

# EVENTS & PROGRAMS WITHIN OUR BRAND



## TRADE SHOWS

Eastern Ontario Trade Shows has become a brand for all our large events and trade shows. Since 2014, our organization has been running premium vendor events within the Leeds and Grenville Region. Now the stage is set to expand our reach, we are set to host five to ten shows per year in the active divisions of the Approved Professionals Program. These shows help promote the local businesses and educate non-members about our program, while reconnecting local small business with the consumers whom attend.

## PODCAST

During the 2020 pandemic, founder David Annable, needed to find a new way to promote and advocate for our members and small business. This is how we came to have our very own SME Podcast called "The PRO's talk". This business formatted "off the cuff" podcast interviews business owners of all types and introduces us to the people behind the visions. With the power of the internet our Podcast was able to reach farther than anticipated and was a valuable tool to connect the Program with new business leaders.



## BURSARY PROGRAM

Our members united on the issues with regards to Skilled Trades in 2018. Coming together to start a localized bursary program with Four (4) Local High Schools. Together our members were able to support the Future of Skilled Trades Bursaries which are delivered to graduates pursuing a future in a Skilled Trade. This program continues to expand and grow year over year. In 2024, our program provided Twelve (12) bursaries of \$600 per student. The Ontario Approved Professionals are committed to change and support of our trades.



## SKILLED TRADES

Passionate about teaching our youth about Skilled Trades and Entrepreneurship, founder David Annable, has set a path with the S.T.E.P. (Skilled Trades Education Program) which is set to launch in 2025. Members of the Ontario Approved Professionals Program will be invited to be panel members at local schools providing first-hand information and details about each partner's trade. Our hopes are to help stimulate the interest in Skilled Trades while answering questions for those interested high school students.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

Our annual Christmas Gala celebrates our members alongside their peers. This semi-formal event serves as an exciting evening of networking, food, drinks and special guests.

We always take the time to ensure all our events have a positive and fun element. As each year comes to end, it is always important to look back with colleagues and enjoy what we have learned. Then we set a path forward to conquer the upcoming challenges.

