



Summer 2017 e-newsletter



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Message from the CEO

The 23rd Skills Canada National Competition, which took place on June 1st and 2nd, 2017, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, proved to be another successful event with over 10,000 visiting students from across Manitoba, as well as hundreds of representatives from business, labour, education and government who are committed to promoting skilled trade and technology careers. There were 40 Skills Canada Alumni onsite to tell their stories and engage with the visiting students as part of the Canada 150 Skills Canada Alumni Initiative.

In addition, the 31 members of WorldSkills Team Canada 2017 also attended SCNC 2017 to complete a two-day project as part of their training for WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017. They have a few months left to train in preparations for this prestigious international event and I wish them good luck in their quest to become a world champion. The 44th WorldSkills Competition, will take place in Abu Dhabi, from October 14-19, 2017 and it will be an amazing event.

Our office is also preparing for National Skilled Trades and Technology Week, which will take place November 5th to 12th, 2017 across Canada. During this week, Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) and its Provincial/Territorial Member Organizations and partners will be hosting events to raise awareness of skilled trade and technology careers to parents, youth and educators. Information will be available on our website in the coming months.

To close, I would like to thank everyone that made SCNC 2017 a success, in particular, the Skills Canada Manitoba office. As we look forward I hope many of you will add to your calendars, [SCNC 2018](#) in Edmonton, Alberta, June 4-5, 2018.

Shaun Thorson
Chief Executive Officer

Skills/Compétences Canada In the News

Here are some recent news clips featuring Skills/Compétences Canada and the 2017 Skills Canada National Competition:

-Read this press release issued by [Skills Canada](#) on June 6th which includes the results of the Skills Canada National Competition: *Canadian Youth Excel at Skilled Trade and Technology Competition: 43 New National Champions Crowned in Winnipeg*.

-Read this press release issued by [Skills Canada](#) on June 2nd, featuring the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, Patty Hajdu: *Skills Canada National Competition in Full Swing in Winnipeg*.

-Read this press release issued by [Skills Canada](#) on June 1st: *Skills/Compétences*

-Read this press release issued by [Skills Canada](#) on May 2nd: Vale Canada Renews Sponsorship Support for Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC).

-Read this article: *Okanagan College students earn bronze at Skills Canada Nationals* published in [BC Local News](#) on June 12th.

-Read this article: *Cambrian grad wins silver at Skills Canada competition* featured in [Sudbury.com](#) on June 11th.

-Check out this article: *Inuvik's teen 'Cake Boss' wins gold medal at national skills competition* published on June 6th in [CBC News North](#).

-Read this article: *Island students take home 8 medals at Skills Canada competition* featured in [CBC News PEI](#).

-Listen to this radio clip: *Local Student Makes Barrie Proud on National Skilled Trades Stage*, which aired on June 6th on [Rock95](#).

-Read this article published in [Radio-Canada International](#) on June 6th: *Olympiades canadiennes des métiers : l'or et le bronze pour deux jeunes photographes de Montréal* (French only).

-Check out this article: *Student 'frozen' after winning gold fixing fridges at national competition* published in [CBC News Nova Scotia](#) on June 6th.

-Read this article: *Students recognized for skills in tech and trades* published in [CTV News Winnipeg](#) on June 3rd.

-Check out this interview clip on [CTV Morning Live](#), which aired on June 2nd, where Mike Holmes Jr. and Sherry Holmes talk about how the Skills Canada National Competition is a great way to promote careers in the skilled trades to youth.

-Check out this article published in the [Winnipeg Free Press](#) on June 1st: *Students and apprentices from across Canada competing in national skills competition in Winnipeg*.

-Listen to this interesting interview from May 31st on [680 CJOB](#) with Shaun Thorson, CEO of Skills Canada/Compétences Canada and Ingrid Wieler, WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 competitor in IT Office Software, from Manitoba, who discuss the importance of the Skills Canada National Competition.

