



Team Canada Trainer

TRADE: Automobile Technology

INSTITUTE: SAIT

COMPETITOR: Carter Kokot **HOMETOWN:** Calgary, AB

What was the first thing that went through your mind when you realized your competitor made Team Canada?

"I was incredibly proud. It's hard to put into words, just a huge sense of excitement for Carter and a real appreciation for how much work went into getting to that level. Right away, I started thinking about how we could prepare for the next stage and represent Canada well on the world stage."

What made you want to train competitors for Skills competitions?

"I've always believed in the power of applied learning, and Skills competitions are an ideal environment to foster that. Training competitors allows me to support the development of not just technical excellence, but also critical thinking, problem-solving, and professionalism. As someone who recently completed a master's in education, I'm passionate about lifelong learning, and this work aligns perfectly with that."

What do you think sets your competitor apart from the others in their skill area?

"Carter's calm mindset under pressure and deep understanding of automotive systems really stand out. He doesn't just follow instructions; he know why he's doing something and can adapt quickly when things don't go as planned. That level of critical thinking and consistency is rare."

What are you most excited to experience in Shanghai, China?

"I'm excited to see the level of competition from around the world and to learn from other trainers and experts. Being surrounded by so much talent and innovation is always inspiring. Plus, getting to experience the culture, food, and energy of Shanghai will be an incredible opportunity."