



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SKILLED TRADES EXPO: ENGAGE. INFORM.CONNECT

**Toronto, ON,** To support this growing employment sector in Canada, Skills for Change will host the 3rd Annual Skilled Trades Expo: Engage, Inform and Connect, attracting employers, training providers, job seekers, students and professionals from the sector, on **24 November, 2016** at **Metro Hall (Rotunda) – 55 John Street.**

With over 30 exhibitors in attendance to provide training advice and job opportunities, and live demos from some of Canada's most popular trades, the Trades Expo is set to engage internationally trained trades professionals in Ontario and those looking at trades as a future career option. The impending shortage of skilled trades is one the biggest challenges Canada faces today. The Expo will support the growing interest in the sector and will engage over 500 attendees as we highlight the skilled trades as the driving force of the Canadian economy.

Attendees will network with employers, unions, training providers and uncover job opportunities, explore careers, and learn about skills upgrading and training in skilled trades sectors, including construction, motive power, industrial, and service.

The Skills for Change Trades Win Support Program is the only Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration funded bridging program for internationally trained tradespersons in Ontario. This program provides courses (in partnership with Humber and Stanford Colleges) that help skilled trades people become licensed and job ready to find work in Ontario. The program bridges the gap for internationally trained HVAC mechanics, millwrights, plumbers, construction/maintenance electricians and industrial electricians who require Canadian technical training and licensing to find work. Skills for Change provides employment preparation training with trade-specific technical and workplace language, job search strategies and labour market information. Technical training is delivered by the college partners and covers Canadian codes and standards, Certificate of Qualification exam preparation and practical skills upgrading.

#### **About Skills for Change**

For over 34 years Skills for Change has supported the integration and well-being of immigrants and refugees in Canada. Skills for Change provides learning and training opportunities for immigrants and refugees, to access and fully participate in the workplace and wider community. As the needs of immigrants continues to change and evolve, so has Skills for Change enhanced programs and initiatives. Skills for Change's core business includes employment, trades, skills development and training, settlement services, mentorship, and more recently, a focus on youth, women and seniors programming. For more information on us please visit [www.skillsforchange.org](http://www.skillsforchange.org).

**Twitter: @SkillsforChange**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SkillsforChange/>**

For more information on the event or for press participation inquiries please contact Sampada Kukade, Outreach, Events & Program Marketing Manager at Skills for Change at

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Hashtag for Expo: #SfCTradesExpo16