



NATIONAL SKILLED TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK

2025 Recap





“National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) is about bringing attention to how important skilled careers are in Canada. From building homes and hospitals, to keeping our lights on and our technology running; the trades keep everything moving. But just as importantly, it’s also about inspiring the next generation to see these careers for what they really are – creative, hands on, meaningful and in demand. When we support the trades, we’re building stronger communities and a stronger Canada.”

SHERRY HOLMES, Contractor, TV Host and DIY Enthusiast

“Working with the Skills/Compétences Canada team on the NSTTW event was an exceptional experience. The event itself ran beautifully, and our team at Centennial College was truly delighted to be involved. It was a privilege to host and support an initiative that inspires young people to explore skilled trade and technology pathways, and we look forward to working together again in the future.”

AARON SCHOENMAKER, Manager, National Recruitment, Partnerships, Enrolment and External Relations, Centennial College

“At the core of the AED Foundation’s mission is to improve the availability and quality of tomorrow’s equipment industry workforce. That’s why we support organizations like Skills/Compétences Canada. We believe that the future of the workforce begins with secondary students and exposing them to skilled trades – not only within the equipment industry, but across all sectors. National Skilled Trade and Technology Week plays a pivotal role in helping students discover these skilled pathways.”

SEAN FITZGERREL, Vice President, The AED Foundation

“We were thrilled to be part of the event for National Skilled Trade and Technology Week! Exploring Aesthetics as a career with the visiting students helps break down gender stereotypes, spotlights women-led professions, and opens doors for everyone interested in a skilled trade or technology career. Showing them safe, professional products and techniques encourage them to explore this career path confidently and responsibly. It’s truly rewarding to help inspire the next generation of Aestheticians while promoting inclusion and safety.”

NICOLE BRUDER, Client Success Manager, L’Moor

ETHAN ALMEIDA WorldSkills Team Canada 2026 Competitor in Autobody Repair

The Spark that Started my Skilled Trades Journey

I have been into cars and just about anything with a motor ever since I can remember. I never had a doubt that my career would be in the automotive industry; I just had to figure out what specifically it was going to be. Initially I was set on becoming a mechanical engineer and wanted to work at one of the local plants. However, I began to think that maybe an office job wasn’t the right choice for me. I was never really interested in the mechanical service side as I felt like every day was a lot of the same work. I was then introduced to the world of collision repair after stumbling across a video on YouTube of people fixing written off cars. Since my high school didn’t have a shop class, I did a co-op at a local autobody shop to see if it was something I would enjoy. I didn’t work on as many cars as I thought I would, but I was surprised by how much I enjoyed the environment, the work and the atmosphere. I also made some great friends and solidified that this was where I wanted to be.

Afterwards I booked an appointment with my guidance counsellor to talk about doing a full semester co-op in grade 12. My counselor looked at me as if I had four heads, and I assured him that this was what I wanted and that it was the best move for me. So, I contacted the owners of the shop I work at now and asked if they would be willing to take me on as an apprentice. Luckily, they were just as excited as I was to take me on. On my first day, I was already working on cars, and I never looked back.

“As a Centennial student myself; I felt it was incredible to see all the students getting excited about the skilled trades and technologies. It was also a great experience that allowed me to share my Skills journey and connect with our future workforce.”



My Skills Competition Experience

About a month into my co-op, my boss came up to me and asked if I was going to be competing in the provincial Skills competition in May 2021. This was the first time I had ever heard about it, but being as competitive as I am, I was very interested and asked how I could sign up right away. After winning a virtual provincial Skills competition and a Skills Canada National Competition I was amazed at the world of opportunities already being offered. It became clear to me that no matter how you finish, the fact that you are willing to dedicate your own time to perfect your skills shows that you have passion and drive. And that impresses employers and opens doors to future opportunities. Plus, the experience is so positive, and you make so many connections with people from the industry that you really start to make a name for yourself.

After four years of competing, this journey has led me to an amazing milestone — I’ll be competing at the 48th WorldSkills Competition, in Shanghai, China, next September! I’m thrilled for the chance to learn, grow, and represent my country on a global stage.



MISSION

To advance the engagement of youth and their communities in skilled trade and technology careers using a pan-Canadian approach.



