

YOUTH SAFE NB SÉCURITÉ JEUNESSE NB

High school students showcase talents at annual Skills Canada competition

The province's next generation of workers put their skills to the test at this year's Skills Canada New Brunswick competition, held April 12 at Miramichi Valley High School and James M. Hill Memorial High School in Miramichi.

Armed with tools of the trade, 86 students put in a full day's work in their respective fields, which included carpentry, cooking, welding, architecture design, TV and video production, electrical installations, and workplace safety.

Participants entered the latter with three specific tasks in mind:

- Theory quiz on occupational health and safety.
- A hazard assessment where they were required to identify hazards found in posters of workplaces.
- A safety presentation.

WorkSafeNB's youth programs co-ordinator, Jessica Brodie, said the competition is a great way to encourage youth to learn more about occupational health and safety and possible career paths.

"We were encouraged by the increase in the number of participants in this year's workplace safety competition. Our plan is to keep looking for ways to promote the event so that even more high school students are made aware of this great opportunity," she said.

And a great opportunity it is. First place winners from each category go on to compete in Skills Canada's National Competition on June 4 in Toronto. The medal winners for Skills Canada NB's 2014 Workplace Safety Competition are:

Gold: Josée Basque, Polyvalente W.-A.-Losier, Tracadie-Sheila

Silver: Chelsea Harris, Oromocto High School, Oromocto

Bronze: Katelynn Flynn, St. Malachy's Memorial High School, Saint John

Josée will represent New Brunswick at the national competition in Toronto and will compete against students across the country. Bring home the gold, Josée, and congratulations to all participants.

