

Chinook's Edge students earn top honors at provincial Skills competition

Chinook's Edge School Division congratulates Johan Eriksson, a Grade 10 Didsbury High School student who received a silver medal, and Travis Lorenz, a Grade 11 student from École H.J. Cody High School, who received a bronze medal, at the Alberta Skills Canada competition in Edmonton May 3-4, 2023.



Johan Eriksson (left). Davin Garrow and Travis Lorenz (right). All three competed at the provincial Skills Canada competition in construction

Also, the division congratulates Davin Garrow, a Grade 11 student from École H.J. Cody High School for his participation as well. All three students competed in the construction category, and qualified for provincials through a regional event held several weeks ago.

Eriksson said, *"This was such a great learning experience, and I hope to be back next year!"*

Scott Etienne, Career and Technology Studies (CTS) teacher, Didsbury High School, said, *"Johan is only in Grade 10 and this well earned provincial silver medal will give him impetus to pursue his goals in school and for the rest of his life."*

Lorenz said, *"It was a lot of fun. I liked the experience and I want to try welding next year."* Lorenz said the Skills Canada experience has helped him know that a career in the trades is a good choice for his future.

Garrow said, *"It was a fun competition. The size of it was surprising. There were so many people, groups and categories."* Garrow said the event also helped him realize that he would like to learn more about welding. *"Skills Canada and my classes at school have helped me consider my options and what I want for a career."*

"I am so proud of these students and for putting themselves out there," said Randy Prediger, CTS teacher at École H.J. Cody. *"This experience is valuable because it is eye opening to students. They can see the value of what they are learning at school."*

Chinook's Edge students attend Skills Canada to observe and learn



Chinook's Edge students attending the Skills Canada event in Edmonton May 3-4, 2023

The [Skills Canada competition](#) was also a great experience for 174 Chinook's Edge students from five CESD schools who also attended.

The students went to observe students from around the province competing in dozens of different categories of trades, and participating in specific events such as "Girls Exploring Trades and Technologies".



"We were thrilled to send so many students to Edmonton this year to compete or experience the skilled trades and technology event," said Jackie Taylor, Executive Director of the Community Learning Campus. *"The more students gain exposure to a variety of career pathways, the more successful they will be in their career selection and transition following high school graduation."*

"Also, we see students find greater meaning in high school programming and have higher levels of achievement when they begin to make their career connections ahead of Grade 12. Our CESD goal is to provide many career experience opportunities to students across their K to 12 education that will best prepare them for successful transitions to the world of career training," said Taylor.



Chinook's Edge bus drivers receive honours at annual Central Alberta Bus Road-éo

Chinook's Edge School Division is pleased to share that three of the division's school bus drivers garnered all three top spots at the annual Central Alberta Bus Road-éo on May 6, 2023.

Kelly Frere placed first, Melissa Brodeur was second, and Arnold Begeman finished third at the event held at Notre Dame High School in Red Deer.

The event involves drivers going through a series of driving exercises meant to increase their skill as drivers, and therefore safety for students.

There were 25 drivers participating from Chinook's Edge, Red Deer Catholic Regional School Division, Wolf Creek Public Schools and Prairie Bus Lines. Six drivers from Chinook's Edge participated.

Frere, Brodeur and Begeman will now move on to provincial competition at Nisku on June 3, 2023.



Top Bus Road-éo finishers from CESD (left to right) Arnold Begeman (3rd), Kelly Frere (1st), Melissa Brodeur (2nd)



The Chinook's Edge contingent at the Bus Road-éo on May 6, 2023