VISION

Canada leads the world in skill development.



ABOUT SCC

- Founded in 1989
- Registered Canadian Charitable Organization
- National Office in Ottawa, Ontario
- 13 Member Organizations representing all provinces/territories
- Canadian Member Organization of WorldSkills

WHAT WE OFFER

- Regional, provincial/territorial, national and international skilled trade and technology competitions
- Skilled trade and technology awareness programs
- Experiential learning opportunities for youth through Try-a-Trade® and Technology activities
- Skills for Success programs and resources



Our unique position among private and public-sector partners enables us to work toward securing Canada's future skilled labour needs while assisting young people to discover rewarding careers.



We work with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to promote skilled trade and technology careers among Canadian youth.

Over the past 36 years, we've inspired hundreds of thousands of young Canadians to explore the wide-ranging opportunities found in skilled trades and technologies.



21st National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW)

November 2 to 8, 2025



What is NSTTW?

NSTTW is a key date in the annual Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) calendar. The goal of National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) is to promote and host awareness raising events around the many career opportunities in skilled trades and technologies in Canada. SCC works with its Member Organizations and partners to facilitate and host skilled trade and technology activities in regions across Canada. To engage business and political leaders in discussions about the importance of these careers for our country, to focus media attention on these careers, and to highlight those individuals that pursued these paths themselves.

Why does it happen?

It is clear that skilled trade and technology careers are important for our economy and an excellent career path for many young Canadians. Yet many Canadians either do not know what these careers look like or what they entail. This week of events is dedicated to raising awareness of the career options that are available to our future workforce.

Goals

- Get Canada's youth thinking about skilled trade and technology careers as a viable, interesting option.
- Get Canada's youth to engage in activities involving the skilled trades and technologies, fostering conversations between industry, teachers, students, and parents.
- Engage with industry thought leaders and political decision makers, creating a dialogue focused on the importance of encouraging uptake in skilled trade and technology careers. This will have a positive impact in making Canada's economy stronger.

Highlighting the Skills for Success for a rewarding career with COMMUNICATION.



NUMBERS That Speak Volumes

18

Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities

9

Labs led by our host, Centennial College

Over 450

students

Approximately 60

industry representatives

Try-A-Trade® and Technology Activities and School Labs

Several of Skills/Compétences Canada’s partners hosted Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities aimed at engaging students from middle and high schools and providing them with a hands-on experience. There were also nine compelling labs hosted by Centennial College. Over 450 students attended and participated in a variety of interactive activities in the skilled trades and technologies. These activities included: baking, landscape gardening, woodworking, a hands-on Tic Tac Toe game, aesthetics, virtual welding, aviation, firefighting, and much more! To see the list of activities and labs, see below.

Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities



Learn More

Labs



Learn More



Check out the NSTTW Event Highlights

- Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) hosted an event for the 21st National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) on Thursday, November 6, at Centennial College, in Toronto, Ontario. This event was sponsored by Centennial College and AED Foundation.
- The event included welcome messages from Shaun Thorson, Chief Executive Officer of Skills/Compétences Canada, Peter Boutros, Professor with the School of Transportation at Centennial College, Seán Kinsella, Director, the Eighth Fire, Ethan Almeida, WorldSkills Team Canada 2026 Competitor in Autobody Repair and Sherry Holmes, Contractor, TV Host and DIY Enthusiast, who also engaged with the student visitors and shared her career journey into the skilled trades.
- Highlighted at the event was the importance of *Communication*, one of the Skills for Success identified as fundamental to working in the skilled trade and technology industries.
- The networking breakfast, held in conjunction with the event, had about 75 guests with representatives from education and industry, and SCC alumni.
- Skills/Compétences Canada announced that the Skills Canada National Competition 2026 will be hosted in Toronto, Ontario on May 28 and 29, at the Enercare Centre.
- Following the official program, over 450 registered students from local middle and high schools participated in 18 Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities held by educators and industry experts, and nine labs by Centennial College. These activities ranged from a Tic Tac Toe game using real hand and power tools, to exploring a Spa Skin Analysis System, to trying virtual welding. Students got a taste of the skills, innovation, and creativity thriving in skilled trade and technology careers.
- Throughout the day, students learned about the interesting and important educational pathways and career opportunities in several trade and technology sectors. In addition, the students had a skills passport which they could get stamped after completing the various Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities, for the chance to win a prize.



