



SKILLS CANADA NATIONAL COMPETITION OLYMPIADES CANADIENNES DES MÉTIERS ET DES TECHNOLOGIES

MAY 28-29, 2026 / LES 28 ET 29 MAI
TORONTO, ONTARIO



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEDIA

MEDIA CONTACT: Michèle Rogerson, T. 613-266-4771, micheler@skillscanada.com

Media Centre Services

- Located at the Enercare Centre, on Level 1, in Salon 108 South.
- Access through the main entrance.
- Internet available for media at the Media Centre.

Hours of Operation

MAY 27: 10 am to 3 pm

MAY 28 AND 29: 9 am to 5 pm

MAY 30: 9 am to 10 am

Media Accreditation and Registration

- All media attending SCNC need to be accredited and ensure that their media badge is always visible.
- Media includes reporters, journalists, photographers, and film crews.

Please Note: To obtain a media accreditation badge when the media center is closed, please go to the registration desk, which is located on Level 1, near the entrance to Hall B.

Audio/Video Recording and Photography

All cameras must be clearly identified with media affiliation. Tape recorders may be used only for pre-approved spokesperson or competitor interviews. Photography is not permitted in the Skill Area but is permitted immediately outside of these areas. Please note that all competitors and volunteers have signed waivers to be photographed and filmed.

Interviews

Interview requests may be submitted in advance to the Skills/Compétences Canada office and on-site through Michèle Rogerson at micheler@skillscanada.com or 613-266-4771. Interview requests can also be submitted onsite to the Media Centre and must be organized and approved prior to the interview.



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Obtaining Timely SCNC 2026 Pictures, B-Roll and Videos from SCNC

- Pictures will be uploaded at the end of each day on **Flickr**. These will be saved in the SCNC 2026 Album. If you require a specific photo that you cannot find, please contact **Bradley Thomas** at bradleyt@skillscanada.com or 613-816-2872 and he will assist you.
- Videos of the competition can be viewed on **YouTube**. For B-Roll footage or copies of promotional videos, please contact **Bradley Thomas**.
- The official hashtag for SCNC is **#SCNC2026**
- Our Facebook handle is **@SkillsCanada**
- Our X handle is **@Skills_Canada**
- Our Instagram handle is **@skillscompetencescanada**
- Find us on LinkedIn: **Skills/Compétences Canada**
- Check us out on TikTok: **@skillscompetencescanada**

Media Code of Conduct

Skills/Compétences Canada openly encourages and promotes all aspects of the Skills Canada National Competition to media. However, to ensure competitors are respected during competition time, a code of conduct applies. In other words, no photography or filming of a competitor should take place that may interfere with or hinder the performance of the competitor in the competition.

Livestream

Catch the livestream of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies on **May 27 at 4 pm EST**, and on **May 30 at 11 am EST**, on SCC's [YouTube](#) channel. You can also check out the livestream of the competition action, watch fascinating interviews, and much more, during the competition days on **May 28 and 29, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm EST**, on this channel.

In Addition

- Media may take photos and film from outside the Skill Areas during the competition.
- Media can enter a Skill Area only during breaks in the competition **with the permission of the Chair of the National Technical Committee (NTC) for that Skill Area**. Specific 'shots' or 'angles' are to be organized in discussion with the Chair or NTC media member, and the Competitor. Steel toe shoes/boots are required to enter the contest area. Steel caps are available for media at the Media Centre located beside the main entrance.
- The NTC media member for each Skill Area will be identified with a fluorescent wristband.
- No media can communicate with a Competitor without the permission of the NTC Chair or the NTC media member.
- No media is to enter the 'personal space' (i.e. do 'close-ups') of a Competitor without the permission of the NTC Chair or NTC media member.



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SKILLS CANADA NATIONAL COMPETITION (SCNC) 2026, IN TORONTO

Events of Interest to the Media

**Please refer to the Program Guide for the detailed SCNC Toronto 2026 Event Schedule.*

SCNC Event Location: Enercare Centre, Toronto. ON.

