton will soon find it easier to access employment services in their communities.

Currently, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) funds both The Centre for Skills Development & Training (The Centre) and vpi Inc. to operate the same employment services through separate sites in both communities.

However, as of Saturday, March 31 The Centre site in Georgetown (at 184 Guelph Street) will close while vpi Inc.'s Milton site (at 400 & 420 Main Street, Suite 211) will also close.

"This change to employment services in north Halton means streamlined services for people in Milton and Georgetown," said Kathy Mills, Chief Administrative Officer of The Centre.

"The Centre can concentrate its resources in Milton and offer enhanced workshops, one-on-one support and self-serve resources while vpi Inc. can do the same in Georgetown. The ultimate goal is for the job-seeker to get into the right job for them, as quickly as possible."

Georgetown job-seekers don't have to wait until March 31 to access services in their community as they can already go to vpi Inc.'s site at 235 Guelph Street to access a full suite of

free employment services.

Milton job-seekers can go to The Centre's site at 550 Ontario Street South, 2nd floor.

"Not only are we making it simpler for job-seekers to get the help they need in their own community, we're being more efficient in the way we deliver services," said Gail Rieschi, President and CEO of vpi Inc. "No longer will job-seekers be confused by the presence of two providers. Georgetown job-seekers and employers will know that vpi is the go-to organization, while in Milton it will be The Centre."

Some job-seekers receiving case-managed support at the sites that are slated to close can contact their usual site for more details on who they will be working with in the future.

Staff at each site work with clients to help them define their employment goals and create a career plan, and to develop their resume, interview and job-searching skills. Job-seekers also have access to information and resources, including computers with Internet access, photocopiers and telephones; self-directed Microsoft Office testing and learning software; and workshops, tips sheets and special events. These Employment Ontario services are funded in part by the Government of Canada.

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