SCC's MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS HIGHLIGHTED NSTTW THROUGH ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

More than 3,000 people across Canada participated in National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) 2025 activities.

Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) and its Member Organizations had over 45,000 views on their social media channels.

SKILLS CANADA YUKON

- Attended the annual Trades Fair at Porter Creek Secondary School in Whitehorse. This hands-on career exploration event gave high school students the chance to connect with local trade businesses and discover education pathways across the Yukon. They also hosted three *Minute-to-Win-It* style activities related to hairstyling, baking and electronics.
- Attended the Yukon University All-Trades Coffee Break and engaged with registered apprentices in various trades to promote the territorial Skills competition.
- Held a Virtual Challenge where participants posted photos on social media during NSTTW, showcasing their skills, for a chance to win a gift card.



SKILLS CANADA BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Promoted National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) on their social media channels by highlighting the three WorldSkills Team Canada 2026 competitors from British Columbia including Eric Wu, in Industrial Control, Dhefen Goh, in Fashion Technology, and Veljko Stevanovic, in IT Network Systems Administration.
- Shoshawna Blair, Social Media, Competition & Program Coordinator and provincial Skills competition 2017 gold medalist in Baking, visited Mission Secondary School with one of their sponsors to donate a welder and set it up. She also shared her story and demonstrated her baking skills.

SKILLS CANADA ALBERTA

- Held a social media campaign featuring a "day in the life" of five Skills alumni.



SKILLS CANADA SASKATCHEWAN

- Held a social media campaign featuring an in-school challenge for schools across the province.



SKILLS CANADA NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

- Distributed Try-A-Trade® kits to the Yellowknife Public School and high schools throughout the North.
- Featured a social media series with testimonials from Skills Canada Northwest Territories alumni.
- Set up booths throughout the week at Yellowknife's two main high schools, as well as in Behchoko and N'dilo, in partnership with SNAP, Aurora College, ECE, and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission (WSCC).
- Held virtual programs with high schools in remote communities.



SKILLS CANADA MANITOBA

- Held a Model Wind Turbine Competition for Grades 9 and 10, at Red River College Polytechnic, in Winnipeg.
- Hosted a Young Women's Conference for Grade 8 students, at Northern Manitoba Mining Academy, in Flin Flon.
- Held a Skilled Trade and Technology Career Fair, at Red River College Polytechnic, in Winnipeg.

SCC's MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS HIGHLIGHTED NSTTW THROUGH ENGAGING ACTIVITIES (continued)

SKILLS CANADA ONTARIO

- Hosted a “A Sit Down with” Video Series on their YouTube channel, where women in different skilled trade and technology careers talk about their journeys.
- Launched a new video series geared towards all ages in their Trades & Tech Truck.
- Skills Ontario Young Women’s Initiatives hosted a T Solar Powered Car Kit Build. Kits were also provided to classrooms. In addition, they held virtual Presentations.
- Hosted a Skilled Trades & Tech: FNMI Challenge Build + Workshop featuring a hands-on challenge and workshop led by an Indigenous skilled trades professional, which was geared towards students that identify as FNMI in Grades 7-12.
- Hosted a Skilled Trade & Tech: Inclusivity Series – Special Trade Week Edition featuring three skilled trade professionals who shared their career journeys.



SKILLS CANADA NOVA SCOTIA

- Hosted a Skilled Futures In-Class Presentation at the Tri-County Regional Centre for Education. This interactive presentation offered information on skilled trades and technologies and showcased Skills programming, to get students thinking about their strengths and passions.
- Held an Abilympics Showcase at the Nova Scotia Community College, Ivany Campus. This event introduced people with disabilities to the skills offered at the provincial Abilympics competitions. Workshops included photography, cooking and a floral arrangement.

SKILLS CANADA NUNAVUT

- Hosted activities with elementary and high school students throughout the week.

