



Skills Canada Saskatchewan

NEWSLETTER:

OCTOBER 2023 - Issue 4

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- Trade and Tech Days
- Skills Summer Camps
- What's next - National Skilled Trade and Technology Week

FEATURED PARTNERS:



Trade and Tech Days



There is a significant need to educate the young people throughout the province of the many opportunities available to them. Skills Canada Saskatchewan looks to help bring that awareness directly to the students with our in-school presentation program called a “Trade and Tech Day”. We have been developing our this program to be delivered to student bodies in select schools this fall – starting in October/November 2023.

The program includes:

+1 hour-long presentation, including:

- Words from our executive director, Jayden Leister, a Skills Canada Alumni – he will speak about his involvement with Skills and how it prepared him for a technical career in the Royal Canadian Navy.
- Other Alumni – How Skills Canada Saskatchewan has impacted youth throughout the province
- Industry partners who employ skills young people, and their workforce needs into the future

+ After the presentation there would be 2–4 Try–A–Trade and Technology® activities present in a common area of the school, where students can get a hands–on experience in skills required in some of the industries

We are excited to be piloting the program this fall and have already scheduled a number of these days with schools throughout the province. If you are interested in a Trade and Tech Day and your school, please contact Jayden Leister at jaydenl@skillscanada.com

SKILLS
SUMMER CAMPS



Skills Summer Camps

We are thrilled to announce that over this past summer, we had a fantastic turnout with 84 enthusiastic registrants joining us for our total Skills Canada Summer Camps, hosted in collaboration with RDEIC in Regina and Nanan Academy in Moosejaw.

These camps had some incredible programming including STEM, Cosmetology, Game Design, 3D Printing and Robotics, Photography and Graphic Design, Electronics, and Culinary Arts.

A heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to all our wonderful participants, supportive parents, and dedicated instructors who made this summer unforgettable. Your passion for learning and skills development truly inspires us, and we hope it has inspired all those who took part as well.

But the excitement doesn't stop here! We're already looking ahead to next year, and we can't wait to bring you even more exciting opportunities to explore your passions and talents.

Be sure to keep an eye out next spring for updates on our upcoming camps. Don't miss the chance to be part of an incredible learning experience, meet new friends, and develop skills that will last a lifetime.

Thank you again for making this summer's camps a resounding success, and we can't wait to see you again next year!

Building a New Relationship:

The logo for the Mechanical Contractors Association of Saskatchewan (MCAS) features the acronym 'MCAS' in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the full name 'Mechanical Contractors Association of SASKATCHEWAN' is written in a smaller, green, sans-serif font. The word 'SASKATCHEWAN' is underlined.

There are exciting times on the horizon for Skills Saskatchewan and for the Saskatchewan Skills Competition and it all starts with partnerships. Founded 104 years ago, the Mechanical Contractors Association of Saskatchewan is a non-profit trade association that represents mechanical contractors in the province. This past spring, we were invited to sponsor and attend the Skills Competition in Saskatoon. Our booth was manned by two young apprentices in the mechanical trades who helped us meet youth from the Saskatoon area.

What became clear throughout the day were two things. Firstly, the kids who stopped by our booth had very little knowledge of the mechanical trades. Secondly, the mechanical trades weren't represented during the competition. We are facing a skilled labour shortage and it is critical that kids be exposed to the trades as a viable and attractive career option. Certainly, there are steps that can be taken to guide our youth towards the trades, but there is no one-size-fits-all solution.

Here's where the importance of networking and building relationships with our industry partners comes into play. In this case, we see an opportunity to promote the work of Skills Saskatchewan and the importance of the Skills Competition. The first step is to establish a relationship, which has already begun. We have been able to provide the opportunity for Skills SK to reach our membership through our newsletter and our upcoming annual magazine Mechanical Perspective.

The most impactful action item, however, was inviting Executive Director Jayden Leister to speak at our September Board of Directors meeting. The Board heard firsthand from Jayden about the importance of the Skills Competition from his own perspective. A request for guidance was made regarding how MCAS could assist in bringing the mechanical trades to the next competition in 2024.

