



Alberta youth get support for careers in skilled trades and technology

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY Ed Komarnicki, on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, announced that young people from across the province are set to showcase their talents in the skilled trades and inspire others to learn more about careers in the trades and technology sectors. The Government of Canada is investing \$130,215 in funding towards this project.

“In today’s environment, it is more important than ever that young Canadians have the skills and information they need to participate and succeed in the job market,” said Mr. Komarnicki. “By supporting the the 2010 Alberta Provincial Skills Canada Competition, and others like it, our government is taking action to help youth reach their full potential.”

The Government is a strong supporter of Skills Canada and its provincial and territorial chapters, which host annual skills competitions

and promote careers in skilled trades and technology to Canadian youth. From November 1, 2009 to July 31, 2010, Skills Canada Alberta (SCA) will promote awareness of career opportunities available in skilled trades and technology fields. The public was invited to cheer on the high-school and post-secondary competitors at the 2010 Alberta Provincial Skills Canada Competition, which ran May 12-13, at the Edmonton Expo Centre, Edmonton, Alberta.

“Skills Canada programs create a bridge between students and leaders of the Skills Movement that drive our economy,” notes Chris Browton, Executive Director, Skills Canada Alberta. “Shining the spotlight on the next generation of skilled talent reinforces the importance of trade and technology careers.”

Through Canada’s “Jobs and Growth Budget”, the Government of Canada invested \$108 million over three years to assist young people looking to gain skills and experience. As part of

that investment, the Youth Employment Strategy’s (YES) Career Focus and Skills Link programs will receive a one-time increase of \$60 million to help more young Canadians while the economy recovers. YES helps youth, particularly those facing barriers to employment gain the skills and experience they need to make a successful transition to the workplace.

YES is part of the Government of Canada’s strategy to create the best educated, most skilled and most flexible workforce in the world. The Government underscored its commitment to this strategy in Canada’s Economic Action Plan. A key component of the Plan is to create more and better opportunities for Canadian workers through skills development. To learn more about Canada’s Economic Action Plan, visit www.actionplan.gc.ca.