

For Immediate Release

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Student participation in skilled trades training earns Sea to Sky SD48 award from Industry Training Authority

Trades program gives students a head start on a rewarding career path

Squamish – Sea to Sky School District No. 48 has received the Industry Training Authority (ITA) Youth Work in Trades Performance Award for the highest number of students in trades training in their region.

“Congratulations to Sea to Sky School District for partnering with the ITA in order to deliver the highest standard of trades training to students in the region,” said Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training. “Our government is helping support B.C. youth in every corner of the province to explore dynamic career opportunities in the trades while also acquiring their high school credentials. I am so proud of all the young people who are pushing the envelope and finding their passion in the trades. As Minister, I sincerely believe that a Red Seal certification is just as valuable as a degree.”

ITA’s Chief Executive Officer Shelley Gray thanked all partners for helping students on a path to success. “The Sea to Sky School District, teachers, and employers in the program are providing students with crucial hands-on experience that is required for their apprenticeship training.”

“The trades program has helped me a lot in deciding what I ultimately want to do with my life. Without this program and the hands-on experience it gives, I would probably be taking some random courses at university, trying to figure out what path to take. Now, I have a great job and opportunities for the future,” said Devon Bailey, an automotive service technician apprentice who took the ITA Youth Work in Trades program at SD48.

The award includes \$5,000 in additional funding to assist the district to further develop their [Youth Work in Trades](#) program. Seven other school districts received a Youth Work in Trades Performance Award.

“The Youth Work in Trades program provides opportunities for our students to connect with local employers and allows them to demonstrate their competencies in a positive and productive way,” said Vicki Schenk, District Career Programs Coordinator, SD48. “They continue to learn in an environment that highlights their strengths and gives them a head start on a career path that builds skills and confidence.”

About the Industry Training Authority (ITA)

The Industry Training Authority (ITA) leads and coordinates British Columbia’s skilled trades system. ITA works with apprentices, employers, industry, labour, training providers and government to fund training, issue credentials, support apprenticeships, set program standards, and increase opportunities in the trades. For more information, visit itabc.ca.

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