



Press Release  
November 12, 2024

## Launch of Millwrighting Program Brings Inclusion and Workforce Development to Bruce County



*Photo Credit: Build a Dream*

*Tiverton, Ontario* – In a groundbreaking step to close workforce gaps and promote diversity in skilled trades, Build a Dream, Bruce Power and the Millwright Regional Council launched the latest *Introduction to Millwrighting (ITM)* program this week. With the looming retirement of 700,000 tradespeople across Canada by 2028, the ITM program aims to create a path for local residents, particularly women, Indigenous individuals, racialized groups, and people with disabilities, into the millwrighting trade.

Held at the NII Advance Technology Campus, the launch on Monday brought together leaders in industry, government, and the community to mark the program's commitment to workforce sustainability and inclusivity. Andrea Clarke, Deputy Mayor of Kincardine Municipality, joined representatives from program partners, the Millwright Regional Council, Build a Dream, Bruce Power, Local 1592 (Sarnia), and the Adult Learning Centre, to speak on the importance of local economic growth and workforce development.

This cohort, which is comprised of 50% women, provides participants with intensive hands-on training over six weeks, equipping them with critical skills in math, spatial reasoning, and communication. After four weeks of practical millwright training, graduates will have the chance to join the millwright union and step into roles in Bruce County's booming industries, such as power generation and manufacturing.



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“This initiative embodies our commitment to breaking down barriers and expanding opportunities in skilled trades for underrepresented groups,” said **Nour Hachem, President of Build a Dream.** “Our partnership with the Millwright Regional Council and Bruce Power is critical for building a more diverse workforce, and we are proud to support program participants as they take their first steps into rewarding careers.”

With a graduation ceremony scheduled for December 20, 2024, the ITM program actively works to reshape the skilled trades landscape by bridging the gender gap and adding more women to the millwrighting industry.

“Partnering with Build a Dream to create a millwright program that brings in underrepresented groups is a step toward a stronger, more inclusive workforce,” stated **Mark Beardsworth, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Millwright Regional Council.** “We are committed to giving all participants the tools they need to succeed in their careers and contribute meaningfully to the community.”

This program is also a valuable part of Bruce Power’s commitment to supporting the communities in which it operates. By creating opportunities in Bruce County, Bruce Power is continuing its mission to provide clean, reliable energy and life-saving medical isotopes to Ontario and beyond.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Andrew Bredin**

Director of Communications & Stakeholder Relations  
Millwright Regional Council  
416-757-5161  
abredin@ubcmillwrights.ca

**Alex Cibiri**

Vice President, Marketing & Strategic Initiatives  
Build a Dream  
226-347-8671  
alex@webuildadream.com