

MEDIA RELEASE

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Countdown Launched for the 2020 Skills Ontario Competition

Ontario (February 21, 2020) – Canada’s largest skilled trade and technology competition, the Skills Ontario Competition, is set to take place on May 4-6, 2020 at the Toronto Congress Centre.

Every May, students, educators, parents, guardians, employers, and advocates come together for the Skills Ontario Competition, where Ontario’s future workforce puts their skills to the test in more than 70 contests, including carpentry, robotics, hairdressing, mechatronics, graphic design, coding, and welding. With several organizations providing hands-on activities and the opportunity to speak to employers, educators, and key stakeholders at the Career Exploration Showcase, the Skills Ontario Competition is a fantastic and unique opportunity to learn and network.

Last year, more than 37,000 attendees took in the 2019 Skills Ontario Competition. It is open to the public and completely free to attend as a spectator.

Day 1 at the Skills Ontario Competition focuses on elementary student participation and skill development. Elementary students from across the province will participate in a range of workshops and challenges designed to introduce them to career opportunities and relevant skills in the skilled trades and technologies. The secondary and post-secondary contests take place on Day 1 and 2. Winners will be announced at the Skills Ontario Closing Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 6.

The Skills Ontario Young Women’s Conference – the largest young women’s conference in Canada – and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Student Conference, that hosts Indigenous youth from across the province, take place in conjunction with the Skills Ontario Competition. These are key events in the effort to build the momentum for a skilled, diverse, and robust workforce in Ontario.

“We’re looking forward to hosting another great Skills Ontario Competition,” says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. “This event is the ultimate display of the skills and talents that will lead and strengthen our economy, as well as an opportunity for Ontarians to learn about careers in the skilled trades and technologies. These careers are fulfilling, lucrative, and in-demand, and Skills Ontario is proud to share this message by connecting education, experience, and employment at the Skills Ontario Competition and at all our other events and programs throughout the year.”

The countdown to the Skills Ontario Competition can be found on Skills Ontario’s homepage at skillsontario.com. The 2020 Skills Ontario Competition can also be followed on Skills Ontario’s social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, as well as with the hashtag #SOC2020. For alerts on the Skills Ontario Competition and other Skills Ontario programs, Skills Ontario provides [a free newsletter](#) five times a year.

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 annually hosting Canada’s largest skills competition which attracts 37,000+ 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.

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