



# From SkillsCanada to WorldSkills, Québec

## School Impact Story: Cegep Limoilou

Skills/Compétences Canada is a national, not-for-profit organization that works with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to promote rewarding skilled trades and technology careers among Canadian youth.



**A Cisco Networking Academy student at Cegep Limoilou, Quebec City, won the IT/PC networking competition at SkillsCanada, and will compete at WorldSkills London in 2011.**

Skills/Compétences Canada is a national, not-for-profit organization that works with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to promote skilled trades and technology careers among Canadian youth. Its unique private and public partnerships work toward securing Canada's future skilled labour needs, while helping young people discover rewarding careers.

Guillaume Parent, a student at Cegep Limoilou in Quebec City, Quebec, won the gold medal for the intense two-day IT PC Network Support (#39) contest within SkillsCanada. He was then selected to represent Canada in London at the 41st annual WorldSkills International competition in 2011. Guillaume will compete as a member of Team Canada.

"SkillsCanada is a great way to prove what you have learned in school," says Guillaume. "Definitely check it out. And also, Cisco Networking Academy offers very good training and material for all things related to networking, at high school, college and university levels."

Every two years, hundreds of young people from 53 member countries compete in the prestigious WorldSkills competition. Member countries include: Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Canada, Australia, Brazil, the U.S. and many others. Considered "the best of the best," these contestants compete for four days in 45 occupational skill areas, including ICT, manufacturing, transportation, construction and services.

Participants compete before the public in contests that are run and judged by industry representatives using demanding international standards. Many competitor countries invest time and money to prepare their teams for WorldSkills.



This year in London, more than 1,000 competitors will test their skills. Approximately 5000 international experts, delegates and judges will gather from around the world, and 3,000 volunteers will be recruited to assist in the event. A total of 150,000 student and public spectators will attend.

Over its 60-year history, WorldSkills International (formerly known as the "Skill Olympics" ) has come to symbolize the pinnacle of excellence in professional training.

It provides a unique means of exchange and comparison of world-class competency standards in the industrial trades and service sectors of the global economy.

The continued growth of WorldSkills attests to the fact that traditional trade and craft skills, along with newer technology multi-skilled occupations, make an essential contribution to economic and social well being everywhere.

Canada's previous WorldSkills results include:

- WorldSkills 2009 Calgary – Matthew Chadder, Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT), Alberta, placed in the middle
- WorldSkills 2007 Japan – Tommy Boucher, Cegep de Limoilou, Quebec, placed fourth
- WorldSkills 2005 Helsinki – Menno Vanderlist, SAIT, Alberta, won a silver medal

See Guillaume's video here:

[www.cisco.com/web/learning/netacad/us-can/impact.html#~Videos](http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/netacad/us-can/impact.html#~Videos)