Skills Canada News

Team Canada Members Engage with MPs on the Hill

This spring, Skills Canada staff and three Team Canada members were on Parliament Hill to meet with key Members of Parliament and build awareness around SCC's mandate and work.

Ashley Weber (WorldSkills Team Canada 2017 in Car Painting), Vydaine Dujmovic, (WorldSkills Team Canada 2017 in Autobody Repair), and construction business owner Adrian Schut (WorldSkills Team Canada 2011 in Robotics) came to Ottawa to share their journeys and the positive impact that SCC has had on their lives and careers.

The M.P.s who met with the group were eager to learn more about SCC's work and to get involved. They included:

·Rodger Cuzner, M.P. for Cape Breton-Canso, Nova Scotia, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour

·Peter Schiefke, M.P. for Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Québec, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Youth)

·Matt Jeneroux, M.P. for Edmonton Riverbend, Alberta

·Gudie Hutchings, M.P. for Long Range Mountains, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Small Business and Tourism

SCC looks forward to working with them, and to engage with their colleagues, from all

parties, in the coming months.



Adrian Schut, Vyolaine Dujmovic, Ashley Weber and Peter Schiefke, M.P. for Vaudreuil-Soulanges, Qc, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Youth) and Shaun Thorson, Skills / Compétences Canada CEO.



Adrian Schut, Shaun Thorson, Skills/Compétences Canada CEO, Ashley Weber, Gudie Hutchings, M.P. for Long Range Mountains, NL, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Small Business and Tourism and Vyolaine Dujmovic.



Matt Jeneroux, M.P. for Edmonton Riverbend, AB, discusses with the Skills/Compétences Canada delegation made up of Ashley, Vyolaine Dujmovic, Adrian Schut and CEO Shaun Thorson.



Rodger Cuzner, M.P. for Cape Breton-Canso, NS, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour speaks with Ashley Weber, Vyolaine Dujmovic and Adrian Schut.

Canadian Youth Excelled at SCNC 2017

The 23rd Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) was held on June 1st and 2nd, 2017 at the RBC Convention Centre, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Over 550 competitors from across Canada competed in over 40 skilled trade and technology competitions ranging from welding and landscape gardening to robotics, fashion technology, automotive service and video production. At the Closing Ceremony, they received official recognition for their outstanding performance as Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) announced the results of the 2017 Skills Canada National Competition. The complete list of medal winners is available on the [Skills Canada Website](#). Over 200 medals were awarded to the top industry champions in six skilled trade or technology sectors including transportation, construction, manufacturing and engineering, information technology, service and employment.

During this year's Skills Canada National Competition, several industry celebrities attended and participated in the Official Launch and several Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities. Special guests included: Mike Holmes, Jr. and Sherry Holmes of HGTV Canada's *Holmes Makes it Right*, Kate Campbell of HGTV's *Decked Out, Holmes on Homes* and host of

Custom Built, Paul Lafrance, Founder and CEO of *Paul Lafrance Design* and host of HGTV's *Decked Out, Disaster Decks* and *Deck Wars*, and Jeremy Senaris, runner up, *MasterChef Canada* (Season three). They were on site to raise awareness of the variety of career opportunities available in the skilled trades and technologies and to encourage youth to get involved in these sectors. Also in attendance was the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour. Minister Hajdu met with young visitors, toured the event, and spoke with young women working in skilled trades and technology during a special panel broadcasted through Facebook Live.



Celebrities, SCNC Presenting Partners and SCC alumni participated in the Official Launch of the 23rd Skills Canada National Competition.

Additionally, the 31 members of WorldSkills Team Canada 2017, along with several international competitors, were in attendance to complete a training project in preparation for the 44th WorldSkills Competition, which will be held in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E., from October 14 to 19, 2017. This four-day WorldSkills Competition is the biggest of its kind in the world and considered the pinnacle of excellence in skilled trades and technologies training. Follow their journey at: www.skillscompetencescanada.com.

