

**Skills Canada BC**  
**Executive Director's Report**  
**Michelle Skelly**

**Skills Canada Board Meeting – March 27, 2025**

**Competitions:**

- Organization is well under way for all competition levels,

**Regionals:**

- Regionals wraps up early April. Data will be provided in next meeting.
- New to website: Detailed Regionals information and Competitions calendar is available here:
  - <https://skillscanada.bc.ca/competitions/regional-competitions/2025-regional/>
- Skills BC Team attended numerous Regionals events that weren't attended last year in addition to the ones in close proximity to our staff. Shoshawna and I will attend VCC on April 1 which will wrap up the final Regionals. Staff attending Regionals is well received and appreciated. Skilled Trades BC attended numerous Regionals and provided exhibitor booth and/or volunteers.
- Final competitor numbers will be provided after Regionals wraps up. Anticipated similar numbers to last year. Some regions started up again such as Central Interior (Junior Skills) but we would like to work on developing further for next year. New Regional Coordinator has been a great addition/contact for potential to expand this region again.
- New to this year: Regional Coordinator Reporting after Regionals. Creating a jotform with data and relevant information for SCBC.
- Short Videos have been created from Regionals competitors for the Ministry of Advanced Education and for SCBC use.
- Short Videos also shot of alumni and tips and suggestions for future competitors.
- Will work on promotional plan for utilizing these.

**Provincials:**

- The SCBC team is working diligently on various aspects of the operations.
- Provincials bus subsidies registration is closed and information has been sent to the educators. We currently have 70 buses booked for the subsidy and a total of 90 buses so far expected to attend.
- Working with Tradex and Tradex contractors, have managed to reduce costs in various areas such as F&B, volunteer parking fees, electrical, staging and sound, pipe and drape/exhibitor set up as well.
- Will update Board in meeting regarding Partner's Luncheon details, VIP tours. Whatsapp group as discussed in Business Development Committee Meeting for those attending Provincials

- Please advise those Board members that require a hotel.
- Agenda and Luncheon details will be sent in advance once speakers have been confirmed.

#### **Nationals 2025:**

- Dates: May 29 and 30, 2025
- Location: Regina, Saskatchewan
- Working in advance on various aspects including information package for competitors, hotel and conference room logistics, transportation, busing, flights and team attire.

#### **Nationals 2026:**

- Dates: May 28 and 29, 2026
- Location: Toronto, Ontario
- Currently working on hotel contract for Toronto, Ontario

#### **Next WorldSkills:**

- World Skills 2026 - China
- World Skills 2028 – Japan
- World Skills 2030 – tbd – there is a possibility Canada will bid for this.

#### **Programs Update:**

- Continued work with South Island Partnership (SIP) for Inspire island presentations.
- Brad Moe assisted Construction Foundation of BC with Cardboard Boat Races on January 23<sup>rd</sup> with Terry Fox Secondary at Hyde Creek Recreation Center.
- Women in Trades Conference (Peace Region, Dawson Creek) at Regionals in conjunction with Skilled Trades BC, Feb 16, 2025.
- South Fraser Trades Advisory Committee Meeting - March 6. Provided SCBC update.
- Skills Canada Programming – meetings are ongoing– on Friday with SC – March 19
- Indspire – Indigenous conference, April 9 and 10. Skilled Trades BC invited SCBC to participate at the booth at no cost. As this is the week prior to Provincials, have alumni attending on behalf of SCBC.
- GW Graham Career Day – April 30. Shoshawna will provide presentations – 4 -45min presentations- About SCBC and Careers in Baking.
- Upcoming: Online ProDDay Presentation to North Van School District in May.

#### **Board Committees:**

- Ongoing meetings with various Board members for committee work for Governance, Business Development, Finance, and Executive.
- Committees to provide updates.
- All Board membership fees have been completed since AGM now.

- Ongoing meetings are continuing with Dennis Innes, Board President. Letter to Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, and Minister, Anne Kang to be sent shortly.

