

# **IMPACT REPORT** 2021 – 2022

# 2021 – 2022 IMPACT REPORT

2021–2022 was a year of growth for Skills Canada – Nova Scotia (SCNS). We welcomed new faces to our team and board, who brought new ideas, helped to deliver new methods for career exploration, and expanded on some of our existing ones. Competitions returned to full force and Team Nova Scotia had a strong showing at the 2022 Skills Canada National Competition. The year began with familiar challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, but as the restrictions began to ease, and with the support of our partners and volunteers, we were able to deliver on our mission of igniting curiosity and passion by promoting skilled trades, technologies, and career exploration through skill development and competition.

#### PROGRAMS

In September of 2021, program delivery began to transform from a hybrid-delivery model, to an in-person one as classrooms across the province welcomed outside visitors once again. We were back out on the road, with an updated version of the ever-popular *Discovering Skills* in-school presentation which was delivered to nearly **50 classrooms reaching nearly 3000 students.** 

*Skills for Success* returned to the classroom and was introduced as part of a series workshops with community partners. With a revamped model focusing on movement-based, team-focused activities. *Skills for Success* workshops were delivered in **44 schools to nearly 1500 students**.





Accessibility Services also made a to return to the classroom with an adapted version of *Skills for Success* to help students with disabilities better explore careers in skilled trades. Through these accessibility workshops, **we were able to reach over 300 students with disabilities.** Our competitions were adapted for students who identified as having a disability and required accommodations. We also pioneered the addition of sensory-mapping for our competition areas, which was adopted as a practice at the Skills Canada National Competition.



Try-A-Trade® Take-Out and its unique approach to hands-on career exploration continued to be one of our most popular offerings. Many skill areas reached max capacity within hours of registration opening. Now offered in both English and French, with varying trades & technology options, it's estimated that the program has reached 9,000+ students throughout the year.



This year, we introduced four new Skilled Futures Virtual Experiences: In Trades, Energy, and Oceans to our website. To date, SCNS offers 16 unique virtual career exploration experiences. The videos have received over 2000+ views. Additionally, in partnership with WISE Atlantic and Veith House, we hosted an inperson Skilled Futures in Technology multi-workshop series for women throughout the summer.



In May of 2022, we welcomed the return of our annual Career Showcase, this time as a stand-alone event separate from competitions. Hosted at Centre 200 in Sydney, approximately 400 students from high schools across the Cape Breton region attended. The event offered a wide range of career exhibits, from various industry sectors, and each exhibitor offered hands-on activities designed to engage students.



### COMPETITIONS

In total, 236 Nova Scotian students and apprentices registered to compete at the 2022 Nova Scotia Skills Competition, nearly double the previous year. In-person events were held at the UA Local 56, NSCC Kingstec Campus, NSCC Strait Area Campus, NSCC Akerley Campus, NSCC Ivany Campus, and the Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia, while many of our technology and employability skill events were hosted online.

Team Nova Scotia had one of its most successful outings to-date at the Skills Canada National Competition in Vancouver. With 23 post-secondary team members competing in-person, and 12 secondary competitors competing virtually from home, Team Nova Scotia earned a staggering 20 medals (five gold, seven silver, and eight bronze) nationally.

Skills

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SPECIAL EVENTS



Working in partnership with the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency and the RBC Foundation, SCNS launched a new pilot program designed to engage youth from Black, Indigenous, and underrepresented communities in skilled career exploration through a series of workshops, led by diverse industry professionals. Skills After School launched in February of 2022 and ran two cohorts hosted by the East Preston Family Resource Centre and Hope Blooms.

Throughout the summer months SCNS expanded its community outreach even further, working with Digital Nova Scotia's Digital Discovery Camps, Halifax Public Libraries, and various community centres in the Halifax Regional Municipality to facilitate 20+ summer workshops reaching 280 students.

Continuing its momentum from the previous year, SCNS once again partnered with the Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey School Board, the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency, and the Nova Scotia Construction Sector Council to deliver the second annual Indigenous Carpentry Camp. SCNS also took part in the APTEC Information Session in Truro, and helped to facilitate the annual Indigenous Skilled Trades Fair.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Throughout the year our content was displayed over **375,000** times throughout our social media platforms. We delivered higher volumes of content than ever, **doubling our annual content created** for the second year in a row, leading to an overall increase of 24.5% in followers.









Total Engagements:

Total Followers: 909 Total Engagements: 1548

#### **THANK YOU! SKILLS CANADA – NOVA SCOTIA PARTNERS**



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