



RYAN GILLIS



Team Canada Trainer

TRADE: Aerospace Technology

EMPLOYER: Stars Ambulance

COMPETITOR: Benjamin Jamison

HOMETOWN: Leduc, Alberta

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

"The first thought that ran through my mind was, 'Wow, I'm actually going to China!' It was a mix of excitement and pride knowing that all of the hard work paid off and that Ben would have the chance to showcase his skills on a world stage."

What made you want to train competitors for Skills competitions?

"I've been involved with the Skills program for years, first as an apprentice competitor myself and now as an expert. Over time, I've seen the incredible potential the program has to grow both individuals and the trades as a whole. Becoming a trainer felt like a natural step — a way to give back, help build the program, and support the next generation of skilled professionals."

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

"Mental toughness and focus. Those qualities are what carry you through high-pressure situations, and my competitor has consistently shown the ability to stay sharp and composed when it matters most."

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

"I'm most excited for the competition itself, seeing everything come together on such a massive scale and experiencing the atmosphere of WorldSkills as a whole. Being part of that energy, in a new country and culture, is going to be unforgettable."