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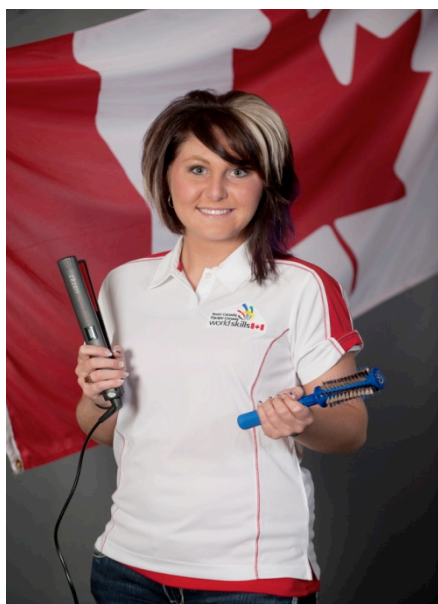
Saskatchewan Skills Competitors on their way to WorldSkills

Regina, Saskatchewan – September 28, 2011 - Skills Canada Saskatchewan annually provides the opportunity for secondary, post-secondary and apprentice students to compete in a Provincial Skills Canada Competition consisting of over 30 trades and technology areas. Gold Medal winners from this competition advance to the National Skills Canada Competition and every second year is a 'qualifying' year for WorldSkills. "The Competitions we provide are a stepping stone for students to measure their skills and abilities in a variety of trade and technology areas" said Brenda Bathgate, Executive Director of Skills Canada Saskatchewan.

Kaylyn Mack and Steven Heidel qualified for their spot on Team Canada by winning at the Provincials (held in Prince Albert in 2010) and again at Nationals (held in Kitchener/Waterloo in 2010). It's been a year of intense training but Kaylyn and Steven are ready for their International debut in London, UK as they compete in the WorldSkills Competition next week.

WorldSkills London 2011 will be the world's largest international skills competition with young people from across the globe competing to be the best of the best in their chosen skill. The competition takes place at ExCel London from October 5-8, 2011. 150,000 expected visitors will see 1,000 competitors from more than 50 countries/regions competing in 46 skill areas over four exciting days of Competition. This is an opportunity to inspire future generations of skilled, high-quality professionals.

Meet the Saskatchewan Competitors:



Kaylyn Mack

Hometown	Regina, Saskatchewan
Skill	Ladies' / Men's Hairdressing
Age	21
School/Employer	Richard's Beauty College
Career Goal	"I want to be able to get up every morning and love going to work. I want people to love their looks as much as I like creating them."

Kaylyn's outgoing Saskatchewanian personality is captivating on its own - and then you discover that she is Canada's top young hairdresser. Kaylyn stays involved with competitions in order to sharpen her skills and stay current with the trends. Having started with Skills/Compétences Canada five years ago, Kaylyn has now competed in four Skills Canada National Competitions. Her commitment to Skills/Compétences Canada began at an early age and motivated her to be the best, as she watched and admired more senior competitors earn the opportunity to compete on the world stage. With her continued work and skills development, she has transitioned into the inspiration that other young hairstylists across Canada can now look up to. When asked what she likes best about her career, Kaylyn's answer is simple: to make people happy.



Steven Heidel

Well-organized with a highly logical approach to problem solving, Steven is pursuing an Honours Degree in Computer Science at the University of Saskatchewan while running a small web development solutions business on the side. Steven's passion for computer science is rooted in the rapidly expanding nature of the field and its applicability to so many other disciplines. "There is always more to learn in the field of Computer Science," he explains, "To become successful in the field of Computer Science, one needs to be constantly open to expanding their skills." Steven keeps himself up-to-date with the field's latest advancements and is continually learning new concepts. A lover of travel and a strong performer under pressure, Steven will be applying his growing skill set in Software Solutions for Business at WorldSkills London 2011.

Hometown	Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
Skill	IT – Software Solutions for Business
Age	19
School/Employer	University of Saskatchewan
Career Goal	"I am looking for a career that involves problem-solving, and where I can have a hand in making decision."

Watch for Kaylyn's Blog on Facebook at www.facebook.com/scc123 and check out our Website for updates at www.skillscanadasask.com

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