

### What is OYAP

If you are interested in any of the construction and other skilled trades, OYAP may be the program for you. OYAP, the **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program**, allows students to acquire both apprenticeship hours and high school credits at the same time. This allows secondary school students to “try on” a potential career choice by going to work for part of a school day, semester or year.

### How does OYAP work?

Students who are interested in participating in OYAP take cooperative education during their grade 11 and/or 12 years. If the student and employer agree, an apprenticeship agreement can be signed and the Coop hours then count towards the apprenticeship.

### Who is eligible?

Students who:

- Are at least 16 years of age
- Are enrolled in school full time and are taking Coop
- Have at least 16 credits
- Make a commitment
- Demonstrate a genuine interest



### How do I participate in OYAP?

If you are interested in taking Cooperative Education at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, you can contact Wanda Mole at 457-2950. Another option is at the Adult Education Training Centre where you contact Lori Sargent at 457-3745. Further information regarding the OYAP program can be obtained by calling Laura Willis at 457-6436.

### What is the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association?

The HCHBA is a professional Association; established in 1991 to group together builders, renovators, suppliers, trade contractors and professionals whose goal is to ensure the long-term success of the local residential construction industry. We recognize the need to encourage new entrants into our industry and to enhance the future prospects for all of us.

### Some of the things we do:

**Annual Toy Drive** – Since 1995, we have supported the local Food Bank and Christmas Toy Challenge. Our members collect food & toys from around the county and deliver them to the distribution centers in Haliburton and Minden.

**Annual Charity Hockey Tournament** – Began in January 1998 with four teams and has grown to eighteen for the last two years. Proceeds from this tournament aid the Food banks in both Haliburton and Minden.

**Partnership with SSFC** - The Government of Ontario has committed to increasing the number of entrants to the apprenticeship program to address skilled trade shortages and provide employers with the skills they are seeking in apprentices. Partnering with the college benefits both the college and our industry.

**High School Program** – The HCHBA will provide qualified speakers to come into your class or guidance session to discuss Construction as a Career. We will also participate in Career Days or Fairs. This association annually sponsors an Award to a grade 11 student at H.H.S.S. Call our office to arrange a speaker!

**Training & Education** – The HCHBA organizes and facilitates many training sessions. The sessions are available to members and the public. The expense of sending staff out of town for training is exhausting. Through the Home Builders Association network we are able to offer many programs at a very reasonable cost. Courses in St. John Ambulance, First Aid, Fall Arrest, Propane Safety and Chainsaw Safety are just a few that we offer.



HCHBA  
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[www.haliburtonhomebuilders.on.ca](http://www.haliburtonhomebuilders.on.ca)

# CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION



**OPEN  
YOUR  
EYES  
TO**



**A WORLD OF  
POSSIBILITIES!**



**Scott Doan**  
S & S Construction

After graduating from Grade 13, I worked for Bell Canada and then became involved in the Alarms and Security industry in a management position. We used to visit Haliburton and liked the lifestyle, so in 1988 we made the move to Haliburton County and started our own Alarm and Security business.

My friend and future partner, Shannon Mercer, got me interested in construction. I took a part time

job for a contractor like an apprentice. The economy weakened shortly after and I began working independently on construction jobs. It was then that S & S Construction was born.

Working outdoors and seeing physical progress every day on the job site are the two main reasons why I enjoy working in the construction industry. It is rewarding to travel around the community and see your efforts and get lots of positive feedback.



**Cleve Roberts**  
Operations Manager,  
Emmerson Lumber Ltd.

As Operations Manager at Emmerson Lumber, I help people realize the vision of their home by providing knowledge about the efficient use of the many building materials on the market, advising them on their design, informing them of the appropriate building codes, drafting plans, estimating the cost of projects, obtaining building permits, recommending contractors, and making sure

products are here and on time. Education is an on-going process in this business as new products and applications evolve. My degree in Marketing was just the beginning and I have taken architectural technology courses, a certified designer course and am constantly providing in-house training for new products.

Anyone interested in this field should have practical construction experience, as well as drafting and computer experience. You are dealing with over 300 projects per year and that requires excellent interpersonal skills and a sound background in mathematics when you calculate the amount of material needed and its costs. Every project is unique, which keeps the job interesting and challenging and the personal satisfaction of seeing a job completed makes all the work worthwhile.

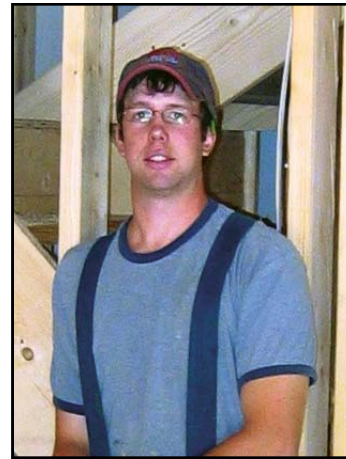
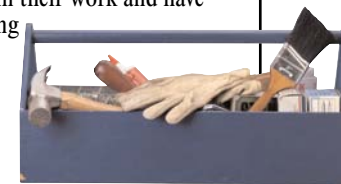


**Steve Barker**  
Don Barker  
Heating & Cooling

As a heating contractor for the past 15 years in Haliburton County, I have experience in sheet metal work, refrigeration and ventilation and have my oil burner license. There is a high demand for residential sheet metal workers and heating contractors across the country and the more licenses you will be. There is money to be made if you are willing to work at it.

I gain satisfaction from the variety of jobs for which our company is hired to complete from start to finish. It is essential for people interested in this industry to have completed Grade 12 with a focus on math, have good people skills, take pride in their work and have the ability to see the 'big picture' when working on a heating/cooling system.

