



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OCTE IS MAKING FUTURES BRIGHT THROUGH SPONSORSHIP OF 'MIND OVER METAL'
INDIGENOUS WELDING CAMP**

BRANTFORD, ON- July 15, 2019- As part of an effort to build and sustain a highly skilled Canadian welding workforce, CWB Welding Foundation is introducing youth to the trade through a Mind Over Metal welding camp for Indigenous youth sponsored by the Ontario Council for Technology Education (OCTE), to be held in Brantford, ON. The CWB Welding Foundation hosted its first welding camp in Edmonton in the summer of 2014, and to date has completed nearly 170 camps across Canada. The OCTE sponsored camp is one of 16 Mind Over Metal camps scheduled throughout Canada for 2019, five of which are targeted to Indigenous youth.

“These camps are specifically designed to provide youth with a hands-on introduction to welding and inspire them to pursue a career in welding. Students build confidence and have fun while being supervised by professionals in a safe environment,” said Susan Crowley, executive director, CWB Welding Foundation. “Through experiential learning opportunities like the Mind Over Metal welding camps, their newly sparked interest in welding may lead to further education and employment.”

CWB Welding Foundation Mind Over Metal Camps encourage youth to explore the welding skilled trade through hands-on experiences. The camps bring light to potential career opportunities available in the welding industry and aim to increase the number of individuals in Canada who are entering welding skilled trades training, and work to address the need for skilled welding professionals. The Canadian welding industry provides many great and diverse career opportunities, including welder, welding inspector, in welding research and engineering.

The Brantford camp will be hosted by Six Nations Polytechnic Institution. This camp is fully funded by OCTE and will run for five days starting July 15, 2019. CWB Welding Foundation and OCTE recognize the importance of enhancing the lives of Indigenous youth through funding and

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program opportunities. By building these relationships, CWB Welding Foundation aims to increase awareness of welding career opportunities for youth in Indigenous communities.

“Each year OCTE makes a donation on behalf of the speakers that donate their time running workshops and presenting at our annual OCTE Conferences,” said David Lewis, chair, OCTE. “We are very pleased to partner with the CWB Welding Foundation on this project, as it directly contributes to our goal of strengthening technological education in Ontario. OCTE and the CWB Welding Foundation has a long tradition of working together and we appreciate the amazing work of the CWB Welding Foundation.”

Welding safety, Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW), introduction to weld symbols, and a brief overview of the impact welding has on our daily lives will be part of the camp. Once the theoretical portion is completed, students will have fun putting their practical welding skills to the test while they create their very own projects like cow bells, and a metal rose.

For more information about camp programming for 2019-20, contact the CWB Welding Foundation at mindovermetal@cwbweldingfoundation.org

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CWB Welding Foundation

CWB Welding Foundation (CWBWF) is a national not-for-profit charitable organization, working with partners to support and sustain the need for skilled welding tradespeople and professionals in the workforce and contribute to Canada’s economic prosperity.

CWBWF’s mission is to forge partnerships between industry, education and government that enable Canadians to build great careers in the welding industry, through encouraging awareness, training, the promotion of best practices through a quality educational experience, impartial advocacy and greater accessibility for all those interesting in exploring future opportunities in skilled trades and a welding related career.

CWBWF develops and provides educational programs, capital, equipment, consumables and protective equipment that create and upgrade quality learning environments in school technology programs, educator training, awards, and support applied research in welding and technology education.

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