



For Immediate Release

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Girls Pick Up Their Pencils and Tools to Discover Skilled Trades at An All Girls Summer Camp

Middle school girls design, build, and weld at Mission's first Girls of All Trades Summer Camp

Mission, BC – The Mission school district (SD 75) and Riverside College teamed up last week with funds from the Industry Training Authority (ITA) to bring 16 girls together to DISCOVER carpentry and welding.

ITA's youth trades training program offers funds to eligible schools across the province for the Youth DISCOVER the Trades program. This program is part of ITA's youth trades training program to encourage young students to think about skilled trades training and careers.

The girls spent the week designing, problem solving, wood working and welding at the Mission Secondary workshop. Their curiosity and inspiration came from a place of wanting to learn new skills to wanting to take the learnings back home to share with their family and friends.

"I'm really proud of these girls for trying their hand at trades," said **Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training**. "The future is bright for tradespeople and apprentices and these young girls have huge potential to have meaningful and rewarding careers in trades."

The Mission School District is honoured to have hosted Girls of All Trades with ITA's support," said **Wade Peary, Principle, Riverside College**. "Opportunities like these give girls a chance to try multiple trades in a safe environment, encouraging more young women to enter the trades as they gain more confidence in their skill set at a younger age."

"Our students are the future of the trades industry and it's great to see girls exploring trades as career options," says **Gary Herman, Chief Executive Officer, Industry Training Authority**. "The trades industry has plenty of room for women and programs like this summer camp will make trades careers more accessible for the young women of BC."

About the Industry Training Authority

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. www.itabc.ca

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For interviews or more information, please contact:

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