

# Manitoba Regional Sounding

January 30, 2020 | Winnipeg



## Your voice matters

The Regional Sounding Tour is making stops in every Canadian province and territory to hear from skills stakeholders: What are your toughest skills challenges and how can the Future Skills Centre respond to the diverse needs of your community?



## What we heard

The Manitoba Regional Sounding brought together a varied group of participants. In small groups, they talked about the education, employment, training, and skills challenges they face, are concerned about, or are currently tackling. We came to you to listen, and here's what we heard:

### Newcomers

- Participants discussed systemic barriers faced by newcomers to finding meaningful work, such as needing competency in one or both of Canada's official languages and lack of prior learning recognition.
- Manitoba's government, employers, and education and skills training sectors need quick and nimble solutions to better recognize newcomers' credentials, and provide upskilling and reskilling options to support them.

### Mentorship

- Participants discussed the value of mentorship at various stages—not just the beginning—of an individual's career path. For example, bidirectional mentorship between students and mature workers benefits both parties by trading new and traditional knowledge.
- Youth and workers need incentives to take part in mentorship, which will also require investments of time and energy by employers.

### Rural and remote challenges

- It is a barrier for rural and remote Manitobans to have to leave their homes for school and work opportunities. Conversely, isolated communities keep losing talent when young people and workers move to urban centres.
- Participants agreed on the need for innovative solutions to these challenges, such as "mobile training" or "learning in place," wherein educators bring equipment and training modules on the road to rural communities.

### Lifelong learning

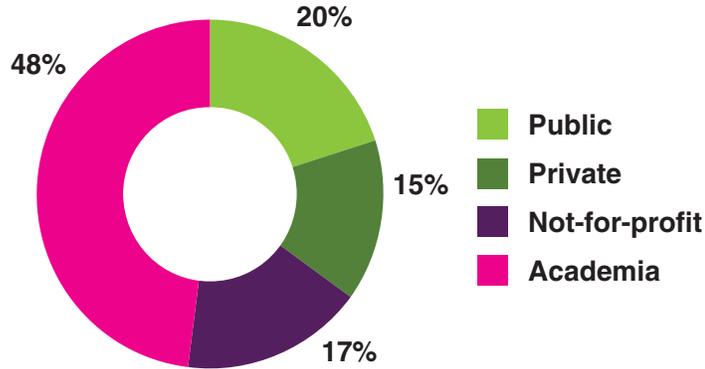
- Participants stressed forming a culture of lifelong learning in order to thrive in fast-changing workplaces. This means resources for mid-career workers who need to upgrade their skills or transition to new jobs, as well as incentives for businesses to invest in training.
- Lifelong learning and valuing resilience and adaptability throughout the educational journey is crucial. However, participants still grappled with how best to practically teach these skills in educational institutions.

Total attendance

116

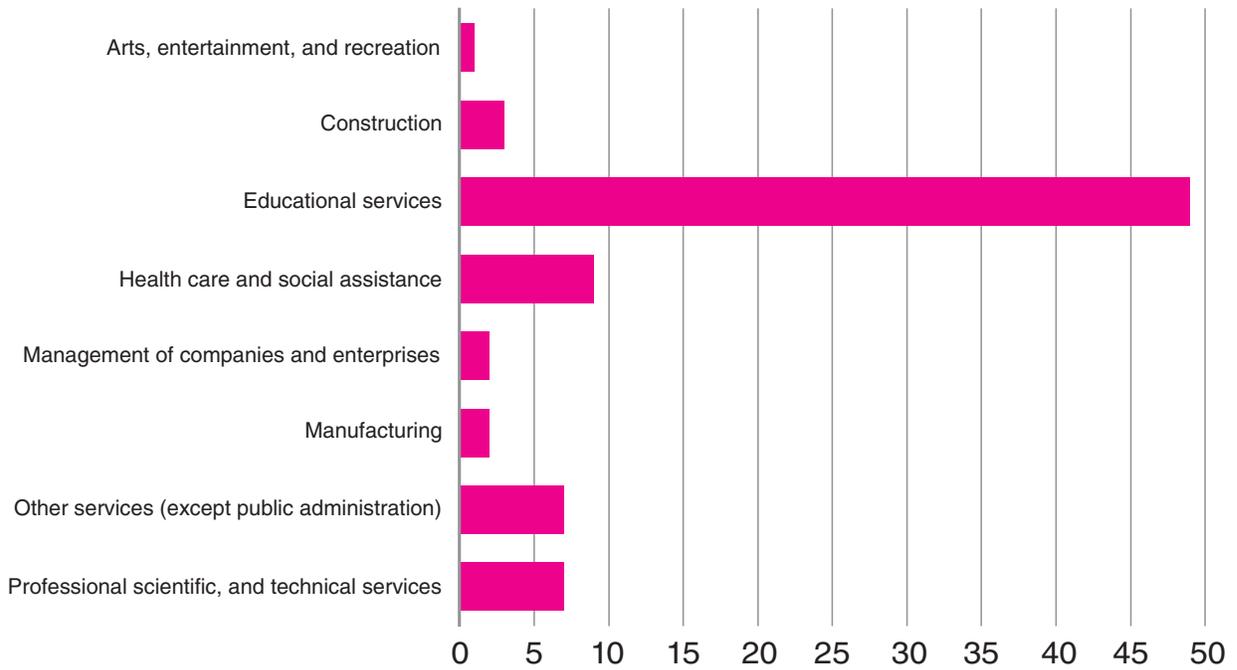


### Sector representation



Note: Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

### Industry representation (%)



Stay tuned for the final report that will synthesize the key findings of all discussions after the Regional Sounding Tour is completed in 2020.