Melissa Young, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar of Skilled Trades Ontario, visits Skills Ontario Summer Camp at Sheridan College

Ontario (August 16, 2022) – Today, Melissa Young visited a Skills Ontario Summer Camp at Sheridan College. Skills Ontario Summer Camps are week-long day camps hosted across the province that provide youth with fun, interactive activities to build skills and learn about the rewarding and fulfilling opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies.

"We're thrilled to welcome Ms. Young and to deliver career exploration programs to youth through our Summer Camps program," says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. "It is crucial for youth to not only explore opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies, but also to build their skills for the workforce and consider what career path is right for them.

"The skilled trades and technologies offer incredible pathways, and it is Skills Ontario's mission to highlight that to youth and to help support Ontario's future leaders' career exploration journeys."

"It's great to see so many students considering a career in the skilled trades," says Melissa Young, CEO and Registrar of Skilled Trades Ontario. "The trades offer plenty of options for young people, including the opportunity to get paid as you learn from experienced professionals in your trade. Skills Ontario's summer camps are a great way to test drive the many options out there, in an engaging and hands-on environment."

Sponsored by the Government of Ontario and Magna, the Summer Camp program runs over the months of July and August, providing students with the chance to participate in skilled trade and technology workshops and tours.

"Working in the skilled trades is meaningful, fun, and for many young people, offers a path to a better life," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "Our government is proud to invest in programs like Skills Ontario Summer Camp, which give children (and their parents) a chance to learn about these life-changing careers."

Skills Ontario is also hosting camps for French-speaking youth and Indigenous youth. In conjunction with in-person camps, Skills Ontario is offering virtual workshops this summer, as well.

More information on this program can be found at <u>skillsontario.com/camp</u>.

About Skills Ontario

Skills Ontario has been delivering programs and events since 1989 with an aim to inspire youth to explore skilled trades and technologies. Skills Ontario has found great success through its initiatives, and continues to deliver programs for many audiences, including young women, Indigenous youth, new Canadians, persons with exceptionalities, and more, in order to connect education, experience, and employment. To see how you can partner with Skills Ontario and help make a difference in the lives of Ontario youth, visit <u>skillsontario.com/get-involved</u>.

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