



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

News Release

February 15, 2024

Former Student Gives Back to Carpentry Program at Mount Royal Collegiate

The High School Carpentry Apprenticeship Program (HCAP), offered at Mount Royal Collegiate, has inspired many students to enter the trades. Now Kyle MacDonald, a former student of HCAP, is giving back to the same program that gave him his start.

HCAP is a unique program that gives students in grades 11 and 12 the opportunity to learn and experience all aspects of the residential house construction industry by building a ready to move (RTM) home. Students earn five credits while they learn a range of skills, from framing and scaffolding to masonry, exterior and interior finishing, cabinetry, electrical wiring, plumbing, painting, flooring and more. Students also learn the expectations of future employers while earning 340 apprenticeship hours through HCAP and 300 hours in any trade from the Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship (SYA) program.

“This program benefited me in ways I never thought possible,” said Kyle MacDonald, partner at CandorBuild Construction Corporation. “It definitely gave me a head start in the carpentry trade, set me on a trajectory to obtain my Red Seal at age 21 and start a successful construction business by age 27.”

MacDonald wanted to give back to the program that inspired him. That’s why he and CandorBuild Construction are giving this year’s students tools and tool belts.

“I firmly believe this program set me up for success,” said MacDonald. “On behalf of everyone at CandorBuild, we are thrilled to be able to do the same for these students because we believe that, with construction, anything is possible.”

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the program. Saskatoon Public Schools’ HCAP teacher Don McDonald is proud of what HCAP has been able to offer students. “Between the hands-on learning opportunities and apprenticeship hours they accumulate, these students are given an incredible foundation for exploring career options in the trades,” said McDonald. “We’re very grateful for the support and sponsorship of businesses in the trade industry, like CandorBuild, for helping youth in our community reach their future goals.”

Saskatoon Public Schools is the largest school division in Saskatchewan with more than 28,000 students and upwards of 3,300 professional and support staff in 47 elementary schools, 10 secondary schools, Whitecap Dakota partnership school and one associate school.

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