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Five Ontario Students Represent Canada At WorldSkills London 2011

IN SKILLED TRADES & TECHNOLOGIES

Ryan Gomes
Age 21
From Cambridge, Ontario
Aircraft Maintenance
Centennial College of Applied Arts and Technology
Gold at Ontario Technological Skills Competition 2010
Gold at Canadian Skills Competition 2010

Tom Middlebro'
Age 20
From Guelph, Ontario
Offset Printing
Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology
Bronze at Canadian Skills Competition 2010

Jonathan Sinke
Age 20
From Jordan Station, Ontario
Cabinetmaking
Conestoga College Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning
Gold at Ontario Technological Skills Competition 2010
Gold at Canadian Skills Competition 2010

Benjamin Church & Adrian Schut
Both age 16
From Almonte,Ontario
Mobile Robotics
Almonte and District High School
Gold at Ontario Technological Skills Competition 2010
Gold at Canadian Skills Competition 2010

Backgrounder

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ONTARIO STUDENTS ON TEAM CANADA 2011 / WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION

On Monday, November 1, 2010, as part of Skilled Trades & Technology Week, Skills Canada – Ontario, presented a reception in Toronto at The Sutton Place Hotel in honour of the five Ontario students representing Canada at the WorldSkills Competition in 2011. Competitors were introduced to the members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario at Queen's Park earlier in the morning.

Guest speakers to this reception titled, **"SKILLS AT THE PARK",** were the Honourable Leona Dombrowsky, Minister of Education and the Honourable John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges & Universities.

Every year young people from across our province and all regions of Canada compete in skilled trade and technology contests. These competitions provide an opportunity for young Canadians studying a skilled trade or technology to be tested against exacting standards and against their peers from across the nation. The main goals of this event are to provide competitors with hands-on work experience and to raise awareness for the general population of the value of and challenge in skilled trades and technology careers. Students vie to win the honour of being crowned the best in their chosen discipline. These competitions provide our budding Canadian talent an opportunity to move forward and perform on the world stage.

35 successful Canadian competitors have formed Team Canada, including 5 from Ontario. They will be participating in 32 contest areas and will represent Canada at this prestigious international event that will involve 1000 competitors from 50 member regions/countries. The Team will represent Canada at the 2011 WorldSkills Competition in London, UK on October 5 - 8, 2011.

WorldSkills is an international organization that actively promotes vocational training. The mission of WorldSkills International is to challenge young people, their teachers, trainers and employers to achieve world class standards of competence in commerce, services and industry, and to promote the status of vocational training.

The experience and results of all the competitions provide valuable feedback both to the individuals and the systems and enterprises in which they are being trained. For some it is recognition for outstanding achievement, while for others it provides the motivation and knowledge to aspire to higher standards. For the onlookers it is a revealing experience to see highly competent young trades people in action.

For additional information on WorldSkills London please visit www.worldskillslondon2011.com

Skills Canada – Ontario is a not-for-profit organization that promotes careers in the skilled trades and technologies to young people in Ontario as viable first-choice career options. Through partnerships in education, industry, labour and government, Skills Canada - Ontario is helping young people brighten their futures and industries strengthen theirs. Skills Canada – Ontario will host the 23rd Ontario Technological Skills Competition (OTSC) on April 30 – May 2, 2012 in Waterloo.

Please visit www.skillsontario.com for additional information.