



Melissa Young

**Chief Executive Officer and Registrar
Skilled Trades Ontario
Toronto, Ontario**

Melissa Young is the chief executive officer and registrar for Skilled Trades Ontario. She is a results-oriented, bilingual change leader who has over 20 years of experience in workforce development and the skilled trades. Young's work focuses on promoting the trades; harmonizing apprenticeships; developing partnerships with First Nations communities, Indigenous groups, labour and management; and influencing the national landscape for apprenticeship. Prior to leading Skilled Trades Ontario, she was the executive director of the National Electrical Trade Council (NETCO), an alliance of the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers that promotes national Red Seal standards and safety in electrical skills training. Between 2000 and 2009, Young was the executive director of the Carpenters Training Centre of New Brunswick, where under her leadership, the training institute grew more than tenfold. She has served as past chair of the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship's Communication and Promotion Committee and as a board member of the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum. Young was also appointed to the Government of Ontario's Skilled Trades Panel, which consulted extensively and produced a report that informed the development of the Building Opportunities in the Skilled Trades Act, 2021—the landmark legislation that modernized Ontario's skilled trades and apprenticeship system.