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## Skills Ontario offers "Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies Conference" as free online webinar

**Ontario (May 1, 2020)** – Skills Ontario is thrilled to provide skilled trade and tech learning opportunities to young women, apprentices, educators, parents/guardians, and all interested through a free live webinar on May 5th. While the 2020 Skills Ontario Young Women's Conferences, originally scheduled to be held in conjunction with the 2020 Skills Ontario Competition, could not be delivered in person in light of COVID-19, Skills Ontario is hosting the Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies Conference online.

The conference will include speakers and panelists to provide an inspirational, beneficial, and educational event for viewers. Along with speakers representing the Government of Ontario, RBC, 3M Canada, OPG, KickAss Careers, Women of Powerline Technicians, UA Canada, and Women in Renewable Energy, partners also include Hydro One, Magna, Cambrian College, Workplace Safety & Prevention Services, and CBRE.

"While current circumstances are challenging, Skills Ontario has adapted to ensure we are continuing to bring career exploration opportunities to Ontarians in a new way," says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. "Through our #SkillsAtHome initiatives, we are thrilled to provide virtual resources to our audiences to learn about careers in the skilled trades and technologies, and this conference is one of the many ways we are proud to do that. We're happy to see overwhelming positive interest in our Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies Conference, and we are looking forward to hosting the conference and sharing the message that the skilled trades and tech offer incredible opportunities that are suitable for all!"

The conference will start at 10:30 am and will be held on WebEx, and while registration is not mandatory, it is highly recommended for viewers to confirm a spot. All information about the Skills Ontario: Women in Skilled Trades and Technologies Conference can be found at <u>skillsontario.com/ywc</u>. Skills Ontario is also hosting Virtual Skills Ontario Competition Days, or #VirtualSOCDays, on social media, and looks forward to continuing to provide educational and interactive learning opportunities to build a strong and diverse workforce.

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

For over 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 skilled trades and technologies 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 <u>skillsontario.com/get-involved</u>.

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