

Chinook's Edge high school students excel at regional Skills Canada competition



Twelve Chinook's Edge students, who are enrolled in CTS courses at their schools, were supported by their teachers to compete recently at the notable [Skills Canada](#) regional competition, and two have made it to the provincial level. Johan Eriksson, Grade 10 student at Didsbury High School, took first place in Construction and will be heading to provincials in Edmonton on May 3 & 4. He's pictured at left with the medal he won for the picnic table he built!

"Skills Alberta and Skills Canada provide rich opportunities for students to participate in a skilled trade competition. They get to demonstrate their enthusiasm and test their skills against other students in the province. All my students are dedicated to doing a great job and it's so nice to see their sense of satisfaction with a job well done," said Scott Etienne, Didsbury High CTS teacher.

Along with Didsbury High, students competed from H.J. Cody High School in Sylvan Lake and Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs. The three medal winners, all in the Construction competition, from Chinook's Edge are pictured at right: Davin Garrow (bronze, Gr 11) and Travis Lorenz (silver, Gr 11) both from H.J. Cody; and Johan Eriksson (gold) from Didsbury High. Gold and Silver medalists are eligible to move on to provincials.

"Competing in Skills awards the student for their excellence, attention to detail and their passion to hone their craft. I'm proud of my students for accepting the challenge to compete with other students in Central Alberta. I'm especially proud that all of them developed their problem solving skills and took this opportunity to compete with other future tradespeople - these memories will last forever and prepare them for the future," said Randall Prediger, H.J. Cody School CTS teacher.



Cameron Mantai, Gr 10 at Hugh Sutherland, competed in Baking.

"This is an amazing opportunity for students. They work hard in my class in the weeks leading up to the competition to hone their skills, which they will take forward to be proficient in their future careers. They get to see what it's like to live a day in the life of a journeyman, learn from their peers and instructors, see what the industry standard is for equipment, and see the expectation for a professional in that trade. I hope they take away a fire in their bellies, a passion for using their hands, and a pride in their work," said Tim Taylor, Hugh Sutherland Industrial Arts teacher.

Other Chinook's Edge students who competed include: Mayrin Parra Pena (Construction, Gr 11 Didsbury High); Matthew Hodge (Welding, Gr 11 Didsbury High), and H.J. Cody School students Aaron Melnychuck and Colton Brand (Welding).



Gr 11 Hugh Sutherland students Liam Churchill, Dawson Smith, Nathan Parker and Skyla Grenier competed in Construction.

This week's Staff Health & Wellness profile is: [Breanne Watt](#), C.P. Blakely Elementary School