

ACADEMIC INSTITUTION	University of Regina	PROJECT NAME	Skills to Bills
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NEED AND AUDIENCE

- The Skills to Bills project addresses the lack of financial literacy training available for skills professionals. We strive to empower those entering the trades industry to start their career with a strong financial foundation they can rely on to make educated financial decisions.
- We targeted skills training programs because financial literacy is often overlooked in these programs leaving trades professionals entering the industry at an elevated risk to make poor financial decisions. This is especially true as many become self employed and small business owners, giving them increased financial and legal responsibilities.

ACTION TAKEN

- We conducted personal finances and taxes related research, and repackaged this information to be relevant to trades professionals. We hosted 3 presentations over the course of 3 days alongside the Canada Revenue Agency to bring financial literacy to our trades audience. Our section focused on debt, savings, taxable income, business structure, ethics, sustainability, and self-employment. We provided students with consumable demonstrations and examples to ensure content was absorbed and lessons were applicable.

IMPACT

- We used pre-event surveys to set a baseline of knowledge and issued surveys following the presentations. Students' understanding improved by 20% across the surveyed metrics of personal budgeting, debt and interest, business development awareness, and taxes.
- Our project reached 145 viewers over 3 days of presentations. As a result, Delmar College and Red Deer Polytechnic both want to add our lecture to their syllabus, and stakeholders at the CRA wish to scale the project nation-wide. We hope that our project will grow to become the main financial literacy resource for trades professionals in Canada.

STANDARD METRICS				
(These metrics are related only to the project presented and represent work done since March 1, 2021)				
Number of people educated on financial literacy	145	Number of people whose net worth has increased through increased savings or reduced debt		
Of the total number of people educated on financial literacy, how many were small business owners?		Dollar value of change in net worth in CAD \$		
PROJECT START DATE	December 2021		IS THIS PROJECT WHOLLY-OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE TEAM?	Yes