



## Welcome to the [Skilled Trades]

### SKILLS CANADA - ONTARIO

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board is pleased to advise that they have affiliated with *Skills Canada* which will benefit both secondary and elementary schools through community visits and the promotion of the skills & trades.

*Skills Canada* is a national, not-for-profit organization, which works with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to reposition trade and technical careers as a first choice career option for Canadian youth. Their mandate is to look for ways to guide students toward the professional opportunities available in skilled trade and technology fields.

Recently, Skills Canada opened an office in Thunder Bay and is extending school visits to our district. The benefit of affiliating with Skills Canada provides added exposure in our high schools and in our grade 7 & 8 classrooms about the Skills and Trades Sector, complimentary to the board's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship program, Tools [th]at Work campaign and Co-operative Education program.

This fall Skills Canada will be contacting schools throughout our Board area to set up opportunities to visit them and to deliver their in-school career awareness presentation "**What's Out There? Opportunities in the Skilled Trades and Technologies.**" They also provide schools with resources, access to conferences, networking dinners and skills competitions. If your school is interested in hosting a presentation, please contact Karen Throupe at Skills Canada at 807-684-8853 or email [karent@skillscanada.com](mailto:karent@skillscanada.com) as soon as possible. Skills Canada will likely have an allocated number dedicated to presentations in this area, and interested schools will have to be scheduled in advance on a first come, first served basis.

During their visit they will also be updating you on some of the events that will be of benefit during this school year. Such as the "**Skills Work for Women**" **Networking Dinner** being held in November and the "**Youth Exploring Technology Day**" geared at Grade 7 & 8 students in April. Both of these events are going to be held in Dryden to offer a central location for the entire Kenora-Rainy River District.

For more information, please watch for event updates on the Tools [th]at Work website under the For [Educators] banner you will find a link to Skills Canada-Ontario.

[www.toolsthatwork.ca](http://www.toolsthatwork.ca)