While there is still a lot to be done, MCAS is looking forward to working with Jayden and his team to ensure that the mechanical trades are showcased next March. This new partnership is a win-win for both associations and more importantly for our apprentices who will gain valuable experience showcasing their skills next year.

Carolyn Bagnell, CAE
Executive Director
Mechanical Contractors Association of Saskatchewan Inc.



CLAC Saskatchewan Training is proud to be a long-time partner of Skills Canada Saskatchewan. We have worked closely with Skills, even sharing our office space with the Saskatchewan team! As such, we have a bird's eye view of the amazing work the Skills team does to promote skilled trades and technologies.

The CLAC Saskatchewan Training team is working daily to support the future of apprentices in Saskatchewan. One component of our work is facilitating Indigenous construction training programs resulting in employment. Upon the completion of our program, students are hired by a CLAC signatory employer, with the opportunity to become an apprentice with the employer.

Additionally, we are in the final stages of developing apprentice support resources for anyone interested in becoming an apprentice in Saskatchewan. Our resources, which include guidance from an apprenticeship coordinator, online material, and handbook, will help to encourage and support apprentices in navigating the process in Saskatchewan.

As always, check out our regular safety course offerings at myclac.ca If you are interested in a course not listed, please call our office at 306-649-2522 or email sktraining@clac.ca



Giving Students a Head Start!

With the start of another school year, Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) staff members are on the road, visiting schools across Saskatchewan, and sharing the opportunities that come with apprenticeship, careers in the skilled trades and the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) program.

“SYA consists of twelve challenges that lay a foundation (pun absolutely intended) of skilled trade knowledge, ultimately promoting apprenticeship and careers in the skilled trades as first-choice careers,” says SYA Program Manager Samantha Kitzul.

Every year, SYA staff members deliver hundreds of presentations to students across the province. They visit classrooms, career fairs, parent nights and try-a-trade events. Last year, staff began delivering presentations incorporating virtual reality software.

“Our team supports teachers in administering the program in over 300 high schools, where we deliver apprenticeship education presentations, virtual reality (VR) simulations, and classroom registration sessions,” Kitzul says.

Running for nearly 20 years, SYA provides students in Grades 9–12 with the opportunity to learn more about the skilled trades, apprenticeship and journeyman certification. There are 12 challenges, including writing a trade report, attending a career fair, and interviewing a journeyman. SYA completers who register as apprentices in Saskatchewan within five years of graduation receive 300 trade time hours, and the waiver of their apprenticeship registration fee and Level 1 technical training tuition.

Blair Simpson is the principal of Ponteix School, and an SYA Champion and SYA Champion Award winner. (SYA

Champions are the educators who oversee SYA in their schools.)

“SYA impacts and jump starts the careers of students moving into the skilled trades,” Simpson says. “To this day, I have students and families thanking me for their help going through the SYA program. In fact, just recently, I was at a restaurant and a journeyman cook who went through the program cooked supper for my family! He was super proud to serve us and very skilled at his trade.”

To learn more about SYA:

visit saskapprenticeship.ca/sask-youth-apprenticeship or contact us a youthapprenticeship@gov.sk.ca or 306-787-2368.



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National Skilled Trade and Technology Week (NSTTW) :

November 5th - 11th

NSTTW is a key date in the annual Skills/Compétences Canada and its member organizations (SCC) calendar. The goal of this week-long event is to promote and host awareness raising events around the many career opportunities in skilled trades and technology in Canada. During NSTTW organizations from across Canada get involved with SCC in a “hands-on” way to promote skilled trades and technology careers to youth, parents and the public.

NSTTW:SKILLS FAIR

Skills Canada Saskatchewan will be partnering with Campus Regina Public to host a one-day event on Tuesday, November 7th, during NSTTW to promote all the great career choices in the trade and technology sectors.

See [HERE](#) for more details!

PTC Meeting:

This is a friendly reminder that the Fall PTC Meeting will be hosted by SCS in Regina (and Saskatoon for those who cannot make it to Regina) this year. We have considered your feedback and meetings will be held November 17 in Regina, and November 24th in Saskatoon.

To help us prepare adequately for this meeting, we kindly request your assistance in answering any emails sent out. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Heidi at heidif@skillscanada.com thanks! Your participation is greatly appreciated.



Visit our new Website!