Other highlights of the 2017 Skills Canada National Competition included:

- A focus on the importance of the nine Essential Skills in the skilled trades and technologies; Working with Others was the Essential Skill that was profiled at SCNC 2017.
- Canada 150 Initiative: A group of 40 Skills Canada alumni were in attendance at various locations throughout the competition, speaking to youth and promoting career paths in skilled trades and technologies.
- Essential Skills stage: several Skills Canada partners highlighted their trade or technology through interactive demonstrations during the two days of competition.
- Essentials Skills Forum/Stakeholder Roundtable was held in partnership with the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum. The theme was Building blocks for youth success in trades.
- Essential Skills Webcast, live from the RBC Convention Centre. Panelists included representatives from industry, education and labour, as well as industry celebrities, who discussed the importance of Essential Skills.
- Dedicated "Career Zone" where over 50 industry partners and educators demonstrated their brand, trade or occupation through interactive activities.
- VIP networking events attended by corporate sponsors, suppliers, educators, industry partners, labour, and government stakeholders.
- Over 10,000 visitors attended SCNC 2017, the highest attendance to date!



- **First time:** SCC produced a mini series for web or TV on the landscape gardening competition.
- **First time:** SCC, in partnership with Vale Canada and Canadian Armed Forces 17 Wing Winnipeg, provided a group of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation students from Nelson House in Thompson, Manitoba with a special SCNC experience. 31 youth and 7 chaperones were provided with transportation and accommodation so they could attend SCNC. Through their SCNC experience they learned about career and education options available in the skilled trades and technologies. Feedback was very positive: the students were especially interested in the Opening Ceremony and the Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities.



The Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation students meet with Jeremy Senaris, runner-up on MasterChef Canada, season 3.

Watch the SCNC 2017 highlight video on [YouTube](#) and check out thousands of action shots of the event on [Flickr!](#)

The next Skills Canada National Competition will be held at the Edmonton EXPO Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, on June 4th and 5th, 2018. Through these competitions, Skills Canada seeks to raise awareness about skilled trade and technology sectors to all Canadian youth and their influencers. For more information about SCNC visit: www.skillscanada.com.

2017 Essential Skills Youth Forum

During the 2017 Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC), the Essential Skills Youth Forum (ESYF) participants, which included 11 Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) alumni from across Canada, came together to share experiences and ideas. The ESYF

participants focused their attention on the newly created Essential Skills Work Ready Youth Program.



The 11 members of the 2017 ESYF gathered at the 23rd Skills Canada National Competition.

The ESYF worked in groups to complete two of the nine modules for Document Use and Numeracy. The goal was not only to complete the modules in order to improve their level of Essential Skills but also to provide crucial feedback on format, assessment portion, exercises, and ultimately how they felt their Essential Skills had improved.

In addition to the ES Work Ready Youth Program, the ESYF also considered the importance of the nine Essential Skills and how they were incorporated into SCNC. With their experience in hand, the ESYF will generate a report on their findings and will present this to the SCC Board for consideration.

For more information, go to: www.skillscompetencescanada.com.

Canada 150 Alumni Engage with Youth at the Skills Canada National Competition

At this year's Skills Canada National Competition, approximately 40 Skills Canada Alumni were in attendance to engage with visitors and inspire youth to pursue a career in the skilled trades and technology.



The Canada 150 Alumni pose for a picture with Shaun Thorson, CEO of Skills Canada.

At the 2016 Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) in Moncton, NB, the Essential Skills Youth Forum recommended the development of a national alumni program for previous national and international competitors. To celebrate Canada's 150th, Skills Canada (SCC) worked with its Member Organizations to select approximately 40 Alumni



Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, Patricia Hajdu met with several of the Canada 150 Alumni during SCNC 2017.

These Champions were selected by their Member Organizations and have previously participated in provincial/territorial, national and in some cases international SCC activities or events. The Canada 150 Champions were onsite to tell their stories and engage with the over 10,000 student visitors that attended SCNC 2017. They had the opportunity to share their stories and experiences, which in turn encouraged and inspired students to follow a similar career path and choose a career in a skilled trade or technology sector that is of interest to them. For more information, go to: www.skillscompetenciescanada.com.

