Center for Manufacturing Advancement

Flathead Valley Community College
Chris Parson
Director

eparson@fvcc.edu 406-756-4377
Established April 2015
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

Chris Parson
cparson@fvcc.edu
406-756-4377