

Skilled trades on display

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Exhibitors from leading Ontario colleges and training centres, unions, and skilled trade employers will showcase their expertise at upcoming fair in Mississauga next month. The 4th annual Apprenticeship Career Connections Fair, hosted by the Peel Halton Workforce Development Group (PHWDG), will be held on March 28 at the International Centre (Hall 5) in Mississauga.

The event will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Those interested in apprenticeships and careers in skilled trades are invited to attend. To find out more about this event, please visit www.apprenticeshipcareerconnections.ca "Having all of the key representatives under one roof will allow our attendees to thoroughly investigate career opportunities within the skilled trades," said Shalini da Cunha, executive director of PHWDG. "There are truly rewarding and well-paying jobs available while the demand for skilled workers continues to increase."

Citing government statistics, the PHWDG says there is a shortage of 50,000 skilled trade workers in Canada, with this number is expected to rise significantly in the coming decades.

According to Ontario's Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, there is estimated the need for one million new skilled trade workers by 2020.

The PHWDG, a non-profit organization that works to improve labour market and training issues, is working to help area residents capitalize on that need. "Building on the success we have had in the past, we aim to host another interactive, engaging and informative career fair for people who are interested in finding work in a skill trade," said da Cunha.



Getting it done. Celebrity home renovator Mike Holmes chats with student John Forman at Humber College's newly opened Centre for Trades and Technology. The centre celebrated its opening Nov. 2. *Staff photo/ IAN KELSO*