

Skills Canada British Columbia  
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Burnaby, BC V5H 3Z7  
604.432.4360



February 20, 2017

Mr. Gary Herman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Industry Training Authority  
8100 Granville Ave.  
Richmond BC V6Y 3T6

**Request for support to host the 2020 National Skills Competition in Vancouver**

Dear Mr. Herman,

In my new role as President of Skills Canada BC I look forward to expanding relations between Skills Canada BC, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism & Skills Training, and the Industry Training Authority. I believe that collaboratively we can address many of the goals of the B.C. Skills for Jobs Blueprint. In addition SCBC recognizes and strives to support the mandate letters of the many ministries and ITA. Furthermore, SCBC champions those BC industry sectors that recognize the importance of hands-on experience for students while helping BC youth achieve the skills necessary to achieve productive career goals.

Further to the letter sent to Minister Bond and you on November 9, 2016, by our former Executive Director, I would like to highlight a major event that can provide the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism & Skills Training and the Industry Training Authority with an excellent opportunity to highlight the progress being made on the Skills for Jobs Blueprint and the development of a skilled workforce.

Each year the Skills Canada National competition brings a focus on trades and technology skill development to major cities in Canada. While the event highlights the achievement of youth skill development in each province it also brings together industry and government to celebrate successes in workforce development. Skills Canada BC can be a catalyst for this opportunity to B.C.

SCBC continues to negotiate with the national office of Skills/Competence Canada to hold the 2020 National Skills Competition in Vancouver. The next step in the approval process is a site visit by the Advance Team from the national office. Due to scheduling difficulties that visit was scheduled to take place mid-March with a formal announcement following in 2 to 3 weeks. While the national office is familiar with the excellent facilities in Vancouver the primary barrier is the overall cost of hosting in Vancouver. Their preference is the Vancouver Trade and

Convention Centre however the rental and related costs exceed the cost of similar venues in Toronto and other major cities by up to \$200,000.00. Despite this, Shaun Thorson, CEO of Skills/Competence Canada, expresses a high degree of confidence in being able to bring the event to Vancouver. In recent conversations with Shaun we described the strong industry/government partnership in BC. Shaun agreed to fast-track the process. The advance team met with our Transition Team in Vancouver on February 14, 2017 to view available venues and to meet with Tourism Vancouver representatives. The outcome of that visit was very positive.

We would like to be able to confirm to the Skills Canada National organization that additional financial support for the 2020 National Skills Competition will be possible.

Once the event is secured for Vancouver there will be an additional cost to prepare for the event and to ensure that the maximum number of BC youth from all regions of the province has the opportunity to experience a National event that focuses on promoting trades and technology careers.

To assist SCBC in both securing and hosting this event we are requesting the following support:

March/April 2017 - \$200,000.00 targeted at securing the 2020 National Skills Competition in Vancouver through the support of additional costs to host in Vancouver.

2018/2019 - \$200,000.00 to support planning and preparations for the 2020 National Skills Competition including maximizing opportunities for rural BC communities.

2019/2020 - \$400,000.00 to support delivery of the National Skills Competition with an emphasis on engaging youth and industry with a focus on career opportunities in existing and emerging trades and technologies.

I suggest that continuing conversation between yourself, our Transition Team, Dawn Minty and David Kalaski, with Rishi Sharma Director of Initiative and Stakeholder Relations and Bev Shuttleworth, Manager of Initiative and Stakeholder Relations at JTST will serve to clarify these opportunities and will assist with developing a plan for moving forward.

I look forward to meeting with you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Haller', written in a cursive style.

John Haller

President, Skills Canada BC

cc: D. Scott MacDonald

cc: Rishi Sharma