Upcoming Events

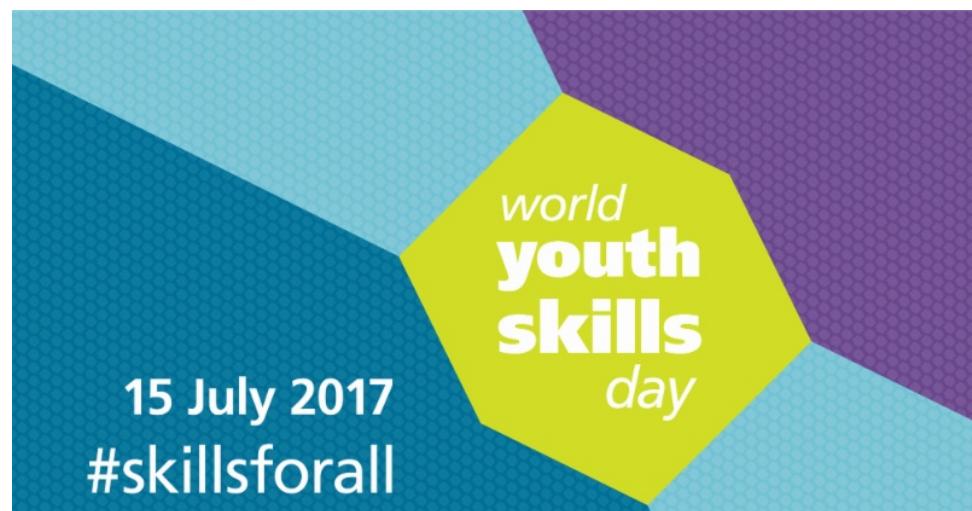
World Youth Skills Day

Celebrate World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) on July 15th, 2017!

WYSD was created to raise awareness of the importance of acquiring skills as a means to address the challenges of unemployment and under employment, and as a way to achieve better socio-economic conditions for all youth. For more information, [click here](#).

Use #SkillsForAll and #WYSD, the official hashtags for that day, to join WorldSkills and the United Nations in raising awareness about the importance of youth developing skills.

Visit the WorldSkills [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages for the latest World Youth Skills Day updates.



SCC Interviews Alumni to Highlight WYSD

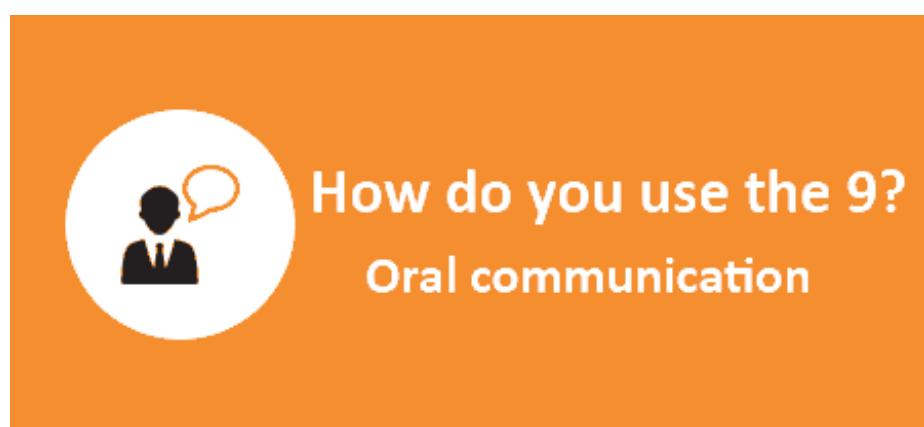
To highlight the importance of skilled trades and technologies for youth in anticipation of WYSD, SCC participated in a [Facebook Live interview](#) with two of SCC's alumni. Stacey Dubois, WorldSkills Team Canada 2009 in IT - Software Solutions for Business and Adrian Schut, WorldSkills Team Canada 2011 in Robotics, discussed their involvement with SCC and how the Skills organizations have helped them in their personal and professional journeys. An SCNC 2017 highlight video was also recently launched in support of this day. Check it out on SCC's [Youtube](#) channel.

