

Center for Manufacturing Advancement

Flathead Valley Community College

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Director

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Established April 2015



Flathead Valley
Community College

Outline

1. Manufacturing Partnership
2. FVCC Programs meeting workforce needs
3. Recent findings from meeting with a dozen manufacturers



Sector Strategy Partnerships – Manufacturing Partnerships

- An INDUSTRY driven project
- Identifying opportunities
- Finding solutions
- Making it happen

July 21st – Kalispell, Montana



Flathead Valley Community College

Occupational Trades Programs

- NDT – Nondestructive Testing Level I and II. Meets American Society for Nondestructive Testing
- Electronics Technician, Industrial Technology – 2 year programs (stackable credentials)
- Industrial Maintenance, Firearms Technology – 1 year programs
- Heavy Equipment & HVAC Programs



FVCC

Welding Programs

- Accredited Test Facility for American Welding Society
- Accredited Test Centre for Canadian Welding Bureau
 1. Welding and Fabrication
 2. Welding and Inspection Technology

Customized Training



Flathead Valley Workforce

by Chris Parson

- Employer “ I could hire 30-40 people” adding “I have increased my starting wage to \$13-\$15 fast track to \$20’s, added dental, medical, life, vision, and had zero luck finding sober employees.”
- “ I hired a homeless person and it is working great.”
- “ I will train them if they just have the drive and willingness to work and learn, just send me people.”
- Where is the workforce now and in the future coming from?
- Skills gap? Yes. However.....
- Is higher pay the answer? Workplace environment?
- Pre or post employment training?



Thank You

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