Skills Ontario officially launches new Trades & Tech Truck at Fix Network's Milton facility

Ontario (April 29, 2022) – Today, Skills Ontario is officially launching its new Trades & Tech Truck, a mobile experiential learning unit, at Fix Network's Milton facility.

With activities and simulators, including modules simulating auto-painting, welding, electrical systems, heavy machinery, and more, visitors of the Trades & Tech Truck can tour the unit and discover how Skills Ontario is inspiring youth to explore skilled trades and technologies in a unique and hands-on way.

For over 30 years, Skills Ontario has been encouraging youth to explore skilled trade and technology careers. To reach even more Ontarians across the province, the team at Skills Ontario developed this new, unique initiative. Skills Ontario will be visiting schools, training centres, and more across the province to encourage, inspire, and motivate Ontarians to pursue skilled careers.

"We're very excited to be with Fix Network to announce this new initiative," says lan Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. "Skills Ontario has been delivering workshops and programs focusing on experiential learning for many years, and we're thrilled to amplify our impact through this new mobile unit. Skilled trade and technology careers are in-demand, well-paying, and fulfilling, and we work to ensure that youth are aware of their opportunities in these fields."

"In our mission to attract the best talent to the aftermarket industry, we are excited to once again collaborate with Skills Ontario in their latest initiative," says Daryll O'Keefe, Regional Vice-President – Ontario, Fix Network. "I am confident that unique opportunities such as the Trades and Tech Truck will help the younger generation gain access to invaluable tools, insights and mentorship that can help them navigate the profession. Plus, the opportunity to network with Fix Network's pros provides them a better understanding of how the industry operates."

Skills Ontario would like to thank Fix Network and all other partners of the Trades & Tech Truck initiative: the Government of Ontario, Black & McDonald, Carpenters' District Council of Ontario, Collège Boréal, CWB Welding Foundation, IHSA, LiUNA, Milwaukee, Mohawk College, Sheridan College, St. Clair College, and Workplace Safety & Prevention Services.

To learn more about Skills Ontario's programs, visit skillsontario.com.

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 Ontarians, visit skillsontario.com/get-involved.

About Fix Network

Fix Network is a global leader in the automotive aftermarket services sector, consisting of Fix Auto, NOVUS Glass, ProColor Collision, Speedy Auto Service and SRP brands. Our locally owned and operated collision, glass and mechanical repair facilities offer hassle-free vehicle care and services. Our company and our network continue to grow nationally and globally, thanks to a solid foundation based on entrepreneurship and innovation. With over 2,000 points of service around the world, Fix Network is the premier global automotive aftermarket services solution. For more information, visit <u>www.fixnetwork.com</u>.

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