Visit SCC's [Facebook](#) page for more World Youth Skills Day updates.

Eighth Annual Essential Skills Day

The eighth annual Essential Skills Day will take place on Friday September 22, 2017 to raise awareness about the importance of workplace literacy and essential skills training. The Government of Canada has identified nine Essential Skills needed for workplace success. These skills are used in every job to varying degrees and at different levels of complexity. They provide the foundation for learning all other skills and enable people to evolve with their jobs and adapt to workplace change.

The hashtags for this day are: #ESD2017 and #The9AtWork.



Visit [www.EssentialSkillsDay.ca](#) to learn more about Essential Skills Day and how you can get involved!

WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017

Held every two years, the WorldSkills Competition is the world's largest professional education event. It represents the pinnacle of international excellence in skilled trades and

technologies.

Abu Dhabi is hosting the 44th WorldSkills Competition from October 14-19, 2017. This is the first time the Competition will be held in the Middle East and Africa region. Over 1,300 Competitors from around the globe will descend on the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, one of the largest exhibition centres in the Middle East. For more information, go to: www.worldskillsabudhabi2017.com.



WorldSkills Team Canada 2017

The 31 WorldSkills Team Canada 2017 competitors will demonstrate their skills as they compete for the title of World Champion in their respective skill area. The competitors will participate in simulated real work challenges, and be judged against international standards of quality. The venue allows for open-forum competitions where the public can observe the precision, artistry and complexity of the work being accomplished.

Follow WorldSkills Team Canada 2017's journey at www.skillscanada.com! Twitter #WSTC2017

[To read more.](#)

National Skilled Trades and Technology Week (NSTTW) November 5 -12, 2017

Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) and its Member Organizations will be hosting events to raise awareness of skilled trade and technology careers to parents, youth and educators. This is an opportunity for all types of organizations across Canada, from businesses to educational institutions, to get involved in promoting skilled trade and technology opportunities to youth in a "hands-on" way. A list of activities happening in each province and territory will be available in the coming months at www.skillscanada.com. To obtain more information about these activities, please contact your provincial/territorial office.



SCC will be hosting the official launch of NSTTW on November 7th in partnership with Skills Canada Alberta. The launch will be held at the [Shaw Conference Centre](#) in Edmonton, Alberta. More information will be available over the coming weeks at www.skillscanada.com. In addition, Skills Canada Alberta will be hosting Skills Exploration Days on November 7th and 8th, 2017. Junior high schools will bring teams of four to the

