



2008-09-23

Skills Canada BC  
3777 Kingsway  
Burnaby, BC

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
September 23, 2008

### GRANTS ANNOUNCED TO INCREASE TRADES IN BC SCHOOLS

**Burnaby** – Over \$400,000 in grants will increase capacity for BC schools to deliver trades training, Skills Canada BC Executive Director Adam Thorvaldson announced today.

The funding is the fourth instalment of a \$3-million program, made possible by BC's Ministry of Education, to help schools purchase new trades-training equipment. Schools receiving the grants have demonstrated commitment to developing or increasing capacity of an Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training (ACE IT) program.

ACE IT is an industry training initiative for B.C. high school students, and a partnership of industry, and BC schools and post-secondary institutions. Through ACE IT programs, students earn credit toward both high school graduation and completion of an apprenticeship or an industry training program and often gain employment in a related trade.

“These funds will provide equipment key to the delivery of ACE IT programs and make a significant difference in classrooms across the province.” said Thorvaldson. “The new equipment will help school districts increase participation and achieve excellence in their trades and technology programs.”

Schools that want to apply for the fourth instalment for the Equipment Grant Program must submit an application to Skills Canada BC no later than December 19, 2008.

Skills Canada BC is a non-profit organization and registered charity composed of volunteers representing - industry, labour, education and government dedicated to promoting and enhancing the perceived value of professional technical and trade skills among British Columbia's youth.

For more information on the Equipment Grant Program please visit our website at:  
[www.skillscanada.bc.ca](http://www.skillscanada.bc.ca)

**Contact:**

Vincent Chou – Communication Coordinator  
Skills Canada BC  
604.432.4229  
[bc@skillscanada.com](mailto:bc@skillscanada.com)