

October 29, 2009

Looking for Alberta's Best Trade and Technology Students

Alberta Celebrates Skilled Trades and Technology Week in Canada

Edmonton... On the heels of WorldSkills Calgary 2009, the Official Legacy Partner, Skills Canada Alberta will celebrate Skilled Trades and Technology Week in Canada with a look to developing the next generation of Canada's best young trade and technology talent Monday, November 2, 2010 at NAIT at the Skills Canada Alberta Cardboard Boat Race.

"The Cardboard Boat Race is a fun and exciting way to introduce students to higher levels of competition, and focus on technical and trade related career development," said Chris Browton Executive Director Skills Canada Alberta. "This is the first Skills Canada Alberta event following WorldSkills Calgary 2009, and is fitting that it serves as an innovative way for students to develop practical skills and serve as a launching pad to recruit the team that will represent Canada at the next WorldSkills Competition."

September 1-7, 2009 Alberta hosted WorldSkills Calgary 2009, the world's largest demonstration of trade and technology talent. This year represented Canada's tenth participation in WorldSkills, and the second time hosting the prestigious event featuring 45 competition areas and 900 Competitors from 51 countries/regions.

Alberta's premier trade and technology skills competition, the Provincial Skills Competition is the Alberta stepping stone to selection to the WorldSkills London 2011 Team Canada. Post-secondary students can apply online at www.skillsalberta.com to be invited to participate in the 2010 Provincial Skills Competition and earn a position on Team Alberta to compete at the official selection event for WorldSkills London 2011 Team Canada, the Canadian Skills Competition, in Waterloo, Ontario on May 20-23, 2010. Employers and instructors can also recommend students to participate.

Students at the Cardboard Boat Race will be inspired to develop their skills and use their trade and technology talents to gain once in a lifetime opportunities. "Whether it is a regional competition or an international event, competition is the best way to motivate and stretch students to reach for excellence," notes Browton.

Utilizing design, engineering and construction skills, students will use cardboard, duct tape and a few other odds and ends to transform these materials into vessels that not only float but carry passengers as well. To add to the challenge, students are presented with a surprise item at the event that must be incorporated into their boat.

Participating Schools in the Cardboard Boat Race:

School	City	School	City
Allendale School	Edmonton	Leduc Junior High School	Leduc
Andrew School	Andrew	M.E. Lazerte	Edmonton
Archbishop O'Leary	Edmonton	Mary Butterworth School	Edmonton
Buck Mountain Central School	Buck Lake	Ottewell School	Edmonton
Calmar School	Calmar	Rainbow Lake School	Rainbow Lake
Dan Knott School	Edmonton	S Bruce Smith School	Edmonton
F.R Haythorne School	Sherwood Park	Salisbury Composite High School	Sherwood Park
Hardisty School	Edmonton	Savanna School	Spirit River
Harry Ainlay School	Edmonton	Spruce Grove High School	Spruce Grove
Holy Rosary High School	Lloydminster	Tofield School	Tofield
Kate Chegwin School	Edmonton	Vernon Barford School	Edmonton
Kenilworth School	Edmonton	Vilna School	Vilna
Kisipatnahk School	Hobbema	Warburg School	Warburg
Lacombe Composite High School	Lacombe	Winterburn School	Edmonton
Leduc Composite High School	Leduc		

Skilled Trades and Technology Week in Canada is an initiative of Skills/Compétences Canada to bring recognition to the growing skilled labour shortage in Canada, and to recognize students developing their trade and technology skills. According to the Conference Board of Canada we will face a shortage of more than a million skilled workers by 2020. An estimated 40% of all new jobs created will be in the skilled trades and technologies.

Skills Canada Alberta (SCA) is a not-for-profit provincial association that partners with the Government of Alberta, Government of Canada, industry, labour and education groups to equip young minds with the skills to help Alberta successfully compete in a drastically changing global market. This is accomplished through innovative programs that encourage students to learn new skills, and strengthen their leadership, teamwork and problem solving abilities.

Event Details:

The Skills Canada Alberta Cardboard Boat Race

Monday, November 2, 2009

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Main Campus 11762 – 106th St

TIME	DESCRIPTION
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Announcements/Instructions
10:15 am - 11:45 am	Boat Construction (Main Gym)
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Move Boats From Gym To Pool
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Races and Weight Challenge (Activity Centre)
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Judging And Evaluation
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	WorldSkills London 2011 Recruitment Announcement Awards Presentations (Main Gym)

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Skills Canada Alberta - Backgrounder

On May 12-13, 2010 SCA will host the **Provincial Skills Competition** and **Alberta’s Largest Trade and Technology Trade Fair**. Over 600 high school and post-secondary students will demonstrate incredible hands-on expertise, talent and determination as they compete for a position to represent Alberta at the **Canadian Skills Competition**, in Kitchener Ontario with the hopes of earning a spot on the WorldSkills London 2011 Team Canada.

Skills Canada established WorldSkills Calgary 2009 Ltd. to host the world’s highest level of trade and technology talent. As a member of WorldSkills International, Skills Canada selects and prepares competitors for regional, provincial, national and international competition. Over 150,000 students participate in Skills Canada each year, which foster students’ trade and technology skill development.

In 1992, Skills Canada Alberta (SCA) began its mission to stimulate the development of leadership and technological excellence in Alberta’s youth. As a provincial arm of the national association of Skills/Compétences Canada, Skills Canada Alberta is a not-for-profit organization, which works with employers, educators, labour groups and the government to position trade and technical careers as a first choice career option for Alberta’s youth.

For more information about Skills Canada Alberta, visit www.skillsalberta.com.