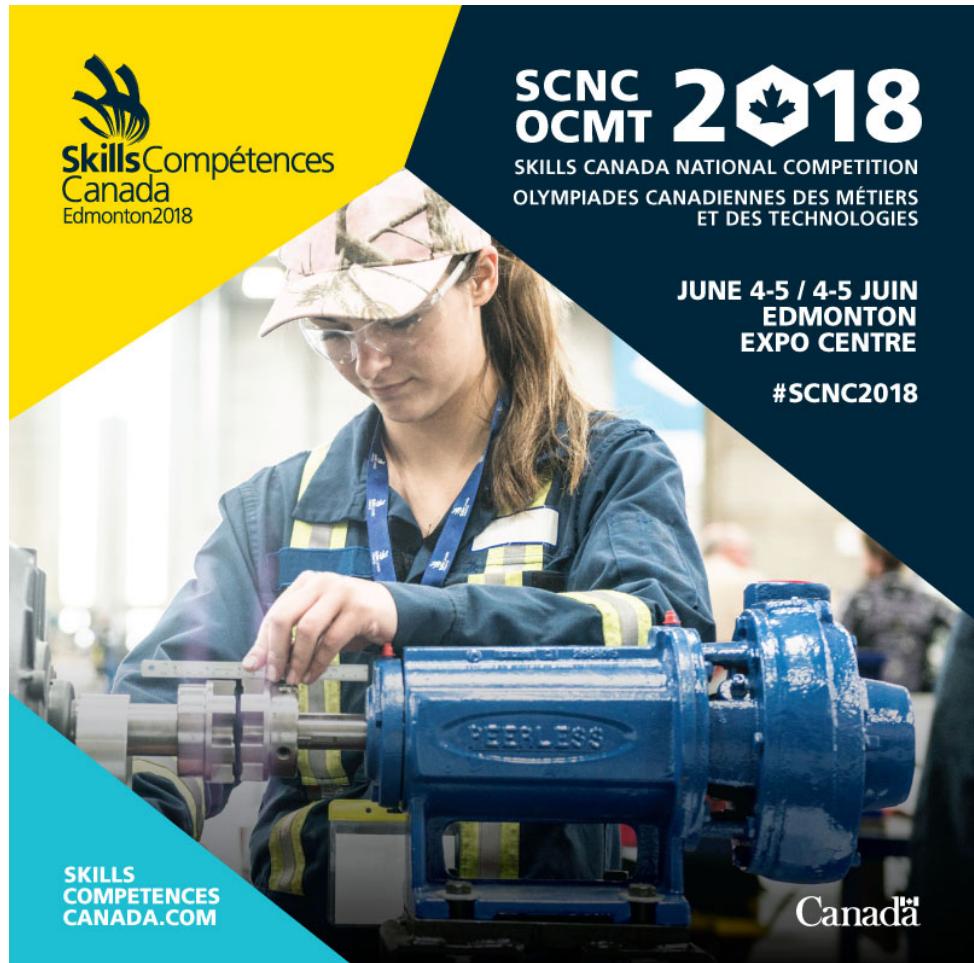
Shaw Conference Centre for an authentic and meaningful skilled trade and technology career exploration experience. For more information, visit: www.skillsalberta.com.



If you are interested in partnering with us for NSTTW 2017, please contact Gail Vent at GailV@skillscanada.com.

Mark your Calendar for the 2018 Skills Canada National Competition!

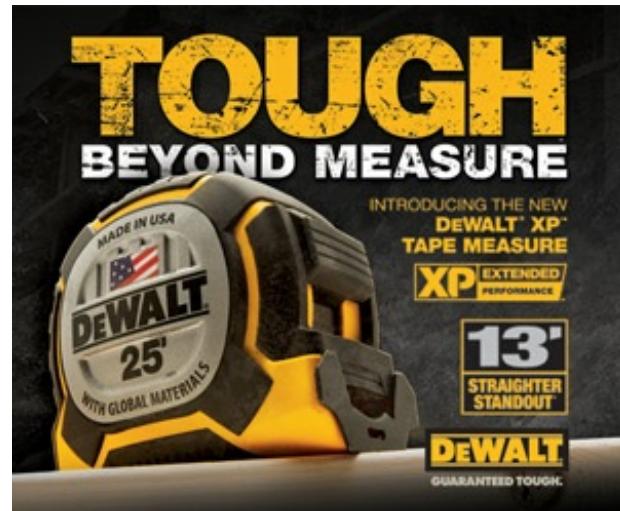
Join us on June 4th and 5th, 2018, at the [Edmonton EXPO Centre](#) in Edmonton, Alberta for the 24th Skills Canada National Competition.



For more information, go to www.skillscompetencescanada.com.



Industry News and Stories



For more information: www.xptapemeasure.dewalt.ca.

Contributed by: DeWALT

Finding Solutions to the Welder Shortage

When talking about the skilled trade shortages in the global marketplace, welding is one of the skilled trades that is often found at the top of this list.

At the Skills Canada National Competition and at the Skills provincial competitions, the welding competition always maintains consistent, with high-levels of participation in secondary and post-secondary competitions. The skills that are showcased by these competitors are exceptional especially considering their level of experience. If these individuals are given the direction they need and the opportunity for further advancement in this field, we should never have to worry about a shortage for this trade!