Wednesday, May 27

Opening Ceremony **4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Hall D**

Attended by approximately 1,800 spectators, including competitors, their supporters, industry partners, government officials, special guests, and the general public. The Opening Ceremony will officially kick off the Skills Canada National Competition 2026 with an exciting and inspiring show including a parade of the provincial and territorial teams. This event will be livestreamed, on SCC's YouTube channel.

Please register on the day of the event at the Media Center, which is open until 3:00 p.m., or at the registration desk after 3:00 p.m.

Networking Reception **5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Galleria Hall C**

Sponsored by UA Canada

Join us for this networking event where you can meet industry celebrities, Skills/Compétences Canada alumni and event partners.

Welcome Reception **5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Heritage Court**

Sponsored by DEWALT

Join us for this celebration as provincial and territorial teams gather and rally before the Opening Ceremony. A live DJ and interactive games will get everyone in the competition spirit!



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Thursday, May 28

Competition Day 1 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A, B & C

Watch as youth from across Canada compete for medal placement in their chosen skilled trade or technology. Students and apprentices will test their talents and abilities using exacting industry standards in hands-on competitions with their peers.

Try-A-Trade® and Technology Activities 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A, B & C

Over 50 Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities which enable visitors to put their skills to the test and get a feel for the trades. Visitors complete small projects that expose them to components of the trades. In many instances, visitors can bring home the finished project that they created with their own hands. Visitors will be provided with a Skills for Success passport that will be stamped after they complete each Try-A-Trade® and Technology activity that they perform. They then submit their passport upon departure for a chance to win a prize.

Live Stream 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall B

Check out the livestream of the competition action and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, watch fascinating interviews, and much more. To view the production of the livestream live, go to Galleria Hall B, near the Sheet Metal Work and Plumbing Skill Areas. To see the full livestream schedule and what's coming up next, check out our [website](#) and our social media channels. Watch it live from any location on SCC's [YouTube](#) channel.

Skills Showcase – Featuring First Nations, Inuit and Métis Skills 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall B

Skills/Compétences Canada is partnering with local artists to host the Skills Showcase featuring First Nations, Inuit and Métis Skills. The showcase will allow thousands of visitors to explore First Nations, Inuit, and Métis skills by taking part in several activities. Come discover these skills and how they align with different Skill Areas seen at the Skills Canada National Competition.



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Empowering Women in Trades

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A

The Empowering Women in Trades space is dedicated to showing young women the incredible careers that are available in the skilled trades! Here, visitors will have the opportunity to participate in interactive activities and speak with tradeswomen who love their job to discover what inspired them to pursue their career. Many tradespeople will be onsite to share their exciting career journeys including Sherry Holmes, Contractor, TV Personality and DIY Enthusiast and Mike Holmes Junior, Licensed Contractor, Carpenter, and TV Host.

Friday, May 29

Competition Day 2

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A, B & C

Watch as youth from across Canada compete for medal placement in their chosen skilled trade or technology. Students and apprentices will test their talents and abilities using exacting industry standards in hands-on competitions with their peers.

Try-A-Trade® and Technology Activities

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A, B & C

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Live Stream

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall B

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Skills Showcase – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall B
**Featuring First Nations,
Inuit and Métis Skills**

Skills/Compétences Canada is partnering with local artists to host the Skills Showcase featuring First Nations, Inuit and Métis Skills. The showcase will allow thousands of visitors to explore First Nations, Inuit, and Métis skills by taking part in several activities. Come discover these skills and how they align with different Skill Areas seen at the Skills Canada National Competition.

Empowering 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hall A
Women in Trades

The Empowering Women in Trades space is dedicated to showing young women the incredible careers that are available in the skilled trades! Here, visitors will have the opportunity to participate in interactive activities and speak with tradeswomen who love their job to discover what inspired them to pursue their career. Many tradespeople will be onsite to share their exciting career journeys including Sherry Holmes, Contractor, TV Personality and DIY Enthusiast and Mike Holmes Junior, Licensed Contractor, Carpenter, and TV Host.

