

# Where are they now?

## Trade Training Works!

School District 63 career counsellor Stu Rhodes regularly shares success stories of trade program students with Seaside's readers. This month, he checks in with a few of them. In Stu's words:

"Every candidate interviewed described how continual learning, new challenges, and mentoring others were among the things they loved most about their jobs. The chance to explore meaningful curriculum that was important to them has motivated them to unprecedented levels of success. Saanich School District extends huge congratulations to these and other students finding success in the trades. We encourage other students to explore career and education pathways that include apprenticeship training."

For more information call Stu Rhodes at 250-415-9211.

Katrina Archibald, Professional Cook

We first heard from Katrina Archibald in March of 2012. She had completed her Level One Professional Cook training and won her way to the Skills Canada National Competition.

When I caught up with Katrina she told me she finished her apprenticeship and is now working as a Red Seal Chef at the Sidney Pier Hotel & Spa. In her role there, she now mentors and manages several junior apprentices and other kitchen staff while still being mentored herself by head chef, Jena Stewart. "It's still all about the learning," Katrina says. "I do lots of research and I get to create my own dishes and recipes. One of my favourite things is trading recipes." To young people in general, she advises them to take initiative – "Get a hold of the reins!" To aspiring chefs she says: "Bring new ideas to the table!"



Myles Harris, Carpenter

When we featured Myles Harris in December of 2012 he was working for Randy Cunningham as a Second Year Carpentry Apprentice and about to take his skills abroad on a busman's holiday.

Of late, Myles has been working in a supervisory role with H&R Exteriors, but is currently at Camosun finishing up his Level Four technical training. Red Seal for Christmas! Myles describes himself as a mediocre high school student but was proud to tell me he scored 92% in Level Three theory and 100% on the practical. He is highly motivated by the continuous learning (and teaching). "When I successfully complete a high end job for a client, they respect me, and I respect myself." What next for Myles? "Gold Seal baby! You need to have drive if you want to be successful in this trade!"



Jordan Blake, Auto Service Technician

When we featured Jordan Blake in September 2013 he had recently completed the Auto Service Technician Foundation program at Camosun and won Gold at Regional and Provincial Skills competitions.

Today Jordan works as a Red Seal technician for Steve Marshall Ford Lincoln in Nanaimo. He loves the fact that his job offers different challenges each day. He is proud to be a fully certified mechanic now but looks forward to new learning, taking full advantage of the "Ford Factory Training" programs available to him. "You can never know it all, so the learning is constant, and it keeps things interesting," says Jordan. "The

world is my oyster! I'm only 21, making good money, I'm 'in the black,' and I'm fully qualified. I can travel, buy a home, or seek other education if I want. More young people should consider exploring the trades."



Taylor Orr, Hairstylist

In 2013, Taylor Orr's employer, Brett Lacey of Arq Salon, said: "Taylor has all the attributes to create the 'perfect storm for success' in this industry." She was a graduate of the Saanich Hairdressing program at that time.

Apparently Brett was right. Taylor has completed her apprenticeship and still works at Arq. Her passion for learning and creating is still growing. She loves to cater to and care for her clients' individual needs. "Their happiness gives me happiness," she says. She engages in some form of professional development almost every week and is currently participating in an in-house training program where she gets to

mentor junior stylists. Taylor is very thankful for the early start she got in the Saanich teaching salon, Studio 63. "It was amazing! Other students should take advantage of this sort of opportunity!"

