



Bob Guthrie,  
Registrar & CEO

## Message from the Registrar

It is important, once in a while, to take a moment and reflect on the journey. With the College registering members on April 8, this is one of those moments. Your participation in public consultations and apprenticeship ratio reviews has helped begin a dialogue about Ontario skilled trades and the need for change. The College provides a great opportunity to get involved and make your voice heard. The skilled trades now have their own self-governing regulatory body representing all trades in Ontario. This is a big step towards putting the apprenticeship training and trade certification program back into the hands of tradespersons and employers, so that they are able to make important decisions affect-

ing their careers and businesses. The College will provide a way to make those decisions in a reasoned, transparent and fair way. The skilled trades are worthy of consideration as a career of first choice for all young people. The Ontario College of Trades will get this important message out – about the great opportunities, rewards and respect for skilled trades professionals. We will help elevate the trades – promoting each skilled trade and every individual in that profession. As a self-regulating professional organization, we will raise awareness of the standards and excellence in the skilled trades and expand opportunities for skilled tradespersons across the province.

Together we will strengthen and build public trust in the skilled trades in Ontario, protect the public interest and improve the apprenticeship training and certification system in this province. Looking back to the very start of the Ontario College of Trades, I am proud of the tremendous work we have done already, with the support of hundreds of dedicated skilled tradespersons and employers. I look forward to the great journey ahead of us in the coming years, with our many thousands of proud skilled trades professional and employer members.

Bob Guthrie,  
Registrar & CEO

### Inside:

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Write to us

**As a certified tradesperson, I have seen far too many cases where the public and workers have been put at risk because of people performing restricted work when they are not licensed to do so.**

- Lorne Newick, Certified 309-A Electrician.  
(click [HERE](#) for full article)

# The Latest - Skills Canada—Ontario 2013

## 24th Ontario Technological Skills Competition

The Ontario Technological Skills Competition (OTSC) is the largest skilled trades competition in Canada. More than 1,900 Ontario students compete for medals in 63 different contest areas.

The OTSC offers a unique opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills and enthusiasm for their chosen career choices to educators, family and friends. A crowd of 30,000 captivated visitors cheer them on, many of them students. The talent and dedication on display serves as a cause for inspiration for many of the students who are just beginning to think about their career paths.

The OTSC also offers students many

more aware of the benefits and opportunities in a wide variety of fields, but to motivate this future workforce and give them the information they need to start on the path towards a successful career in the skilled trades and technologies.

As a not-for-profit organization, Skills Canada-Ontario relies on the support of an army of volunteers to

1900 Competitors  
30,000+ Spectators  
60+ skilled trade contest areas  
Over 370,000 square feet  
Elementary, Secondary and Post-Secondary Students

Photos and files courtesy of Skills Canada – Ontario

make the OTSC a reality. Hundreds of individuals from industry, education and the community at large work countless hours to set up 37,000 sq. feet of competition and exhibition space, secure judges and suppliers, chair the contests, take down the show, and counsel the

“Team Ontario” members who have advanced to the national competition.

With so many skilled trades featured at OTSC, the opportunity for students to explore is endless.



The event will be held:  
**May 6—8, 2013**  
In Waterloo, ON  
Click **HERE** for a map and directions to OTSC

For more information, visit  
[www.skillsontario.com](http://www.skillsontario.com)  
Click to download poster



additional resources and insights into post-secondary options through the Career Exploration Showcase, Elementary Career Awareness Workshops, and Young Women’s Conferences. All of these components of the OTSC are not only designed to ensure students become



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# Newsmakers

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## The view from above



Photo courtesy of Robert MacFarlane. Source: *Huffington Post*.

Journeyperson, Robert MacFarlane, has one of the greatest views of the city. As a Crane operator in Toronto, he takes photos of the city skyline and

posts them to his Twitter feed. His photos have been picked up by numerous publication in Canada including the Toronto Star, the Huffington Post and National Post. To see more stunning photos and read about MacFarlane, click **HERE**.

Here's a link to his Twitter: [@SkyJacked793](https://twitter.com/SkyJacked793)

**The public register and discipline process will increase consumer confidence and raise standards in the industry. These are all positive goals.**

- Ron Johnson, Chair, Ontario College of Trades Board of Governors

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## Women in trades

A new scholarship fund is now available for women working in the trades. It was recently launched by The Dwyer Group . More information is available on their website. Click **HERE**.



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## History of trades

An inspiring video from the 2012 Skills Canada opening ceremony. Can be found in the Media Centre section of the Careers in Trades website.

Visit [CareersinTrades.ca](http://CareersinTrades.ca) for more information.



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## Announcements

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has an Appointments Council whose role is to appoint all members to the boards:

Trade Boards, Divisional Boards, and the Board of Governors. The College does not have the authority to appoint members to the College's governance structure.

There are still vacant positions left to be filled on some of the College's Trade Boards. If you would like to be part of one of the College's boards, or would like more information about the appointments process, roles and responsibilities of members please visit the Appointments Council website at:

[www.cot-appointments.ca](http://www.cot-appointments.ca)  
or call 1-800-387-5656.

Current vacancies:

**Roster of Adjudicators:**  
Accepting Applications & Resumes for the Roster of Adjudicators-Construction Sector. Please click **HERE** for additional information.

**Trade Boards:**  
**Motive Power, Service, and Industrial**  
Accepting Applications & Resumes for the Trade Boards. Please click **HERE** for additional information.

# Industry headlines

- **PoV: Skills shortage looming on horizon**
- **Supporting the economy means supporting the trades**
- **We need a regulatory body: Electrician [letter]**
- **America's Skilled Trades Dilemma: Shortages Loom As Most-In-Demand Group Of Workers Ages**
- **Panel Decisions on Apprenticeship Ratio Reviews [news release]**
- **College of Trades membership for compulsory trades**
- **College moves forward with membership process**
- **Ottawa planning budget measures to tackle shortage of skilled trades**
- **Claims against Ontario College of Trades "baseless", says Armstrong**
- **Crane operator tweets Toronto's lofty beauty in photos snapped from a sky-high perch**
- **ARMSTRONG: The College of Trades is a bold initiative**

## Email us!

The College wants to hear from you. Send an email to: [editor@collegeoftrades.ca](mailto:editor@collegeoftrades.ca) with your industry events, local newsmakers, suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in the News Page, and any questions you have for our editorial team.

## Follow us!



You can now find the Ontario College of Trades on Twitter. [@collegeoftrades](https://twitter.com/collegeoftrades).

## events

**Ontario General Contractors Association - Spring Construction Symposium**  
April 11—13, 2013  
Blue Mountain Resort, Collingwood, ON

**National Heavy Equipment Show**  
April 18—19, 2013  
International Centre, Mississauga, ON

**Ontario Cooperative Education Association (OCEA) Spring Conference 2013 "MOVING FORWARD"**  
April 21—23, 2013  
Caesars Windsor Convention Resort, Windsor, ON

**RoofTech 2013**  
April 23—24, 2013  
International Centre, Toronto, ON

**North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH)**  
May 5—11

**24th Ontario Technological Skills Competition**  
May 6—8, 2013  
RIM Park, Waterloo, ON

**Skills Canada National Competition**  
June 5—8, 2013  
Vancouver, BC

**42nd WorldSkills Competition**  
July 2—7, 2013  
Leipzig, Germany

**Ontario Council for Technology Education (OCTE) Annual Conference**  
May 9—11, 2013  
Delta Meadowvale Hotel, Mississauga, ON

**Canadian Culinary Federation (CCFCC) National Conference**  
May 29 – June 1, 2013  
Edmonton, Alberta

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