SKILLS CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

- Hosted career exploration activities and presentations.
- Held an annual Dragons’ Lair Provincial Competition in partnership with the Newfoundland & Labrador Association of CBDC/Youth Ventures for intermediate and secondary students from across the province. This event included workshops facilitated by business experts, as well as a business plan writing competition.
- Held an EnterPreneur Dragons’ Lair at Amalgamated Academy, in Bay Roberts, where students dove into green energy, brainstorming and developing innovative, solution-focused business ideas.
- Hosted a Youth Apprenticeship Summer Program Awards Ceremony to celebrate the success of the 2025 Summer Program with partners, youth and employers, to cheer on the top video submission winners. Each winning school received a \$1,000 grant to upgrade equipment or enhance their trade spaces.
- Held a Skilled Futures in IT Network Careers facilitated in partnership with the College of the North Atlantic and the National Technical Committee members in IT Networking.



SKILLS CANADA NEW BRUNSWICK

- Hosted a Try-A-Trade® and Technology activity at CCNB Bathurst for students where they looked at careers and pathways in skilled trades and technologies. There was also a live fire burn demonstration to discuss the importance of fire safety and sprinklers.

SKILLS CANADA PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

- Held In-school presentations throughout the week.
- Hosted a Skilled Futures for Girls event.

Shining a Light on Communication: A Core Skill for Success

During National Skilled Trade and Technology Week and for the next year, Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) highlighted *Communication*, one of the nine plus one Skills for Success, and its importance to succeed in the workforce. The Skills for Success provide the foundation for learning all other skills and enable people to evolve with their jobs and adapt to workplace change. This Skill for Success was emphasized throughout the week, and during the interactive event, in all of SCC's partner activities.

Communication refers to the ability to receive, understand, consider, and share information and ideas through speaking, listening, and interacting with others, which includes broader concepts such as non-verbal communication.



NSTTW Makes Headlines Nationwide!

Several media outlets covered National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) 2025 and reached a total of **39,935,712 people**. Check out some of the top news stories.

1. National Skilled Trade and Technology Week Highlights Career Opportunities Across Canada

Ontario Construction News

<https://ontarioconstructionnews.com/national-skilled-trade-and-technology-week-highlights-career-opportunities-across-canada>

1



2. National Skilled Trade and Technology Week Features the Industries Saskatchewan Needs to Grow

DiscoverEsteron.com

<https://discoverestevan.com/articles/skilled-trade-and-technology-week-features-the-industries-saskatchewan-needs-to-grow>

2

Skilled Trade and Technology Week features the industries Saskatchewan needs to grow

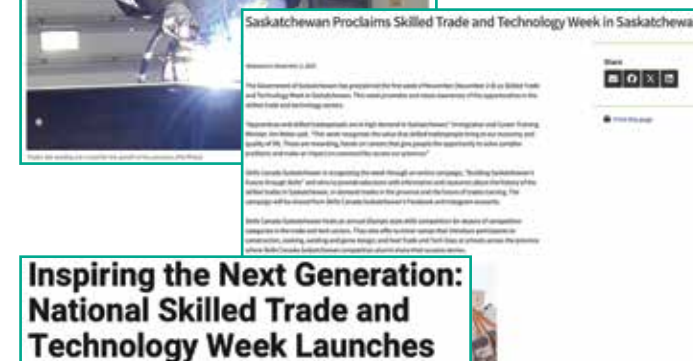


3

3. Saskatchewan Proclaims National Skilled Trade and Technology Week in Saskatchewan

Government of Saskatchewan

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2025/november/03/saskatchewan-proclaims-skilled-trade-and-technology-week-in-saskatchewan>



4. Inspiring the Next Generation: National Skilled Trade and Technology Week Launches Across Canada

Winnipeg Sun

<https://winnipegnews.com/globe-newswire/inspiring-the-next-generation-national-skilled-trade-and-technology-week-launches-across-canada>

4

Inspiring the Next Generation: National Skilled Trade and Technology Week Launches Across Canada



5

5. From Classrooms to Careers: Skills Community Celebrates National Skilled Trade and Technology Week at Centennial College, in Toronto

National Post

<https://nationalpost.com/globe-newswire/from-classrooms-to-careers-skills-community-celebrates-national-skilled-trade-and-technology-week-at-centennial-college-in-toronto>



