



Skills Ontario Timeline

- 1989** Skills Ontario opens its doors in Barrie, Ontario
- 1990** 1st Skills Canada Competition (to become Ontario Technological Skills Competition) hosted at Stoney Creek Campus of Mohawk College in Hamilton
- 1991** 2nd Ontario Technological Skills Competition
- 1992** Cardboard Boat Races introduced in Ontario; 3rd Ontario Technological Skills Competition was hosted at the Metro East Trade Centre
- 1993** 4th Ontario Technological Skills Competition at the Metro East Trade Centre in Pickering in 30 contest areas
- 1994** 1st Canadian Skills Competition hosted at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton
- 1995** Ontario Technological Skills Competition hosted at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton; 20 Canadian competitors compete at the International Youth Skills Competition in Lyon, France
- 1996** Ontario Technological Skills Competition hosted at Copps Coliseum in Hamilton
- 1997** Kitchener hosts the Ontario Technological Skills Competition at the Kitchener Auditorium; 39 contest areas; Skills Ontario office is moved to Conestoga College in Kitchener and Gail Smyth is named the Executive Director
- 1998** Skills Ontario introduces in-school presentations in secondary schools (10 presentations were facilitated)
- 1999** Skills Ontario hosts the Canadian Skills Competition, the 1st International Selection Competition; the Glenn Beatty Award is introduced; Canada hosts the 35th World Skills Competition in Montreal
- 2000** Partners for Change Award from the Ontario Women's Directorate for launching a Young Women's Conference
- 2001** Recipient of the 1st Yves Landry Program of the Year Award; Recipient of the Silver Medal, ICON Award for Overall Programming; Gail Smyth named National Contributor of the Year
- 2002** Ontario Technological Skills Competition moves to RIM Park in Waterloo; Elementary In-School Presentations are introduced
- 2003** Ontario hosts the National Skills Competition; Ottawa satellite office is opened
- 2004** Skills Work!® is trademarked; Peterborough satellite office opens

- 2005** Toronto satellite office opens; online registration is launched; satellite offices are opened in Sudbury and Thunder Bay; Elementary Cardboard Boat Races are introduced
- 2006** Six qualifying competitions are introduced; Klaus Woerner Hall of Fame is introduced
- 2007** Skills Ontario scholarship is introduced
- 2008** Skills Ontario office moves to 100 Campbell Avenue in Kitchener
- 2009** WorldSkills Competition hosted in Calgary, Alberta
- 2010** Ontario hosts National Skills Competition; 7th Qualifying Competition is launched at Confederation College in Thunder Bay
- 2011** 18 Skills Work!® Summer Camps hosted across Ontario; 2 Ontario students receive Bronze medals at the WorldSkills Competition in London, England in addition to 2 Medals of Excellence and one Best of Nation; Women Working in the Skills Trades and Technologies – Myths and Realities publication launched in partnership with Women in Nuclear; first all-girls camp hosted at Linamar in Guelph; Aboriginal Initiative is launched in London and Ottawa
- 2012** Over 110,000 students are reached through the In-School Presentation program
- 2013** 25 Skills Work!® Summer Camps are hosted across Ontario; Aboriginal Office is opened in Thunder Bay; over 125,000 students are reached through the In-School Presentation program; Skills Work! Skills Play The Apprenticeship Board Game is launched
- 2014** Toronto hosts the National Skills Competition; 65 contests are planned for the OTSC including a new entrepreneurship contest and a new power line technician contest; Skills Work!® Booklet is revised and translated in both official languages thanks to a partnership with the Ontario College of Trades; Skills Work! Skills Play! The Apprenticeship Online Game is launched
- 2015** Rick Mercer visits the Cardboard Boat Race Championships in Waterloo and features a segment on The Rick Mercer Report; 2 new contests introduced at the OTSC, Steamfitting and CNC Machining, bringing the total number of contests to 67