## Workforce development is economic development

Certified work ready communities is designed to drive economic growth in Stutsman County!

The ability to quantify the skill level of your workforce is a powerful tool in any economic developer's bag. And now, for the first time ever, Stutsman County's certified work ready community initiative, in partnership with ACT, is will make that possible with real-time workforce skill data updated each month (Live on ACT website in 2014.)

CWRC is based on ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC™), a stackable credential that forms the basic building block for career pathways built through public-private partnerships between education and industry. The NCRC documents an individual's foundational workplace skills such as math, reading and locating – skills required for a majority of today's jobs.

ACT is reporting information on actual NCRCs earned at the county level, also broken down by workforce demographic, each month. This new system creates a universally-accepted inventory of area workforce assets and skills that communities can advertise to attract new businesses and investment. The county-level data helps economic development authorities target their resources and address specific local opportunities for workforce engagement and improvement.

In short, CWRC enables existing business and industry to thrive and creates an attractive environment for new business investment.

For more information, please visit http://www.workreadycommunities.org or contact Holly Miller at 701-252-6861 or email holly@growingjamestown.com.



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