

## **Skills Ontario Competition medalists move on to national level**

*Over 2,400 students competed in nearly 70 skilled trade and tech contests and challenges*

**TORONTO, ON (May 17, 2019)** – More than 65 students from across Ontario will move forward to the upcoming Skills Canada National Competition at the end of May after earning gold medals earlier this month at the 30<sup>th</sup> Skills Ontario Competition.

Over 2,400 elementary, secondary, and post-secondary students participated in the provincial event from May 6-8, 2019 at the Toronto Congress Centre, vying for the opportunity to compete against the best in the country. The Skills Canada National Competition takes place from May 28-29 in Halifax, NS.

“Those who compete at the Skills Ontario Competition are the future of skilled trades and technologies in Ontario,” says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. “Because of the contribution from many industry, education, labour, and government partners, including the Government of Ontario, Skills Ontario is able to help prepare Ontario’s youth for a highly-skilled workforce of tomorrow through such initiatives as the Skills Ontario Competition.”

Featuring nearly 70 skilled trades and technologies contests, the Skills Ontario Competition is the largest skilled trades and technology competition in Canada.

A broad range of skills and careers were represented from across the manufacturing, transportation, construction, service, and technology sectors, as students competed for gold, silver, and bronze medals. Monetary awards were presented to medalists in select contest areas and categories, as were job offers from partnered organizations, at the Closing Ceremony.

Gold medalists in select contests are also eligible to represent Team Ontario at the Skills Canada National Competition.

Win or lose, the lives of many young competitors and visitors have been positively changed forever – from gaining new self-confidence by pushing their skills to a higher level, to winning a medal, or simply meeting a new mentor and discovering new career opportunities that they didn’t know existed.

Skills Ontario strives to build Ontario’s skilled trades and technologies workforce, in part by organizing the annual provincial competition and qualifying competitions that lead up to it at several colleges.

For complete results from the 2019 Skills Ontario Competition, visit [skillsontario.com/index.php?p=download&file=1136](https://skillsontario.com/index.php?p=download&file=1136).

### **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. To see how you can partner with Skills Ontario and help make a difference in the lives of Ontario’s youth, visit [skillsontario.com/get-involved](https://skillsontario.com/get-involved).

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