Saturday, May 30

Closing Ceremony 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Hall D

Attended by approximately 1,800 spectators, during the Closing Ceremony, gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded for all the trade and technology competitions. You can also watch this on the livestream, on SCC's YouTube channel.

Please register on the day of the event at the Media Center at the Enercare Centre until 10:00 a.m. or at the Registration Desk as of 10:00 a.m.



SKILLS CANADA NATIONAL COMPETITION 2026

ENERCARE CENTRE, EXHIBITION PLACE –
TORONTO, ON

MAY 28-29, 2026, 9AM - 4PM



WHAT IS IT?

The Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) is the only national, multi-trade and technology competition for students and apprentices in the country. During SCNC, Canada's best in skilled trades and technologies compete to become national champions in their respective discipline.

WHY IS IT HAPPENING?

- Get Canada's youth to consider skilled trade and technology careers as a viable, rewarding option.
- Provide competitors and student visitors with hands-on experience.
- Engage with industry leaders, educators and political decision makers.
- Ensure that Canada's economy remains strong.
- Promote awareness of the nine plus one Skills for Success through Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities hosted by educators and industry experts.
- Highlight innovation and the importance of digital literacy and technology driven skills that are crucial to keep pace with the quickly changing job market.
- Encourage equity-denied groups and diverse populations to get involved in the skilled trade and technology sectors.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Free event: open to the public on competition days (May 28 and 29).
- 45 competitions, representing six sectors: Construction, Employment, Information Technology, Manufacturing and Engineering, Services and Transportation.
- Watch over 550 students and apprentices from across Canada compete in 45 Skill Areas, including welding, automotive technology, hairdressing, cooking, 3D and 2D computer animation, and much more!
- Over 50 Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities for visiting youth.
- Thousands of student visitors from across Canada.
- Professionally produced Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
- Discover the Skills for Success through several activities. This year's theme is **Communication**.
- 50+ industry and education exhibitors providing information to visiting students and the public.
- Skills Showcase Featuring First Nations, Inuit and Métis Skills.
- Empowering Women in Trades initiative bringing together industry partners to show young women the incredible careers that are available in the skilled trades.
- Exclusive networking events and conferences.
- Industry celebrity participation.

#SCNC2026

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO
**EXPLORE CAREERS IN SKILLED
TRADES AND TECHNOLOGIES**





WORLDSKILLS TEAM CANADA 2026 COMPETITOR PATHWAY

- 1 IN-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS**

1 It begins with in-school competitions, supported by teacher encouragement.
- 2 REGIONAL COMPETITIONS**

2 Progress to regional competitions.
- 3 PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL COMPETITIONS**

3 Approximately 5,000 youth advance to the provincial/territorial competitions.
- 4 SKILLS CANADA NATIONAL COMPETITION 2025**

4 Over 500 students compete at the Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC). The highest-ranking age eligible participant or team in identified Skill Areas at SCNC are selected to participate in the next stage of WorldSkills Team Canada.
- 5 WORLDSKILLS TEAM CANADA TRAINING MAY 2025-AUGUST 2026**

5 The competitor or team in each identified Skill Area will participate in various training activities and a mental preparation program.
- 6 WORLDSKILLS TEAM CANADA COMPETE AT WORLDSKILLS SHANGHAI 2026 IN SEPTEMBER**

6 WorldSkills Team Canada members represent Canada at the WorldSkills Competition.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR!**



CANADA'S TOP SKILLED TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY COMPETITORS WILL HEAD TO WORLDSKILLS SHANGHAI 2026

Following the Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) 2025, in Regina, the highest-ranking, age-eligible participants in 29 Skill Areas earned the honor of representing Canada on the world stage. Over the past year, the 31 members of WorldSkills Team Canada (WSTC) 2026 have honed their craft through intensive training and mental preparation programs, gearing up to compete at the 48th WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai, China, from September 22–27, 2026.

Each competitor represents the best of their peers, having earned their spot through dedication, perseverance, and mastery of their skilled trade or technology. This is the largest of its kind in the world and a true pinnacle of excellence in skilled trade and technology training. This year's theme is **Master Skills, Change Your Future**. The WorldSkills Competition inspires youth to explore the many rewarding careers available in skilled trades and technologies. With demand for skilled workers rising globally, these sectors offer exciting and lucrative pathways for the next generation.

