

## **Skills Ontario teams up with Girl Guides of Canada to empower girls to explore what were once considered “untraditional” careers**

**Ontario (August 4, 2021)** – Skills Ontario and Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council are teaming up to host a virtual workshop aiming to inspire girls to explore skilled trades and technologies. Through mentorship and a complimentary hands-on learning kit, participants will learn about these exciting, hands-on career pathways in an engaging and empowering way.

The workshop is running on August 21<sup>st</sup>, with one segment for Sparks and Brownies from 9:30 am to 11:00 am (EST), and a second module for Guides, Pathfinders, and Rangers from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (EST). Participants from Ontario and Nunavut will learn from women who are working in these careers, gain hands-on practical experience, and earn a badge.

“As an organization dedicated to sharing how rewarding skilled trades and technologies are, we’re excited to engage and empower young women to explore these careers through a fun, hands-on learning experience,” says Ian Howcroft, CEO of Skills Ontario. “Skilled trades and technologies may have been considered “untraditional” for women, but the truth is that these careers are suitable for all and we share this message through our Young Women’s Initiatives every day. We need to ensure our skilled workforce is inclusive, and it is key that we show that women are welcome, encouraged, and needed in these fields.”

“Girl Guides of Canada is the leading organization for girls and women in Canada. Guiding provides a safe environment that invites girls and young women to challenge themselves, find their voice, meet new friends, have fun and make a difference in the world.,” says Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council Provincial Commissioners, Lisa Nicholas & Melissa Martin. “We encourage girls and young women to explore a range of interests including the skilled trades and technologies through enriching experiences that will stay with them for a lifetime.”

More information and sign-up for the workshop can be found at [events.eply.com/SkillsOntarioVirtualWorkshop3362606/virtual.aspx](https://events.eply.com/SkillsOntarioVirtualWorkshop3362606/virtual.aspx). Registration closes on August 6th.

Skills Ontario delivers programs to Ontarians across the province, including presentations, workshops, challenges, and more, all done virtually. With initiatives to support young women, Indigenous youth, persons with exceptionalities, and more, Skills Ontario works to build a strong, diverse, and robust future skilled workforce. Skills Ontario is proud to continue to inspire individuals to explore the fulfilling, lucrative, and in-demand opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies.

### **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](https://skillsontario.com/get-involved).

### **About Girl Guides**

Girl Guides is a catalyst for girls empowering girls. We provide girls age 5-17 with the opportunity to try new experiences, challenge themselves and build their confidence, all within a safe environment. Our volunteers help deliver a unique program that encourages girls to build life skills in outdoor adventure, financial literacy, mental health, advocacy and more. Together, we’re building a better world, by girls.

### **Media Contacts**

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