

Skills Ontario Alumni Association

Call for Expressions of Interest: President of the Alumni Association

Skills Ontario is Canada's largest and most successful organization that promotes skilled trades and technologies to young people in elementary school, secondary school, and beyond. The Skills Ontario Alumni Association (SOAA) brings together former competitors and participants from across every competition area, education stage, and language community to give back to the next generation and to champion the trades and technologies that shaped them. For more information on Skills Ontario, please visit our web page: www.skillsontario.com

In 2026, the Skills Ontario Alumni Association is seeking its next President. This is a volunteer leadership position with no remuneration. The President serves as the principal volunteer leader and public representative of the alumni community, and also serves as Ontario's representative on the Skills Canada National Alumni Committee.

About the Role

The President champions the interests of alumni, acts as a bridge between alumni and the Skills Ontario organization, and represents the alumni community to government, industry, and education stakeholders. Key responsibilities include:

- Lead and represent the Skills Ontario alumni community, serving alumni from all competition areas, education stages, and language communities.
- Serve as a public-facing ambassador at Skills Ontario events, including major ceremonies and networking functions, often in a high-visibility, broadcast, or stage setting.
- Act as a liaison to multiple stakeholder groups: government partners, industry partners, the Board of Directors, and the executive team.
- Represent Ontario alumni on the Skills Canada National Alumni Committee and contribute to national alumni strategy.
- Engage and mentor younger participants, including minors, in a manner that is safe, appropriate, and consistent with the organization's policies.
- Support continuity of alumni initiatives and strategic projects, working alongside the CEO and staff.

This is a volunteer position. The time commitment varies seasonally and peaks around the annual competition and major events, and the role requires availability for signature events and for national leadership training (typically held mid-year).

What We Are Looking For

We are looking for a President who represents alumni well and who can work effectively with very different audiences. Candidates must be an alumnus or alumna of Skills Ontario. Special emphasis will be placed on the following:

- **Public speaking & presence:** demonstrated comfort and skill speaking to large audiences, on stage, and in broadcast or livestreamed settings.

- **Stakeholder versatility:** the ability to engage effectively with very different audiences, including government, industry, board and executive, educators, and young people.
- **Breadth across audiences:** the ability to speak with alumni and competitors across competition areas, and to both secondary and post-secondary participants.
- **Judgment & safety with minors:** sound judgment and appropriate conduct when engaging participants under 18, with familiarity with safeguarding expectations.
- **Leadership & continuity:** a track record of carrying initiatives forward and working constructively with staff and volunteers.

Bilingualism (English/French) is considered a strong asset, as it enables the President to represent and serve both Franco-Ontarian and Anglophone alumni in both official languages. A current connection to the trades or technologies Skills Ontario represents is also considered an asset.

The Selection Process

The selection will be led by a selection committee, comprising the outgoing President of the Alumni, the CEO of Skills Ontario and administered by the CEO of Skills Ontario.

Step 1: Applicants will submit an expression of interest letter (max two pages), accompanied by a resume. The application period opens on **Tuesday, July 28th, 2026**, and closes on **Sunday, August 16th, 2026**.

Step 2: The selection committee will review expressions of interest and short-list three to five finalists in the first part of the week of **August 17th, 2026**.

Step 3: Short-listed finalists will be invited to an interview with the selection committee, to take place **the week of August 24th, 2026**. (Anticipated first ½ of the week).

Step 4: The successful candidate will be confirmed as incoming President by the weekend of **August 29th to 30th, 2026**, and introduced to Skills Canada by the **second part of the week of September 7th, 2026**.

Application Requirements

The **expression of interest letter** should be addressed to the Selection Committee and answer the following:

- 1 Why do you want to serve as President of the Skills Ontario Alumni Association?
- 2 What is your experience with Skills Ontario as an alumnus or alumna?
- 3 What other leadership positions, private sector and/or not-for-profit, have you held relevant to this role?
- 4 What specific competencies and skills would you bring to the role, such as public speaking, stakeholder engagement, or bilingual representation?
- 5 How would you represent and serve alumni across all competition areas, education stages, and both language communities?
- 6 Describe at least one new idea, opportunity, or initiative you would bring to the alumni community, for discussion.

Please also provide **two references**, including name, title, email, and phone contact information.

Please submit your application to: gloro@skillsontario.com

[Will be subject to background check](#)