



Skills Ontario Thanks Volunteers, Presents Glenn Beatty Award at Appreciation Night

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Last Thursday, Skills Ontario hosted an Appreciation Night at the St. Jacobs Country Playhouse to recognize the volunteers and partners who make Skills Ontario's programming possible. It is with their considerable contribution that we are able to encourage youth to discover the fulfilling opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies.

Ahead of the evening performance, Skills Ontario presented the Glenn Beatty award, an award that commemorates dedication and passion, to six people. Glenn Beatty was a participant in the CAD, CAM and CNC contests and a gold medal winner at the 1997 Skills Ontario Competition. He then progressed to the Skills Canada National Competition which was another gold medal performance for Glenn. Following his outstanding performance at the skills competitions, Glenn was hired by ATS (Automation Tooling Systems) in Cambridge, Ontario.

Grateful for the opportunity given to him and the impact it had on his life, Glenn returned to Skills Ontario in 1998 as a volunteer. Sadly, in January of 1999, we lost Glenn in a motor vehicle accident.

As a tribute to Glenn, Skills Ontario presents the Glenn Beatty Award annually to volunteers who embody the dedication and passion for Skills Ontario that Glenn demonstrated.

The 2018 Glenn Beatty Award recipients were: the late John Connor, a founding board director from Volkswagen Canada; Ray Keery, who connected the dots between what was happening with Skills USA and what could be possible in Ontario; Floor Kromhout, a founding director; Jim Clubine, a founding board director; Robert Van Nispen, a founding board director; and Laurent Thibault, a generous volunteer.

Each award recipient has played a significant role in transforming Skills Ontario from its early beginnings in Barrie thirty years ago to the influential and impactful organization that it is today. Skills Ontario would not be where it is without the hard work and leadership of these six individuals and of all our volunteers.

About Skills Ontario – Promoting skilled trades and technologies in Ontario since 1989

Over the last 30 years, Skills Ontario has been growing a portfolio of programs including in-school presentations reaching 125,000 students across Ontario, career exploration summer camps, Young Women's and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Career Exploration Conferences, and hosting Canada's largest skills competition which annually attracts 35,000+ spectators who cheerlead the 2,400+ competitors in 68+ trades and tech categories.