SCC Connected with Thousands of Youth Throughout NSTTW 2025

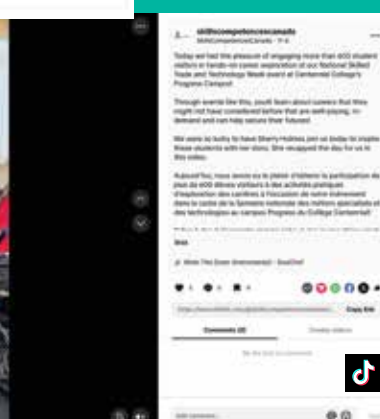
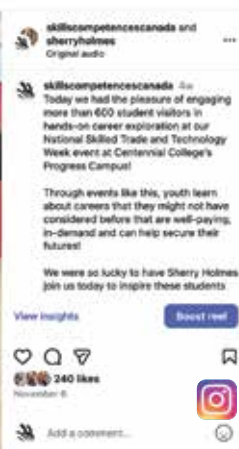
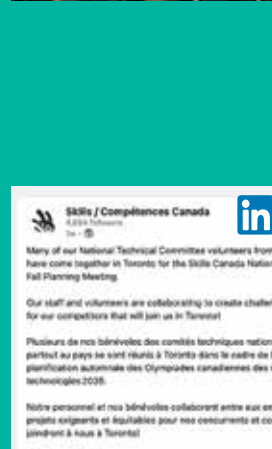
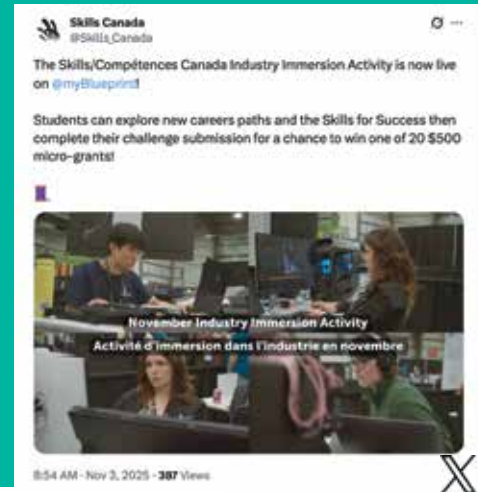
f Facebook
Posts: 10
Organic Impressions: 22,725
Total Impressions: 795,599

X
Posts: 26
Impressions: 2,999

Instagram
Posts: 8
Organic Impressions: 21,731
Total Impressions: 45,656

in LinkedIn
Posts: 4
Video Views: 2,671

TikTok
Posts: 11
Impressions: 5,101



In addition, Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) held a digital campaign on social media, which reached **1,505,490 people**. The campaign extended to YouTube which had a reach of **516,953 impressions** for a total combined reach of **2,022,443 impressions**.

Members of the National Technical Committee Gather to Plan the Skills Canada National Competition 2026

A big event like the Skills Canada National Competition requires a lot of organisation and planning. Each of the 45 Skills competitions are carefully crafted and revised each year by members of the National Technical Committee to ensure that the competition is fair and a good representation of the trade or technology today. The National Technical Committee (NTC) comprised of industry professionals and educators from across Canada, along with

46 local partners and Skills/Compétences Canada staff gathered at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel on November 7 and 8, to work on their project description for their Skill Area, as well as their infrastructure list and site plan. The two days included several presentations from Skills/Compétences Canada and Skills Canada Ontario staff. We would like to thank the NTC members for volunteering their time and for their continued dedication.





IGNITE YOUR FUTURE WITH A CAREER IN SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGIES!

SKILLS CANADA NATIONAL COMPETITION 2026

ENERCARE CENTRE, EXHIBITION PLACE – TORONTO, ON
MAY 28-29, 2026, 9AM - 4PM

DISCOVER. TRY. CONNECT.

- 50+ hands-on Try-A-Trade® & Technology activities
- 550+ students compete in 45 skilled trade & technology events
- Industry pros and educators ready to answer your questions
- Discover the nine Skills for Success!

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SEE WHERE YOUR
SKILLS CAN TAKE YOU!





THANK YOU

TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS!