So many students after graduating from high school are in a hurry to get out and make money. My advice to them is to get your education first.



**Andrew Burtch**  
G.J. Burtch Construction  
Enterprises Ltd.

My Dad, Gary Burtch introduced me to the various aspects of carpentry early in my life. My apprenticeship as a general carpenter began after I graduated from High School and took 3 years to complete. The in-class portion of the apprenticeship gave me the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. I passed my qualification exam and received my license 2 years ago.

I am glad I work in Haliburton County. This work environment gives me the opportunity to gain experience in a wide variety of construction.

In the past, skilled trades have been misrepresented as low status jobs, but in the right environment a person can become very successful.

If you take pride in your work and enjoy working with your hands, I strongly recommend apprenticing in carpentry. There is a great deal of satisfaction building a house or cottage from the ground up and seeing the finished product.



## RELATED CAREERS

**Landscape Architect • Accountants • Real Estate Lawyer's • Municipal Building Officials • Developer • Site Superintendent • Estimators  
Project Coordinators • Excavating • Painter • Decorator • Home Automation Systems • Sheet Metal Worker • Heating & Ventilation  
Heavy Equipment Operators • Flooring Contractor • Tile Installer • Security Systems • Concrete Forming • Surveyor • Engineer • Roofer  
Masonry/Bricklayer • Project Management • Urban Planner • Renovator • Drywaller • Finish Carpentry • Glazier**



**Aaron Donaldson,**  
comments by **Dennis McKee**  
McKee Security Systems

Working 12 years for Bell Canada and helping my Dad, Maurice McKee with his Alarm & Security business on my vacations gave me the telephone line and security experience I needed to pursue the Security System Industry. When my Dad asked me to join him in his business, it was a difficult decision. It meant giving up a management position with Bell. One of the major reasons for coming back to Haliburton was that it is a great place to raise children and it has a terrific lifestyle.

My business involves the design and installation of phone systems, alarm systems, home theater, sound and video systems. The technology is constantly changing and because of that, education is an on-going process. In order to sell and install the many different types of audio and visual systems, the dealers require you to have your diploma from CEDIA University. I attended CEDIA while working full-time, but it was necessary to learn about home electronics.

I enjoy the interaction with customers, managing a crew, the technical side and most of all; I like the challenge of running my own business. Every job is different and you have to learn to read your customers quickly, so people skills are essential.

Due to our increasing business and workload, Aaron Donaldson was recently hired three months after graduating from High School. Aaron had planned on going to college and went to the city, but he didn't like it. As a friend of the family he heard about the job opening and applied. Aaron likes everything about the job to date. He enjoys doing things independently, the sense of responsibility and the pride of finishing a project.



**Steve Churko**  
Owner  
Churko Electric

After graduating from Grade 12, my apprenticeship as an electrician began at Saskatchewan Tech and was completed at George Brown College in Toronto. While working in Toronto I had the opportunity to work on a wide range of jobs, from fiber optics and robotics to working on the Skydome. Education in this ever-changing industry is continual and

attendance at many upgrading seminars has been instrumental in my earning my Master Electrician papers.

Running my own business in Haliburton County for the past 11 years has been both challenging and rewarding. I have had a chance to be creative and put my own thoughts and ideas into different projects and meet and work with many interesting people. Helping guys like Nick Coty, Steve Coumbs and Darren Johnston through their apprenticeships has also been gratifying.

There definitely is a future in the electrical trade, with many different paths to follow. Anyone with an interest in this industry, who has a positive work ethic and is a team player, will be successful.

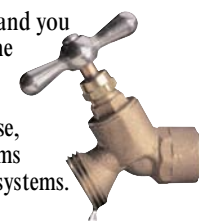


**Wade Woodward**  
The Pump Shop

Like most teenagers from Haliburton County, I left for the city after graduating from High School. I spent two years in Toronto working on my Electric Motor Rewinding Apprenticeship and decided to come back to Haliburton. I realized that you could make a good wage in Haliburton and that the lifestyle here is better than in the city.

I bought Hilltop Electric and worked at this for 5 years. I saw a need in the area for plumbing and water systems, the business evolved into the Pump Shop. We now have 16 employees, which sometimes feels overwhelming, but my work is fun! Every job is different and I enjoy dealing with people.

A high school diploma is essential in this business and you need to be willing to continually upgrade. Over the years I have gone to school to get my Class 1 Operator's License for municipal water systems, a Well Contractor's License, a Well Technician License, Small System Operator License for regulated systems and many other certificates for water purification systems.



**Jack Prentice**  
Tom Prentice & Sons Trucking

If you like to be outside, see what you are accomplishing and take pride in your work, then operating heavy machinery and trucking is the right profession for you. Our company does snow plowing, road maintenance, septic installation, basements, roads, landscaping, lot clearing, and we are involved in some contracts with larger companies who do road construction. Every day is different and good interpersonal skills are essential when dealing with the many different customers you come in contact with.

I started driving my Dad's, Tom Prentice's dump truck at 10 years old and then learned to operate the dozer, loaders and high-hoe. I was hooked and knew that I wanted to do this as my career. I did not graduate from high school, but strongly recommend that people get their High School Diploma, as the demands of the job are constantly changing and upgrading. I have gone back to school and am presently licensed for pits and quarries with a DZ license and AZ license for dump truck, tandem and tractor trailers. I am learning to do some job pricing and every day I learn more about estimating the right price.

Self-confidence and maturity are essential in this industry and if you take pride in your work, this career choice can be very satisfying.