

**Skills Canada BC to Host Provincial Trade and Technology Competition
and Pathways to Careers Showcase
At Abbotsford, Tradex**

**Fostering BC's Future: Bringing together
Students, Educators, Industry, and Labour**

Abbotsford, BC – April 8, 2026 – Students from across the Province are preparing to compete in the 2026 Skills Canada BC Provincial Trades and Technology Competition, taking place on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at Tradex in Abbotsford. This year marks the 32nd annual Provincial competition hosted by Skills Canada BC.

Approximately 500 secondary and post-secondary students who previously earned Gold medals at 13 Regional competitions held throughout BC, will advance to the Provincial level. Competitors will demonstrate their expertise across a broad range of skilled trades and technology disciplines, including carpentry, plumbing, electrical, baking, welding, graphic design, 3D animation, robotics and more.

The event is expected to draw thousands of students, educators, and members of the public. Attendees will have the opportunity to observe competitions, participate in interactive, hands-on activities, and explore the Pathways to Careers Showcase. Admission to Tradex and parking is free, and the Careers showcase will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Gold medalists at the Provincial competition will earn a place on Team BC and advance to represent the province at the 2026 Skills Canada National Competition in Toronto, Ontario, on May 28 and 29, 2026.

"The Skills competitions celebrate and recognize student excellence in skilled trades and technologies," said Dennis Innes, President of Skills Canada BC. "By collaborating closely with industry partners and post-secondary institutions to develop and evaluate competition tasks, we ensure that training remains aligned with current workforce needs."

The competitions also serve as an engaging platform to highlight career opportunities in skilled trades and technology for the thousands of attendees.

"Through dynamic skills training initiatives such as these competitions, we are building a strong foundation and empowering students to develop their abilities and prepare confidently for successful careers," said Michelle Skelly, Executive Director of Skills Canada BC.

"With skilled trades in high demand, developing the next generation of trades professionals is crucial to building our province's future and meeting the industry's evolving needs," says Shelley Gray, CEO, SkilledTradesBC. "It's encouraging to see the growing number of students coming together to explore these exciting opportunities. I look forward to seeing some of the best emerging talent in trades and technologies from across BC bring their hands-on skills and passion to the provincial competition and beyond."

For more information please visit www.skillscanada.bc.ca

Skills Canada BC appreciates the funding support from SkilledTradesBC, and the partners and volunteers that enable these competitions to take place.

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