



## Regional Skills Competition at CNC

by Paige Riding

The College of New Caledonia hosted the fourth annual Central Interior Regional Skills Competition and Trades Day on January 16th, 2019. Student representatives from Prince George, Vanderhoof, and Quesnel were in attendance.

Events like wind turbine building and testing, pasta bridge competitions to see whose spaghetti creations could hold the most weight, robotics, and other general trades skills were on full display. New events introduced this year included welding for students in high school as well as automotive and electrical wiring for college and university students. These competitions, on top of already established trades-based tests of skill, proved to be exciting events that challenged the tradespeople of tomorrow.

Students from College Heights Elementary were interviewed to provide an inside perspective on the event. Matea, Hailey, and Courtney, all age 11, formed a group for the

wind turbine competition. The competition was equally fun as it was challenging. "With two minutes left, our wind turbine just broke! It was a stressful two minutes," Courtney exclaimed during the follow-up interview. All the same, the three seemed excited to get out of the typical classroom setting and partake in a hands-on workshop. Events like this present opportunities to utilize skills taught in a classroom in a new setting.

Cedric and Kaydence, both age 12 from College Heights Elementary, noted that their time competing was their favourite part. Although the Regional Skills Competition was a required trip for their class, the two agreed that the event at CNC was exciting. Both Cedric and Kaydence noted that college is more than likely in both of their futures. CNC looks forward to hopefully hosting them again down the road.

The competition was and will continue to be an