



CONTEST DESCRIPTION

## Public Speaking

SECONDARY

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## **1 THE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS FOR CAREERS IN THE SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY**

In response to the evolving labour market and changing skill needs, the Government of Canada has launched the new Skills for Success (*former Essential Skills*) model defining nine key skills needed by Canadians to participate in work, in education and training, and in modern society more broadly. SCC is currently working with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) to bring awareness of the importance of these skills that are absolutely crucial for success in Trade and Technology careers. Part of this ongoing initiative requires the integration and identification of the Skills for Success in contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. The next phase and very important aspect of our Skills for Success (SfS) initiative is to provide a *Skills Report Card* to each competitor at the Skills Canada National Competition. The purpose of the report card is to inform the competitor about their current level of nine identified Skills for Success based on their competition scores. With this knowledge, the competitor will be made aware which skill may require improvement. Full implementation is expected in the next Skills Canada National Competition.

The following 9 skills have been identified and validated as key skills for success for the workplace in the legend below:

<sup>1</sup>Numeracy, <sup>2</sup>Communication, <sup>3</sup>Collaboration, <sup>4</sup>Adaptability, <sup>5</sup>Reading, <sup>6</sup>Writing, <sup>7</sup>Problem Solving, <sup>8</sup>Creativity and Innovation, <sup>9</sup>Digital

These Skills for Success have been identified in section 2.2 and/or 3.2 of your Contest Description and if applicable, in your Project and supporting documents.

## **2 CONTEST INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Description of the associated work role(s) or occupation(s)**

[https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skill\\_area/public-speaking/](https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skill_area/public-speaking/)

### **2.2 Purpose of the Challenge**

The Conference Board of Canada has identified the skills needed to enter and progress in the world of work, whether it is self-employment or working as a part of a team. One such skill area is effective oral and written communication including the ability to do the following:

- Write and speak so others pay attention and understand
- Listen and respond to questions
- Share information
- Use technological knowledge and skills to explain or clarify ideas

The public speaking competition is designed to encourage and enhance the development of these skills in making career choices. The challenge provides the opportunity for competitors to prepare and present speeches, conduct research and to construct answers to related questions in a clear and concise manner.

### 2.3 Duration of contest

12 hours

### 2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested.

- Present original thoughts in a clear, coherent, and well-constructed format on the assigned topics.<sup>2, 8</sup>
- Capture and hold the attention of the audience within the designated timeframes.<sup>2</sup>
- Deliver a clear message (main idea, argument, opinion, or position).<sup>2</sup>
- Speak easily, with confidence.<sup>2</sup>
- Use non-verbal skills (body language and gestures) to assist in expression.<sup>2</sup>
- Be expressive by varying voice in pitch, tone, tempo, and volume.<sup>2</sup>
- Think quickly and answer unseen questions clearly.<sup>7</sup>
- Reflect upon research, make observations, and share experiences through prompted response.<sup>4</sup>

*Skills for Success – <sup>2</sup>Communication, <sup>4</sup>Adaptability, <sup>7</sup>Problem Solving, <sup>8</sup>Creativity & Innovation*

## 3 CONTEST DESCRIPTION

### 3.1 List of documents produced and timeline for when competitors have access to the documents on the Skills/Compétences Canada website.

DOCUMENT	DATE OF DISTRIBUTION
No other documents will be posted prior to the competition	

### 3.2 Tasks that may be performed during the contest

- Competitors will speak twice (2 times) during the competition: Day 1 & Day 2.

