



# News Release

## **RDCRS students make their marks at Skills Provincials Alberta, securing medals amid personal growth**

***For immediate release – May 14, 2024***

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is proud to announce that three of its high school students put in medal-winning performances at the 2024 Provincial Skills Canada Competition (Secondary) held at the Edmonton Expo Centre last week.

Sophie Evanochko, a grade 12 student at Rocky Mountain House's St. Dominic Catholic High School; Mei Takai, a grade 11 international student from École Secondaire Notre Dame High School; and Dane Schmidt, a grade 11 student from St. Joseph High School, returned home from the May 8-9 competition with valuable experience and some hardware draped around their necks.

Dane picked up a silver in Welding, while Sophie and Mei brought home bronze medals - in Culinary Arts and Hairstyling - Junior.

École Secondaire Notre Dame High School was also represented at Skills Alberta by grade 12 student Leya Tony in Public Speaking and grade 10 student Jensen Tang in Hairstyling - Intermediate. St. Dominic Catholic High School was also represented by grade 12 student Levi Gerdung in Cabinet Making.

"Our students distinguished themselves by finishing on the podium at the 2024 Provincial Skills Canada Competition while demonstrating the high calibre of our training programs," said Tracey Millar, Off-Campus Programs Lead Teacher. "This achievement not only reflects their hard work and dedication but also highlights the effectiveness of our hands-on approach to education in fostering real-world skills and confidence in competitive environments."

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“I want to extend heartfelt congratulations to all our students who competed with such determination and professionalism,” added Murray Hollman, RDCRS Board Chair. “Their commitment to excellence and eagerness to challenge themselves are truly commendable, and they are all winners in advancing their skills and experience at such a prestigious event.”

*Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 10,650 students in 21 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds. It also supports the learning of over 850 students in a Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and within the means of the Division.*

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