



**Manufacturing Day 2016  
Recap**

Manufacturing Day was hosted on **October 7<sup>th</sup> 2016** by Workforce WindsorEssex, Windsor Essex Economic Development Corporation, Leamington Economic Development, St. Clair College and Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium.

Over **750 students** from **13 schools** throughout Windsor and Essex County participated, including representation from all four local school boards.

**Participating Employers included:**

Leggett & Platt Automotive Group, Anchor Danly, Active Industrial Solutions, A.V Gauge & Fixture Inc., Valiant Training & Development Centre, Cavalier Tool & Manufacturing Ltd., Classic Tool & Die Inc., Crest Mold Technology Inc., LAVAL International, Radix Inc., Reko International Group Inc., SPM Automation, Spirol Industries Ltd., Windsor Mould Group, JD Norman Industries Inc., Uni-Fab, UE Enclosures, Caxton Mark Inc., South Essex Fabricating Inc., Essex Weld Solutions, Kingsville Stamping Ltd., MC3 Manufacturing Inc.

**Windsor Schedule for the Day:**

**9:30am Tour 1**

**11:00 Lunch at the Fogolar featuring food & employer presentations**

**12:30pm Tour 2**

**Fun Extras**

Students received a branded SWAG bag with a pen, MFGDay ear buds and safety glasses.

**The City of Windsor declared October 7<sup>th</sup> as Manufacturing Day.**

## Surveys

Workforce WindsorEssex conducted surveys with Windsor schools to get a pulse on how we did this year. Keep reading to see what our participants thought!

### Of 346 student survey completions...

Age	Number of Participants
13	12
14	66
15	158
16	73
17	24
18	8
19	2
20	3

### Before going on tour...

63% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they were familiar with manufacturing and the types of jobs it includes

42% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they could name manufacturing companies in Windsor Essex

28% of students had been on a manufacturing tour before

72% of students had learned about opportunities in the manufacturing sector at school

62% of students knew the type of education required to have a career in manufacturing

### After the tour....

93% of students agreed or strongly agreed that on Manufacturing Day they learned something they didn't already know about manufacturing and the type of jobs it includes

89% of students discovered manufacturing companies that they didn't know existed in Windsor Essex

83% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they know what OYAP is

64% of students indicated that they would like to go on more tours

Students used the following words to describe manufacturing:

Before Going on Tour	After Going on Tour
1. Technology	1. Technology
2. Dangerous	2. High Skilled
3. Robotics	3. Clean
4. High Skilled	4. Innovative
5. Creating	5. Robotics

## We asked students what their favourite part of the day was. They told us they liked...

"Seeing the different career options."

"Learning about the different jobs."

"Experiencing how machines work."

"Learning how much you make on the job."

"Seeing that it's mostly a team job- everyone has their part."

"Seeing how technology is a big part of manufacturing."

"Lunch!"

"Seeing all the robots."

"Learning about sure fire ways to get into manufacturing fields."

"The technology because it's very interesting and I will do it when I finish high school."

"Learning that the manufacturing industry is just as important as a career as anything else."

"Learning about the machines and what they do in manufacturing."

"Hands on activities were very fun."

"Getting to see how things were made."

"Being able to learn more about manufacturing in my city."

At Workforce WindsorEssex we continually want to improve the work we are doing in our community. We ended our student survey by asking what students would change next year. Here are some of their responses:

"Let's see more machines and robots working."

"More than 2 tours."

"To see more areas and factories and have the chance to try out what they do to see if I actually like it."

"More in depth tour and explanation."

"Volume of speakers so we can all hear."

"The way I think of an assembly line."

"More hands on because a lot of the molds and stuff seemed cool."

"My math skills."

"I would take tech classes."

"Wouldn't change a thing."

"More interactive tours."

"No presentations while eating."

"...the tour was all about the income the company made. They act too greedy."

We then took some time to survey the teachers who had accompanied students on the tours. Here are some of their thoughts:

- 94% of teachers agreed/strongly agreed that Manufacturing Day 2016 was a **valuable experience** for them and their students
- 63% of teachers have **recently toured** a manufacturing facility
- 69% agreed or strongly agreed that their **school is connected** to local manufacturing companies
- 88% agreed or strongly agreed that their students have the opportunity to learn about **OYAP and apprenticeships**

How can we better educate teachers on career opportunities that exist in the manufacturing sector for their students?

"... we have decided to hold a **job fair** and invite manufacturing businesses along with other possible avenues who have jobs for students who do not plan on attending post-secondary school. We don't offer enough opportunities for these students and put much more emphasis on our university and college bound kids."

"I think **this program** does an excellent job of truly explaining trades to our youth."

"**Tours** for co-op or careers class teachers."

What did you enjoy most about the day?

"**Hands-on, access to real employees/workers** for students, informal feel and smaller groups with tour to let them ask questions and SEE!! Feeding them and making it a whole day also great!"

"The **tours** were well done by the companies."

"The **look on students faces** as they saw CNC machines running and how compression moulds are made."

"**Hearing about the opportunities** first hand from employers."

What would you change about MFGDay 2016?

"**The lunch format.** Students were not listening to the presentations. Have interactive displays, have a mentor sit at each lunch table with the students to answer questions, etc..."

"Nothing, **fantastic job.**"

"Do it **more than once a year** and include construction."

"Keep the tour sizes small when at the company allows for more questions and engagement from the students because they feel more confident **asking questions** in smaller groups."

"Add **more hands on, interactive activities** for the students."

Additional Comments:

"**Great day** for the kids. A lot of them aren't pleased with starting the trade at minimum wage from my class discussion with them... need to start apprentices at \$14/hr from what seems to be fair."

"Wonderful event, very well organized, great opportunity for students to **better understand career opportunities** in this sector."

"**THANKS!**"

"Thanks for all you do. You are an **important part** of our education team. Hoping to maybe increase our teachers knowledge about what you offer."

"We hope to participate **next year.**"

"**A fantastic day!** Well planned and organized! Loved the break at the Fogolar with the lunch and learn idea. Presentations were great!"

This event wouldn't have been possible without the support of our employers! We made sure to ask them their thoughts too:

100% of employers agreed or strongly agreed that Manufacturing Day is a **worthwhile initiative**.

90% of employers are **connected with schools** and educators outside of MFGDay.

90% of employers would consider **hosting tours** for students outside of MFGDay.

80% of employers would consider going into classes as a **guest speaker**.

### What was your favourite part of the day?

"(Over)hearing the students talk after the **tour exposure**."

"Letting the students be **hands on**, trying their hand at welding was a big hit. They were very **engaged** when they could physically try and do a job, not just looking and listening to a speech."

"The variety of questions and **interaction** the students had with our employees."

"The opportunity to show the public including students that **manufacturing is vital** and exciting part of the economy. The students getting to experience something new and interacting with the staff."

"We **enjoyed** all aspects of the day. We strongly agree that this is a great way to educate our youth about the benefits and importance of manufacturing."

### What would you change about the day?

"Nothing. I thought this year was much more **interactive** than last. I felt it went smoother than last as well."

"The **lunch event** was great, I was however disappointed that the noise level was so high and the interest of the students was low during the presentations."

"As part of the tour preparations the students should be required to conduct some due diligence and **investigate** the type of manufacturing facilities that they will be visiting so that they can come prepared with some questions and become more engaged."

"We wish we had **more time** with each group."

# Photo Gallery: see the action for yourself!

