







## **BUILD YOUR SKILLS AT SHERIDAN**

Sheridan is fielding an increase of requests for many skilled trade graduates and has launched a new apprenticeship program for January 2012 to train highly-skilled toolmakers in order to meet the demand from a rebounding local manufacturing sector.

The Mechanical Technician Tool Making Co-Op Diploma Apprenticeship Program is a new approach for Sheridan, combining apprenticeship training, a technical diploma and co-op

work experience.

**CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY** During the classroom component of the Mechanical Technician Tool Making program, you will work with Computer Numerical Control (CNC) equipment and other leadingedge tool making technology, becoming skilled in: Precision machining; computeraided manufacturing (CAM); computer-aided drafting and design

(CADD); CNC

programming; workplace safety; and

all trade and diploma

supporting soft skills.

Alan Reid, associate dean of Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades at Sheridan College, says "It's been there for a few vears in different trade areas, but it's a new approach to us where we're combining the in-school apprenticeship training with the mechanical technician diploma. It's quite an attractive program and it gives them a really healthy start."

It will allow students to complete the required in-school curriculum for an apprenticeship program and gain valuable work experience, while also earning a two-year technician college diploma. Students are trained in Sheridan's dedicated skills training facilities, which feature the most current and sophisticated equipment that graduates will use in the workplace.

Unlike other apprentice programs where students must return to school after starting work, Sheridan's new program will let graduates enter the job market with their schooling complete, as well as a full year of work experience.

"So they've completed the in-school requirement for the apprenticeship training and they've earned a college diploma," Reid says. "It's a packed course for post-secondary education. It's really taking a lot into a short period of time really, so it makes the graduate very, very marketable."

Graduates from this new program will be attractive to local employers, particularly for small manufacturers, who, in the past, frequently had to release newly-hired employees to return to school.