Every two years, young Competitors from around the globe gather at the WorldSkills Competition, with the goal of earning the title of world champion in their Skill Area. These Competitors represent the best of their peers and have earned a spot on their country's team through dedication and hard work. At the WorldSkills Competition, Competitors will participate in simulated real work challenges and will be judged against international quality standards. The Competition also brings together stakeholders from industry, government, and education, creating opportunities to exchange insights, share best practices, and shape the future of skilled trades and professional education worldwide.

Skills/Compétences Canada is incredibly proud of these talented young Canadians. Their skills, dedication, and ambition reflect the strength and potential of Canada's future workforce. We eagerly anticipate their achievements at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 and encourage everyone to follow their journey. You can follow WorldSkills Team Canada 2026 on the Skills/Compétences Canada [website](#) and social media channels. Meet the **Experts, Trainers, and Competitors**, and read their inspiring biographies online. **#WSTC2026**

- At WorldSkills Shanghai 2026, there will be approximately **1,500 competitors** from over **70 countries** and regions across more than **60 Skill Areas**.
- The four-day event, held at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in front of roughly **250,000 spectators**.



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**SKILLS/COMPÉTENCES CANADA SPOKESPEOPLE
AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

Please visit the Media Centre, on Level 1, in Salon 108 South, beside the main entrance, at the Enercare Centre, or contact Michèle Rogerson, micheler@skillscanada.com, 613-266-4771 to arrange for an interview or photo opportunity.

SELECT SPOKESPEOPLE ARE AVAILABLE TO TAKE PART IN FRENCH INTERVIEWS.



Ray Massey
President, Skills/Compétences Canada

Ray has been involved with apprenticeship training for many years and believes there is a lack of knowledge about the trades. Ray became involved with the Skills movement in 2006 when he was involved as a member of the Provincial Technical Committee (PTC) and a competition judge. In 2009, he received the Skills Canada Alberta (SCA) Volunteer of the Year Award. He joined the SCA Board in 2016 and served as its vice chair. In the Fall of 2018, he was elected Chair of the SCA Board, where he still serves.

Over the years he has participated in many WorldSkills Competitions, in several roles, including WorldSkills Calgary 2009, WorldSkills London 2011, WorldSkills Leipzig 2013 and WorldSkills Kazan 2019. He believes in our youth and is a strong supporter of the Skills movement, which can and does change lives.





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Shaun Thorson

Chief Executive Officer, Skills/Compétences Canada

Shaun Thorson, Chief Executive Officer of Skills/Compétences Canada, is a tireless champion of skilled trade and technology careers for Canadian youth. The CEO since 2006, Shaun has held various positions within the Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) organization at the provincial and national levels for over 35 years.

Shaun recognizes the vital role of a strong and vibrant skilled trade and technology workforce in maintaining Canada’s global economic leadership and fosters engagement with thought-leaders to ensure best practices and positioning. Known for the annual Skills Canada National Competition, Skills Canada is also member of WorldSkills. Within this international body, Shaun has chaired the Sustainability Initiatives, Quality

Assurance Management Council, the WorldSkills Americas Technical Committee and was Canada’s WorldSkills Technical Delegate from 2006 to 2013 and in 2017.

Shaun is the Past President of the CWB Welding Foundation and Chairs the CEO-National Skills Organization Council for WorldSkills.



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Sherry Holmes

Renowned Contractor, TV Personality and DIY Enthusiast

Sherry Holmes is a contractor, TV host, keynote speaker, brand ambassador, social media influencer, and ambassador for women in the skilled trades. Her dad is celebrity contractor, Mike Holmes, so construction is in her blood. She started behind the scenes on Mike’s breakout series, Holmes on Homes® and became a permanent crew member when she joined her dad and brother on Holmes in New Orleans. Sherry continues to shine as co-host on Holmes Family Effect and Holmes Family Rescue. Production has also started on a brand-new series Holmes on Homes: Building A Legacy.

