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Young women gathering to explore trades and technology at career fair

WHITEHORSE—Young women from across the territory are getting a hands-on introduction to careers in trades and technology today at a career fair at Yukon College in Whitehorse.

The 11th annual Young Women Exploring Trades Career Fair will see 85 Grade 8 students from Mayo, Carmacks, Haines Junction and Whitehorse complete projects in seven different fields: carpentry, auto maintenance, multimedia, culinary arts, electrical, plumbing and blueprint reading.

"We want to encourage women to enter the trades and technology sector," Education Minister Scott Kent said. "I hope these young women embrace this experience and consider the possibilities that apprenticeship and trades training can offer upon completion of high school."

"The Young Women Exploring Trades Career Fair is for many young women their first opportunity to experience what a career in the trades might look like," Yukon Women in Trades and Technology (YWITT) executive director Kim Solonick said. "The hands-on nature of these workshops creates a positive message about their options for a future in the trades and inspires young women to learn that they too can do these great jobs."

The career fair has proven extremely popular over the past 11 years. It is organized by YWITT, an organization that instructs and promotes the trades to women of all ages, in partnership with the Department of Education, Women's Directorate, Yukon Mine Training Association, Yukon Energy Corporation, the Yukon Employees' Union and Yukon College.

Visit Young Women Exploring Trades Career Fair for more information about the career fair.

For more information about apprenticeship and trades programming for Yukon women, visit the Department of Education <u>website</u>.

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