

Focus ^{on} Skills & Trades

Issue 7 — March 22, 2013

This Week's Events

March 25: [BC Jobs Fair](#)
Surrey, Sheraton Guilford Hotel

March 26: [BC Jobs Fair](#)
Burnaby, Hilton Metrotown

March 27: [Yes2It](#) Event
Port Alberni, Alberni District Secondary School.

March 28: [BC Jobs Fair](#)
Vancouver, Vancouver Convention Centre East Ballroom

March 28:
[Skills Canada BC Regional Competitions](#)
South Island—Pacific Design Academy

Trades Exploration

School districts are starting to respond to the upcoming skills shortage. Check out this new 'trades taster' course happening at Claremont Secondary in Saanich. SD 63's Trades Exploration Program is a 'trades taster' course that's helping high school students determine what their trades passion is.

<http://www.bcjobsplan.ca/skills/subjectperspectives/garrys-passionate-about-trades-training/>

Foundations Program in School District 36 (Surrey)

The Foundations Program is a special education program developed by the Surrey School District to address the unique needs of at-risk youth, aged 16 -19, with significant learning and behaviour challenges. A primary focus of the Foundations Program is to assist students to identify and explore careers of interest in preparation for their transition from school to work.

With the growing demand for skilled trades workers, program staff have made an effort to introduce trades careers to students. Over the past two years, a trades website (www.gotrades.ca) was developed and two introductory trades programs have been run for students with special needs. Ten students completed a painting course through the [Finishing Trades Institute of BC](#) and twenty participated in an introductory warehousing program. A Red Seal certified sheet metal worker volunteers in the Foundations Program

and has presented several half-day lessons to introduce students to the sheet metal trade.

The increased focus in trades has definitely stimulated interest among SD36 students. This year, one student completed a trades discovery program through Douglas College and was further selected to participate in Level 1 technical training in painting at the [Finishing Trades Institute of BC](#). Having completed this in February, she is now beginning a work experience placement with a painting company with the hope of being hired before summer. As well, two other students participated in a three- week trades discovery program through Douglas College at the [Trowel Trades Training Association](#) in Surrey. One is very interested in the masonry trade and is looking forward to beginning Level 1 training within the year.

Got a story you want to share? Email us: bceducationplan@gov.bc.ca

Articles on Trades



Check out the Spring 2013 issue of *Learn Magazine* for two great articles on the trades:

- Working with Head and Hands: Opportunities in the Trades
- Profile: Stu Rhodes, Career Counsellor and Apprenticeship Counsellor, SD 63

http://www.bcteacherregulation.ca/documents/Learn/LearnMagazine_Current.pdf

Video Contest!

Know a student who is passionate about the trades? Then let them know about this contest! Students are invited to enter a short video by April 30 showing the trades skills they have or want to acquire for a chance to win some really cool Apple prizes and cash for their school.

See here for contest details and rules: <http://www.discovertradesbc.ca/videocontest/>

Finalists will be chosen based on number of "likes" from visitors to the Discover Trades BC Facebook video gallery. Voting runs from May 1 to June 14. Winners will be selected from the finalists by a panel of celebrity judges.

