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PGCC Did you know – Women in Trades
September 2016 Issue

Did you know…More and more women are enrolling in trades training in 'non-traditional' Red Seal trades?

Currently, there are over 4,200 female apprentices registered with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) in 72 different trades across B.C., and the number is growing. Women are becoming more aware of the opportunities in trades careers and are taking a chance in enrolling in training for 'non-traditional' Red Seal trades such as, Welder, Plumber, and Electricians. For example, since 2008, there has been a 98% increase in the number of female Welder apprentices!

So what's driving the increase in interest? Women are realizing the diversity and range of career opportunities in trades and the financial gains of obtaining their Red Seal certification. There is also a shift in mindset happening in many workplaces, where women are more welcomed and respected by their peers and employers. For some, trades is their second career. Women in trades report high levels of job satisfaction and increased confidence. Between this and the ability to earn a good wage while training, it is no wonder more women are looking at trades career options.

As a response to the growing interest, ITA has created resources and support to ensure women are successful in their apprenticeship journey towards certification. These efforts align with the goals and recommendations made in the *B.C.'s Skills for Jobs Blueprint* and the *McDonald Report*.

In addition to ITA's 15 Apprenticeship Advisors, seven of whom are women, resources such as the *Best Practices Guide for employers: Leveling the Field* and ITA's Women in Trades Training Facebook page offer support and information on breaking down barriers to entry into trades careers and how to achieve successful apprenticeships.

Watch the success story of Kyana Shauer, who is defying stereotypes and conquering the world of Carpentry.
www.youtube.com/watch?v=GubOLSNKAzI&index=2&list=PLb4F9bHWtedT4Ci-jmtXofSDpf5i3RcbE

Resources:
ITA Women in Trades Training Facebook: www.facebook.com/womenintrades
Women in Trades Training website: www.itabc.ca/women-trades/overview
Trades Programs: www.itabc.ca/discover-apprenticeship-programs/search-programs

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Leveling the Field – A Best Practices Guide to Employing Women in the Trades: www.itabc.ca/managing-apprentices/best-practices-guides

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