#### **Sponsorship:**

- Business Development meeting held March 19.
- Continued work on existing and new potential sponsorships for 2025.
- As of March 20- sponsorship chart totals \$288,250 with CN to be added (waiting on final contract to be signed). Total to exceed over 300k. Target in budget was 220k.
- Ongoing meetings with various sponsors now regarding logistics and sponsorship fulfillment: CN, WorkSafeBC, Coast Capital, CLAC and various others.
- **Supplies and materials** chart for Provincials has been developed as well as follow up for sponsorship. Stanley Dewalt, another supplier has come on board, providing tools for cabinetmaking and welding such as power tools. Saving significant funds through the added supplies and materials being donated this year.

#### **Skills Canada Operations Meetings:**

- Virtual Meetings are ongoing and next in person Operations meetings will be in June in Ottawa.
- Discussions around implementing “Skilled Futures” branding to use across the country for brand consistency and as an umbrella for programs is still in the planning/implementation stages.
- Team Canada Advisory Committee – Developing a process for skills areas not currently part of National competitions to potentially participate in International competitions.
- Chatterhigh promotion: All Provinces/territories feed questions to Skills Canada who provides to Chatterhigh and students/schools compete by answering career questions.
- Marks Program – working on a promotion to develop Try-A-Trade kits and top 50 list programming.

#### **Conferences and Committee Participation:**

- South Fraser Trades Advisory Committee Meeting - March 6. Provided SCBC update.
- Ongoing committee participation with Skills Canada, including Operations, MarComm, Programs, Business Development.

#### **Government:**

- **Ministry of Future Skills and Training**
  - Meeting with our liaison Adam Skulsky, April 3, 2025.
  - Adam noted in last meeting that with things just starting up, things might be a bit slow.

- Sent invite to Minister Anne Kang for Provincials in December however has declined but will provide a Minister's video greeting.
- Ongoing liaison including quote for Regionals release, which was sent out on January 28, in addition to short video snippets being produced, which they would like to utilize as well and will release shortly.
- **Skilled Trades BC**
  - Invoiced for \$55,000 prior March 15 and sent with deliverables.
  - Working with Maureen Phung regarding the implementation for this.
  - Invitation to share booth space at Indspire, Indigenous conference in Vancouver on April 9 and 10.
  - Participated at some Regionals.
  - Invited to speak at Partner's Luncheon, Provincials in addition to exhibitor space.
- **Ministry of Education**
  - Daniel Tones replied to invitation that due to the current political situation, there is no travel and attendance at Provincials is not possible.
  - Minister Lisa Beare also declined invitation to attend.
- **Government of Canada – ESDC funding through Skills Canada**
  - Mona Soleimani and I are preparing and submitting ongoing quarterly reporting to Skills Canada. January 15 last report due and next quarterly report due is April 15.
  - Renewal at this point will not include an increase and will be the same as previous years. Working on details with Skills Canada accountant and Mona Soleimani.

### **Indigenous involvement**

- Confirmed COFI and First Nations Forestry Council for Pathway Sponsorship.
- Met with Amber Gregory (contact through Board members, Kerry Vital and Courtenay Kearney). Amber contracts with various indigenous organizations. Amber would like to attend next Board meeting in June, if possible, to discuss initiatives.
- Following up with ACCESS again regarding potential involvement as to date no response.
- Al Roadburg Foundation partnership will focus on indigenous outreach. Mike Ford following up with this after Provincials.
- Other organizations such as SASET, Capacity Crane/Metis Nation have not responded.
- Follow up with Sumas and Matsqui Nation re Indigenous Welcome but no response.

- Followed up with John Williams, who is available to provide welcome again this year pending no response from Sumas or Matsqui. John Williams is available to provide welcome again this year. John is the Knowledge keeper in residence at UFV, from Skwah First Nations.

**Alumni:**

- Rosa Donaire Champagne (National Alumni Rep) BC term is coming up. Looking at another representative to carry on. Considering VSB student.
- Continued alumni follow up for Provincials involvement including medals ceremonies.
- 2017 Cooking Alumni, Siobhan Detkavich will be a cooking judge and potential medal presenter. Siobhan was on Top Chef Canada.
- Continued additions to podcasts and promoting alumni on social media and newsletters: <https://skillscanada.bc.ca/educators-guide/podcasts-interviews/>
- Continuing to gather more testimonials to add to website and for reporting purposes: <https://skillscanada.bc.ca/testimonials/>
- Alumni to help at Indspire Indigenous Conference