1. Each competitor will speak on the following prompt:

**Canada is facing its greatest shortage of people in the workforce due to people retiring and nearing retiring age,**

**with this in mind,**

**How can people be enticed to enter skills trades and technology careers to fill this gap?**

2. Competitors will also speak on an impromptu topic that will be revealed before the designated time.

### **Submission Requirements**

- Competitors will write original speeches that reflect creatively on the topics, ensuring they maintain a focus and consider the content implied by the topics. Competitors are expected to express themselves clearly while capturing the attention of their listening audience.
- Each competitor must submit their prepared speech before 4:00 PM (in their time zone) on May 16, 2023, following the specified format:
  - Double spaced
  - Justified
  - Arial 14
  - PDF Format
  - Emailed to following address: [mgailbutler64@gmail.com](mailto:mgailbutler64@gmail.com)
- If you have not received confirmation within 24 hours that your speech has been received, please email the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat.
- **Competitors submitting between 4:00 PM to 11:00 PM (in their time zone) will receive a deduction as indicated in the Assessment section of this Content Description.**
- **Competitors who do not submit their speech by the above date before 11:00 PM (in your time zone) are disqualified from the competition.**

### **Competition Overview**

- **Pre-Competition**
  - Competitors will attend a mandatory orientation session prior to the opening ceremonies.
- **Day 1**
  - On Day 1, each competitor will present a prepared speech in a formal public setting and answer one (1) question based upon the submitted speech.
  - Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
  - Video and/or audio recording of speeches is permitted.
- **Day 2**
  - Competitors will observe the on-site Skills/Compétences Canada competitions to gather information about skills trades & technology careers. The intent of these observations is to support and inform the responses to the impromptu topic.
  - The impromptu speech is intended to be an original speech. No materials from previously written speeches should be included.
  - Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
  - Video and/or audio recording of speeches is permitted.

#### **TIME REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Prepared Speech</b>	<b>Prepared Speech Question</b>
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<b>Minimum</b>	5 minutes	N/A
<b>Maximum</b>	7 minutes	1 minute 30 seconds
<b>Visual and/or Verbal Cues</b>	There will not be a warning light, sound, or timecards to indicate time allotment.	Cue will be provided to indicate 15 seconds remaining.

<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Impromptu Speech</b>
<b>Preparation</b>	2 minutes
<b>Minimum</b>	N/A
<b>Maximum</b>	3 minutes
<b>Visual and/or Verbal Cues</b>	Cues will be provided 3 times: at 2 minutes, 1 minute, and 15 seconds to indicate time remaining.

## 4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

### 4.1 Equipment and material provided Skills Competences Canada.

- Blank paper, pen/pencil
- Lectern
- Wireless microphone

### 4.2 Competitor dress code

- Business casual while on-site.
- Provincial/Territorial team shirts should **not** be worn during the competition.
- Any Provincial/Territorial identifiers should **not** be worn during the competition.

## 5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

### 5.1 Safety program

SCC has implemented a comprehensive safety program as health and safety is an integral part of our competitions. Our safety program includes guidelines and procedures to make the work environment in each skill area safer.

### 5.1.1 Safety manual

As part of our program a safety manual has been created to monitor and document health and safety within each skill area. It includes a definite plan of action designed to prevent accidents. The safety manual will be provided for every skill and these instructions must be followed and respected by all participants and officials at the SCNC.

### 5.1.2 Safety workshop

During orientation, Competitors will participate in a Safety workshop and they will be expected to work and maintain a safe working area during the competition. Any Competitor breaking any health, safety, and environmental rules, may be required to undertake a second safety workshop, this will not affect the Competitor's competition time.

### 5.2 COVID-19 Protocol

The COVID-19 guidelines will be shared as soon as they are available.  
The COVID-19 guidelines will be subject to change based on the COVID-19 guidelines in place at the time of the competition.

