



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Explore the Trades Event Introduces Students to Local Skilled Trades Career Opportunities

Orillia, ON – For the third consecutive year the Orillia Manufacturers' Association (OMA) and Orillia District Construction Association (ODCA) are teaming up with the City of Orillia Economic Development Office, Township of Oro-Medonte and Georgian College to host Explore the Trades, a hands-on tradeshow style experience that will give local students a look at the array of local skilled trades careers available in the region.

More than 20 local companies will be providing the next generation of prospective tradespeople with a look at the types of careers that are available locally in a variety of skilled trades professions on Tuesday, September 27th at Patrick Fogarty Catholic Secondary School. Interested parents and members of the public also invited to visit the event from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"This event is a great opportunity not only for the students who attend the event, but for the companies that take part as well," said Justin Rich, owner of Orillia Tool and CNC Inc., who bought the company after first starting with the organization as a high school co-op student taking part in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

"The students get to discover some of the exciting careers they can find right here in the Orillia area," added Rich, "and the businesses taking part get to connect with the next generation of potential employees. It's the perfect event to begin addressing the issue of finding local, skilled tradespeople that many companies are currently faced with."

Companies involved in construction, manufacturing, automotive skills, culinary, hairstyling, and more will be set up at the event with interactive opportunities for students to discover local career options. Employers looking for apprentices or part-time assistance also have an opportunity to connect with interested students who are currently enrolled in co-op programs at local high schools.

For more information about the 3rd Annual Explore the Trades event, contact Stephanie Stanton of the OMA at (705) 323-6424 or Katharine Warwick of the ODCA at (705) 326-1844.

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