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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
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## **The Government of Canada helps Saskatoon youth prepare for the job market**

**For Immediate Release**

**January 18, 2011**

**SASKATOON** – Local youth who face barriers to employment will get job preparation training and work experience through the Government of Canada’s support for an employment program. Mr. Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament for Saskatoon–Wanuskewin, made the announcement today on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development.

“For many young Canadians, making the transition to the job market is a challenge, especially in today’s environment,” said Mr. Vellacott. “That’s why our government is creating opportunities for youth to succeed through support for initiatives like the Bridging the Gap Work Readiness Program.”

With assistance from the federal Skills Link program, the Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres will help 10 youth develop the skills and experience needed to find a job or the confidence to return to school.

Program participants will attend life and employability skills workshops focusing on topics such as résumé writing and safety training. The work placements will allow the participants to put into practice the knowledge and skills gained through the workshops.

Skills Link helps youth facing barriers to employment, such as single parents, Aboriginal youth, youth with disabilities, recent immigrants, youth living in rural and remote areas, and youth who have dropped out of high school.

The Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres will receive over \$68,000 in federal Skills Link funding to support its Bridging the Gap Work Readiness Program.

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**For further comment, call (613) 992-1966 or (613) 297-2249**