### 5.3 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- N/A

### 5.4 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the competitor

- No PPE required

## 6 ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 Point breakdown

OVERALL SCORE		/100
DAY 1 – PREPARED SPEECH	DAY 1 TOTAL	/75
<b>CONTENT / ORGANIZATION - the NTC will assess this subcategory, based on written submission, prior to the prepared speech presentations</b>		<b>/20</b>
Response develops the content contained in the first section of the prompt		/2
Response develops the content contained in the second section of the prompt		/4
Introduction is coherent and shaped		/2

Introduction contains the assigned topic	/2
Supporting ideas are focused on the assigned topic	/2
Arrangement of supporting ideas contributes to a competent discussion of the assigned topic	/2
Transitions link ideas coherently	/2
Conclusion is connected to the assigned topic	/2
Conclusion is relevant	/2
<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>/50</b>
Captures interest at the beginning of the speech	/2
Introduction previews main ideas	/2
Introduction gains audience attention	/2
Supporting ideas are connected to assigned topic	/2
Supporting ideas develop assigned topic	/2
Supporting ideas are precise	/1
Presents ideas in a logical order	/2
Effective word choice	/2
Correct use of conventions: diction, grammar, pronunciation	/1
Effective phrasing (use of pauses)	/2
Appropriate tempo (pacing)	/2
Varies tone and pitch	/2
Fluency: fluidity, smoothness	/2
Expressive	/2
Volume is appropriate	/2
Volume used for effect	/1
Eye contact is effective	/2
Eye contact: engages with entire audience	/2
Gestures: natural not overdone	/2
Mannerisms, body language	/2
Convincing	/2
Polished	/2
Commands audience attention	/2
Composed	/2
Displays self confidence	/2
Holds interest through to the end of the speech	/2
Conclusion is appropriate and skillful	/1
<b>QUESTION RESPONSE</b>	<b>/5</b>

Addresses the question	/1
Demonstrates knowledge of topic	/1
Develops ideas adequately	/1
Organizes ideas logically	/1
Demonstrates clarity and conviction	/1
<b>DAY 2 – IMPROMPTU SPEECH</b>	<b>DAY 2 TOTAL /15</b>
<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>/5</b>
Response addresses the prompt	/2
Chooses ideas that demonstrate understanding of the prompt	/2
Adequately develops ideas connected to the prompt	/1
<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>/4</b>
Uses effective introduction for the prompt	/1
Focuses and presents ideas about the prompt in a logical order	/1
Links ideas coherently	/1
Concludes effectively	/1
<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>/6</b>
Uses convincing, coherent language appropriate for the prompt	/2
Voice: expression, tempo, volume, phrasing	/2
Eye contact: engages with audience	/1
Non-verbal: gestures, mannerisms, body language	/1
<b>CONVENTIONS</b>	<b>SUBTOTAL /10</b>
Impromptu speech delivered within required time specifications	/1
Prepared speech delivered within time specifications	/4
Prepared speech question response delivered within time specifications	/1
Speech submitted on time	/2
Speech submitted in specified format	/2

## 7 CONTEST SPECIFIC RULES

Contest specific rules cannot contradict or take priority over the Competition Rules. They do provide specific details and clarity in areas that may vary from contest to contest. Any additional contest rules will be reviewed during the competitor orientation.

## 8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 8.1 Interpreter

If a competitor requires the help of an interpreter once onsite during the competition, the Skills/Compétences Canada Provincial/Territorial offices must advise Skills/Compétences Canada National Secretariat a minimum of 1 month prior to the competition or this service may not be guaranteed.

### 8.2 Ties

- Tiebreaker #1: The competitor with the highest score in the Delivery criteria of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #2: The competitor with the higher mark in the Content section of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #3: The student with the highest overall score in the Impromptu Speech will be declared the winner.

### 8.3 Competition rules

Refer to the competition rules of the Skills Canada National Competition which can be found on our website.

## 9 NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER ORGANIZATION	NAME
Newfoundland and Labrador	Gail Butler – Chair
New Brunswick	Nicole Boudreau – Co-Chair
Manitoba	Steve Proskurnik
Saskatchewan	James Hawn
Alberta	Sylvia Hayward
British Columbia	Jennifer Fox
Nunavut	Aloka Wijesooriya
Nova Scotia	Scott Furlotte
Ontario	Tulo Akinyemi

Contact the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat for any questions or concerns: Nathalie Maisonneuve ([nathaliem@skillscanada.com](mailto:nathaliem@skillscanada.com)).