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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Susie Makes a Splash, and Builds a Shed, in B.C.

Vancouver, B.C. – Inspiring everyone to consider careers in the trades, in particular the mechanical contracting trades, the Mechanical Contactors Association of B.C. (MCABC) today announced the official launch of *Susie's Shed* in B.C. as part of its BUY BOOKS for KIDS challenge.

Susie's Shed, a Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) Women in Mechanical Contracting (WiMC) initiative, debunks the myth that girls don't build, and shows the younger generations that construction is for everyone who enjoys working with their hands.

"Susie's Shed is a colourful, joyful and inspiring story that overshadows stereotypes and creates excitement about an industry that is often not understood at an early age unless a parent is involved in one of the 10 mechanical trades," says Kim Barbero, MCABC CEO. "Susie, through her bold, curious confidence, brings to life what is possible for those who work in the trades and the importance of their work in our everyday lives."

MCABC is challenging Mechanical Contractors in B.C. to promote their trades and the industry by purchasing and sponsoring books for schools and youth organizations throughout B.C. MCABC will distribute the books and, in collaboration with interested schools and community groups, will organize readings.

Board Director and WiMC member, Maddie Davidson, kicked off the challenge by hosting a reading of *Susie's Shed* at Davidson Bros. Mechanical in Burnaby.

"The BUY BOOKS for KIDS challenge will put copies of Susie's Shed into the hands of the younger generations, introducing them to the possibilities within the skilled trades," says Davidson. "I grew up in the industry so was fortunate to have a head start. Susie provides us an opportunity, together with parents, teachers, counselors and those working in the trades, to inspire the next generation."

Help inspire the future of BC's workforce – one book at a time:

- Sponsor a book package today
- > Download photographs and video: <u>Susie's Shed Toolkit</u>



About WiMC

MCAC's Women in Mechanical Contracting is a forum through which women who work in mechanical construction share experiences, seize opportunities and learn skills that will help them advance their careers. It provides networking, education, mentoring and professional-development programs specifically dedicated to helping women in mechanical construction build long and productive careers in the industry.

About MCABC

The Mechanical Contractors Association of BC is the connection to industry excellence, delivering education and professional development programs and services that enable high standards of professional practice and business growth for mechanical contractors and their sub-trades. Through advocacy and strong industry partnerships, MCABC influences policy discussion and development in a sector that comprises the largest percentage of the construction industry's skilled trades workforce. MCABC also represents suppliers and affiliates associated with the mechanical trades and maintains strong alliances with manufacturers to the industry.

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