



JASON TAYLOR



WorldSkills Canada Expert

TRADE: Electrical Installations

COMPETITOR: Keegan Sturge

HOMETOWN: Courtenay, BC

What made you want to represent Canada in your trade at the WorldSkills level as Canada's Expert?

"Initially, my employer encouraged me to apply. As this is such a significant job, I was reluctant because I thought there must be many more experienced people wishing to take this on. What made me want this was simple: I love to advocate and promote future potential for our youth. I believe skilled trades are an underutilized and underappreciated career avenue we need to promote greater awareness. I have also worked with Hockey Canada and many other volunteer positions in the past, and I have loved the feeling of helping our youth find their confidence and place."

Tell us a little about your Skills experience that led you to becoming an Expert.

"I am a passionate RSE-skilled trades advocate, educator, and aspiring youth mentor. As an RSE electrician, I am proud of my journey, and I am passionate about helping others find theirs. I have taught apprenticeship programming, foundational level training, and outreach into K-12 classrooms for many years. I also work with a not-for-profit training society that helps promote trades careers. Additionally, I have studied education, and the opportunity to apply the concepts in reality was unbelievable."

What do you think sets Canada apart in your trade?

"I think Canada should be proud of our skilled trades (and many other things); however, my thoughts are more that we are humble in how we interact with others. This is a significant opportunity to step onto the world stage and demonstrate our capabilities and hopefully encourage others to follow. I also believe we train quality electricians, and not just installers. I am proud of the critical thinking skills we promote."

What are you most looking forward to experiencing in Shanghai, China?

"Honestly, as much as I love the competition, I am looking forward to the international co-operation and interactions most. The cultural exchanges and awareness are eye-opening and incredibly beneficial. I'm also excited for the food."