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Skills Canada returns for 12th Annual Regional Skills Competition

Skills Canada will provide a chance for North Island secondary students to showcase their trades and technical skills and compete for gold on Friday, March 26th at North Island College's Campbell River Campus.

At the regional level, the goal of Skills Canada BC is to encourage high school students to explore areas of interest in the trades and technology fields. "This event helps to build awareness," explains Jeff Wharton, Coordinator of NIC's Trades and Technical programs. "It encourages students to think about trades, it opens pathways and showcases what NIC has to offer."



Students participate in practical challenges that test skills in areas such as Computer Animation, Architectural CAD, Automotive Service, Cabinetmaking, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Electronics, Graphic Design, Internet Website Design, Robotics, TV/Video Production and Welding. "We are happy to host this event for our regional school district partners," continues Wharton. "NIC has the workshops and instructors necessary to make this event possible and we believe in the trades as viable career opportunities."

This event sees approximately 130 students and 20 teacher sponsors participate from the North Island, Comox Valley, Port Alberni, Campbell River and Qualicum areas. "We really encourage our students to enter and participate," states Randy Grey, School District #71 District Career Programs Coordinator. "It's great to see all the schools come together, to give the students the opportunity to see these programs in action and meet the NIC instructors. All the groups are so supportive of one another. Everyone wins."

The competitions run from 9:00am to 1:00pm on Friday March 26th with medal presentations to follow. Students that place gold in their category advance to the provincial competition held in Abbotsford this April. The public is invited to view the competitions. For further information about this event please contact Natalie Crawshaw, with NIC's Trades, Technical & Tourism Division, at (250) 923-9722.

About Skills Canada BC:

Skills Canada BC is a provincial non-profit organization and registered charity composed of volunteers representing industry, labour, education and government dedicated to promoting and enhancing the perceived value of technical and trade skills among British Columbia's youth.

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