

## **Learning to Earning | Higher Education and the Changing Job Market Session Summary**

**Civic Ballroom  
Sheraton Centre Toronto  
123 Queen Street West, Toronto, M5H 2M9**

*Thanks to Ian Hartlen and Adrian Philp, recent graduates from the Master of Public Policy Program at the University of Toronto, for their work in summarizing the conference.*

### **Day Two | Friday, November 2, 2012**

#### **Breakfast Keynote**

***Rob MacIsaac, Mohawk College***

It is time to rethink and reboot higher education. We can choose to lead from within our sector and need to get past relying on governments to do the innovating for us. We can do this within institutions and across institutions.

Each institution cannot excel at everything it does, and coupled with growing demographic and economic pressures, we need to recognize that it is time for a new paradigm.

Higher education needs to move away from a delivery method that relies on mass downloading of information to learners, to a student-centred model.

This can be daunting, but it contains the potential to move towards a system that accommodates people who cannot fit into today's model. To put it another way, we need every hand on deck in this economy and so we need to open the door to PSE for those who have only seen the door locked. Today's model shuts people out even when they make heroic efforts to succeed.

We should focus our efforts on creating "centres of excellence," that will allow us to each concentrate on our strengths. For instance, Mohawk College should not spend time and money working in areas already done well by neighbouring institutions.

Ultimately, innovation will be brought by those who pursue a path of cooperation between colleges, universities and of course, students.