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## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S SECTOR STRATEGIES & CAREER PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 6, 2025  
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### **MEMBERS:**

Cary Miyashiro, Chair, President, Quad D Solutions  
Lorna Woo, Vice Chair, Assistant Business Manager, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50  
Lea Dias, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Services  
Dion Dizon, Business Representative, IBEW Local Union 1186  
Rona Fukamoto, President & CEO, Lanakila Pacific  
Jared Higashi, Vice President of Government & Community Affairs, HLTA  
Chris Lum-Lee, President, TriSec  
Shelli Ihori, Associate Director, Workforce Development, Hawaii Pacific Health

### **GUESTS:**

Cary Miyashiro, Chair, President, Quad D Solutions  
Lorna Woo, Vice Chair, Director, Government Affairs, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50  
Lea Dias, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Services  
Helen Sanpei, Principal, McKinley Community School for Adults  
Linda Weiland, Program Coordinator, Embry-Riddle Aeronautics University  
Dan Doerger, Director, Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training, UH Community College System  
Ryan Sanpei, McKinley Community School for Adults  
Matt Stevens, Executive Director, Hawaii Workforce Funders Collaborative  
Stacie Higgins, Alignment Specialist, Hawaii P-20  
Mark Menard, Business Services Coordinator, American Job Center Hawaii, WorkHawaii Division  
Molly Mamaril, Oahu Economic Development Board  
Troy Sueoka, CTE Specialist, Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design, Department of Education  
Vanessa Rogers, Vice President, Workforce Development, Chamber of Commerce Hawaii  
Janet Davidson, Chaminade University  
Cristal Garan, Youth Program, WorkHawaii Division, Dept of Community Services, City & County of Honolulu

Rossella Guardascione, Chair, Hawaii County Workforce Development Board and Director of Human Resources, Kona Beach Hotel

Harrison Kuranishi, Executive Director, Oahu Workforce Development Board

Susan Gonzales, Curriculum Coordinator, Aiea High School, Department of Education

Elizabeth Jimenez, GEMAS Consulting

Dina Yoshimi, Director, Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative, University of Hawaii Manoa

**STAFF:**

Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director, Workforce Development Council

Kelly Quitevis, Program Specialist, Workforce Development Council

Evan Palmer, Program Specialist, Workforce Development Council

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order**

[Video 00:06:30]

*Chair Cary Miyashiro*

**II. Presentations**

[Video 00:12:15]

**A. A reading program to help challenged students**

*Elizabeth Jimenez Salinas  
CEO, Gemas Consulting*

Faced with budget cuts and the ongoing need to build capacity in training, staff development, marketing, and advocacy, many educational agencies struggle to effectively support diverse learners—especially those with special needs.

Elizabeth Salinas, a former paraprofessional turned bilingual elementary teacher and adjunct professor of Education, will introduce Gemas Consulting’s innovative reading program designed to meet these challenges. Her agency offers creative, targeted solutions that help educational institutions do more with less—while ensuring that every learner has the support they need to succeed.

**B. Career Foundations & Workforce Development Diploma**

*Ryan Sanpei, Lance Jyo  
McKinley Community School for Adults (MCSA)*

Ryan Sanpei and Lance Jyo will share portions of the MCSA skill building curriculum, specifically the employment readiness “Build My Skills”, the financial literacy “Build

My Bank”, and the entrepreneurship “Build My Biz” subsections.

### C. Climate-Ready Workforce Initiatives

*Jonathan Lance*  
*Hawai'i State Climate Commission*

The U.S. Climate Alliance’s Climate-Ready Workforce Initiative is a collaborative, multi-state effort aimed at training 1 million new registered apprentices by 2035 for high-quality jobs in the climate and clean energy sectors. Jonathan Lance will share about Hawai’i’s participation in the initiative and the Hawai’i State Climate

Commission’s current initiatives to establish long-term career pipelines in climate- ready fields and promote state-wide adoption of green job pathways.

### III. Executive Director’s Report [Video 01:12:31]

*Bennette Misalucha*  
*Executive Director, Workforce Development Council*

#### A. Update on the 2024-2028 Workforce Development State Unified Plan Implementation

A report on the activities related to the implementation of the State’s Unified Plan including the recent convening of the four pillars of the Strategic Plan.

#### B. Update on the transition of Workforce Development Council as an attached agency to Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

The Workforce Development Council became an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in July 2024. The transition process is still ongoing, and the report will touch upon the status of the move.

#### C. Status on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act unexpended funds or Program Year 2022

1. Three Memorandum of Agreements with government entities: a) University of Hawaii Community Colleges, b) Hawaii P-20 Partnership for Education, c) University of Hawaii Systems.
2. Three contracts: a) American Job Centers Awareness Public Relations Campaign, b) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Research, c) Fiscal training for relevant fiscal officers

### IV. Announcements and Constituent Comments [Video 01:17:12]

At this time, the public is welcome to announce upcoming events and comment on relevant issues that were not included in this meeting's agenda. Please be advised that in compliance with the Sunshine Law, the Committee cannot discuss or act on issues that were not included in this meeting's agenda, but issues raised in constituent comments may be included in a future agenda for the Committee's consideration.

V. [Video 01:23:40] **The next meeting** for the Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee is tentatively scheduled for July 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. VIA Zoom or in person at 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 317 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

VI. **Adjournment** [Video 01:24:05]

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