

MEDIA RELEASE
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Humber College to host a *FIRST* Robotics Competition in 2019

Toronto, Ontario – September 6, 2018 – Humber College will host the 2019 *FIRST* Robotics Competition in partnership with *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Canada from March 8 to 10, 2019. During the competition high school students, along with their robots built in under six weeks, compete in a robotics competition in a challenge that combines sport, science, and teamwork and gives them real-world engineering experience.

Under strict time limitations, students design and build 120-pound robots that compete on a playing field to complete tasks. Students program and test their machines using skills in engineering, coding, and design. Teams also develop business and marketing plans, as well as outreach initiatives to fundraise and engage their local community.

“Humber’s polytechnic model of education emphasizes the value of applied learning and this competition is a real-world engineering experience that will help high school students develop technical, communication and teamwork skills,” said Dr. Chris Whitaker, president Humber College. “It was a natural fit for us to work with *FIRST* Robotics to host this event to help prepare the next generation of STEM leaders for success.”

Humber’s event will be the newly added 10th Ontario district event. After competing at the district events, teams with the highest rankings and awards will move onto the District Championships at the Paramount Fine Foods Centre in Mississauga, Ontario in April 2019. Rankings at this Championship will decide who moves onto the FRC World Championship in Detroit.

“*FIRST* Robotics Canada is excited to partner with Humber College to host an FRC event in 2019,” says Mark Breadner, President of *FIRST* Robotics Canada. “Humber College is an educational partner that recognizes the value and importance of giving high school students the unique opportunity to engage and excel in STEM through *FIRST* programs.”

About Humber College Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning

Established in 1967, Humber College is a global leader in polytechnic education. Combining in-depth theoretical learning and hands-on experience with applied research and extensive industry connections, Humber provides career-focused education to 33,000 full-time and 18,000 part-time students across three campuses. The college offers a comprehensive range of credentials including honours undergraduate degrees, postgraduate certificates, diplomas, apprenticeships and certificates. More than four out of five Humber graduates are employed within six months of completing their studies. Visit humber.ca.

About *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is an international non-profit organization designed to inspire students to pursue further studies and careers in science, engineering, technology, and mathematics. Students develop skills in problem solving, innovation, leadership and teamwork as well as design, manufacturing, programming and testing. *FIRST*’s programs reach 300,000 students in 70 countries. *FIRST* Robotics Canada, a Canadian non-profit started in 2002, now reaches 20,000 Canadian students. *FIRST* is grateful to its provincial sponsors including Magna International, Microsoft, SYNEX, Hatch, the Ontario Ministry of Education, the Argosy Foundation, CenterLine (Windsor) Limited, and Scotiabank. For more information about *FIRST* Robotics Canada, visit firstroboticscanada.org.

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