

Skills Ontario’s International Women’s Day Conference will provide tools to help manage parenthood, entrepreneurship, and work

Ontario (March 1, 2021) – Skills Ontario works to ensure that all Ontarians have access to engaging opportunities to explore skilled trade and technology careers, and through the organization’s virtual International Women’s Day Conference, set to run on March 8th, Ontarians will hear tips and insight from industry experts and leaders.

With a morning session at 10:30 am (EST), and the recorded conference streaming at 7:00 pm (EST) that same day, students, apprentices, businesswomen, tradeswomen, and advocates for women in the skilled trades and technologies are welcome to join this conference when it best suits their schedule.

The Honourable Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children’s and Women’s Issues will be discussing the role of childcare in the skilled trades, followed by a Parents Fireside Chat, featuring skilled tradeswomen who will candidly speak about work/life balance. With a Real Talk panel, a segment on entrepreneurship, and tips and resources on the opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies, this event will give viewers helpful advice and insights.

“The skilled trades and technologies are suitable for all, and by providing a space where those who identify as women can hear firsthand experiences and advice from experts, Skills Ontario is aspiring to shatter any and all stigmas that may exist in these fields,” says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. “With the opportunity to live text chat with the panelists, viewers can connect directly with industry leaders to hear about how they can overcome their own challenges and pursue their careers.”

“Women who are beginning to find their pathways or who have already started working in the skilled professions may feel outnumbered in the male-dominated industry and perhaps even like they don’t have the support or resources they need,” says Jennifer Green, Director of Competitions and Young Women’s Initiatives at Skills Ontario. “Through our International Women’s Day Conference, we are showing viewers that there is a large community of women who are eager and happy to share their experiences and advice. Women have a place in these fields.”

Funded by the Government of Ontario, this conference is complementary. Registration is open at skillsontario.com/iwd-2021. Skills Ontario looks forward to continuing to provide learning opportunities and build a strong and robust skilled workforce.

About Skills Ontario

Skills Ontario has been growing a portfolio of programs to inspire and engage youth since 1989, including presentations, career exploration events, competitions, summer camps, and Young Women’s and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit workshops and conferences. To see how you can partner with Skills Ontario and help make a difference in the lives of Ontario youth, visit skillsontario.com/get-involved.

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