Now a working mom with two little girls, Sherry continues to lend her support and social media presence to youth and young women wanting to get into the trades with Skills/Compétences Canada, Skills USA and WorldSkills and mentorship programs like Conestoga College’s Jill of All Trades and WIST (Women in Skilled Trades). Sherry advocates for change, equality and diversity in the face of Canada’s skilled trades workforce, demonstrating that women can bring an entirely new dimension to the construction industry that makes it fundamentally stronger from the ground up.



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Mike Holmes Jr.
Licensed Contractor, Carpenter, and TV Host

Michael Holmes Jr. is a licensed contractor, carpenter, television host, keynote speaker, brand ambassador and social media influencer. He received the education of a lifetime by working alongside his father, Mike Holmes, as a crew member on the hit TV show Holmes on Holmes®, and many other hit TV shows.

Michael is also very passionate about woodworking and carpentry, displaying his skills through various custom projects for every homeowner. And his passion for the trades and educating the next generation continues through his work with Skills/Compétences Canada, Skills USA, WorldSkills, Skills Canada Ontario, Conestoga College, and other initiatives.





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Sam Turgeon-Brabazon
Chair, Skills Canada National Alumni Committee

I competed in my Skill Area of Workplace Safety and won the gold medal at the Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) 2015, in Saskatoon. Prior to, and ever since that event, Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) has had an exceptional influence on my life. Whether it was giving me incredible professional learning opportunities or providing access to amazing subject matter experts as mentors, it's been clear the SCC team cares for its competitors, alumni, and the skilled trade and technology community across Canada.

I felt compelled to join the National Alumni Committee (NAC) to give back to the organization that's done so much for me. I'm also representing my home province of Ontario and acknowledging all that Skills Canada Ontario has done for me. I feel incredibly fortunate to be able to interact with diverse individuals from each province and territory on the NAC.



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Skills Canada: National and International Competition Alumni

Many Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) and WorldSkills Competition alumni will be in attendance to make the Skills Canada National Competition 2026, in Toronto. As well as being on site, they are also on hand to speak about their competition experience and how it has helped them in their careers.

Technical Committee Members (Competition Experts)

Each of the competition projects are designed and judged by the National Technical Committee (NTC) made up of experts from education and industry across the country. These experts are on hand to discuss specifics about their Skill Areas.

Industry Partners, Sponsors and Suppliers

Industry representatives working with Skills/Compétences Canada to make SCNC possible will be on hand to discuss skilled trade opportunities, needs and issues related to their sectors.

About Skills/ Compétences Canada

WHO WE ARE

Skills/Compétences Canada (SCC) was founded in 1989 as a national, not-for-profit organization with Skills Canada Member Organizations in each of the provinces/territories that work with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to promote skilled trade and technology careers to Canadian youth. Based in Ottawa, Ontario, SCC is the Canadian Member Organization of WorldSkills. Its unique position among private and public sector partners enables us to work toward securing Canada's future skilled labour needs while helping young people discover rewarding careers.

WHAT WE DO

SCC offers experiential learning opportunities including skilled trade and technology competitions for hundreds of thousands of young Canadians through regional, provincial/territorial, national and international events, as well as skilled trades awareness programs such as the Skills Canada National Competition and National Skilled Trade and Technology Week. A lack of information regarding the opportunities in trades and technologies currently prohibits many young Canadians from considering a career in the skilled trades and technologies. SCC brings these occupations to the forefront to make them more visible for teachers, students, parents and the general public. Many programs highlight the 9+1 Skills for Success, which are crucial skills in careers today.

WHY WE ARE NEEDED

Over the next decade, employers in Canada will find it difficult to hire and retain skilled workers. According to RBC, over 700,000 skilled tradespeople are expected to retire by 2028. As our country is preparing for a post-pandemic economy, we want to help Canada's industries find well-trained, well-prepared young people to fill these positions. SCC wants youth to understand the many opportunities, benefits and rewards of skilled trade and technology careers. Improving the expertise and confidence of individuals pursuing technical careers will benefit us all.