Demand

Welding is involved in many trade classifications other than the stand-alone trade of "welder". For instance, trades like steamfitter/pipfitter, millwright, ironworker, boilermaker, sheet metal worker and others all having varying welding-based competency requirements as described in their trade classification. Manufacturing field production welders and other specific fields are also becoming more in demand, which compounds the need for this growing trade.

Why is there a shortage?

It is unfortunate that the reality for many up-and-coming welding prospects is that, despite high levels of talent and potential, they are often not aligned with ideal career opportunities. Despite welding being an essential part of our workforce and being involved in so many facets of our economy, the specialized welder who is proficient in all processes like SMAW, GTAW, GMAW, GMAW-P and FCAW as showcased at the Skills Canada events, does not always find a job that will further their skills to meet the real-world requirements of on-the-job performance.

Solution!

There is never a "one size fits all" when it comes to finding a solution to fulfilling the future demands for this trade. A recurring synopsis that arises in many discussions is a greater emphasis on employers, contractors and industry partners regarding their responsibility and vested interest in developing and employing the youth who want to be in this trade. Our learning institutions are only able to bring these students to a certain level. Like other trades, becoming a journeyperson requires not only knowledge gained from a classrooms environment, but practiced field experience that will develop skills, needed for success. If we can get the right commitment from industry to support our youth, this trade will continue to be of interest to future generations, as there will be clearly identifiable job opportunities awaiting them. As a result, we will be progressing towards a secure future for tomorrow's workforce.

Contributed by: UA



Mitutoyo Canada Inc. is a Proud Multi-Year Sponsor of the Skills Canada National Competition

Mitutoyo Canada Inc. has been a proud partner with Skills Canada for the last four years. This partnership has led to our involvement with Skills at a provincial, national and international level. As a company, we believe that it's very important to be involved with youth in skilled trades to ensure they have access to the best metrology equipment in the world. Mitutoyo Canada Inc. is also heavily involved in supporting Canadian Academic institutions and aiding in building solid skill sets for the future workforce. Our philosophy is that the sale of a product is not the end of the process, but the beginning of a long-term partnership with our customers.

Established in 1973, Mitutoyo Canada Inc. has been bringing the full spectrum of Mitutoyo's R&D, manufacturing expertise, products and knowledge to the Canadian manufacturing market to help industry improve product quality and company profits. Mitutoyo offers total metrology solutions for today's manufacturing challenges and is trusted worldwide to deliver quality, affordability and durability. Our wide array of measuring devices totals over 8,000. As a leader in the precision measuring instrument market, it is Mitutoyo's responsibility to advance precision measurement technology at the manufacturing level.

Submitted by: Mitutoyo Canada Inc.



Ricoh Canada Supports Skills Canada

Ricoh Canada has been a long time supporter of Skills Canada.

This year, Ricoh continued to strengthen this valuable partnership by supporting the 23rd Skills Canada National Competition by providing 20 Ricoh devices. By teaming with Skills Canada, Ricoh Canada was able to gain a detailed understanding of the competition requirements to ensure that competitors and guests had the best experience possible during the four-day event.

Ricoh provided a combination of printers, multifunctional devices and a wide format production printer to meet all the unique print and copy requirements of the event.



Ricoh MFPs in use at the 23rd Skills Canada National Competition.

With Ricoh Canada's expertise in capturing, managing and transforming information, we were able to deliver a broad portfolio of services to Canada's talented youth as well as their family and friends.

Ricoh helps empower digital workplaces using innovative technologies and services to enable teams to work faster and smarter.

Together, we were able to imagine change.

To learn more about Ricoh, visit us at www.Ricoh.ca

Contributed by: Ricoh Canada

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[Click here](#) for a list of all sponsors and suppliers for SCNC 2017.

[Click here](#) for a list of all sponsors and suppliers for the 2017 WorldSkills Competition.

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