



CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Landscape Gardening

POST-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 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:

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

These Skills for Success have been identified in section 2.4 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/landscape-gardening/

2.2 Purpose of the Challenge:

To evaluate the expertise of future landscape horticulturists in layout, construction and installation of hardscape and softscape elements.

2.3 Duration of contest:

12 hours

2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested:

- Reading plans⁵
- Accurately scaling measurements and setting dimensions on site and using vertical measurement techniques¹
- Teamwork is essential.³

- Competitors may also cut, shape and set natural or manufactured materials such as stone, concrete pavers and wood materials to build walls, screens, fences, patios, walkways, and steps.⁷
- 8 Additional skills to be tested include cutting, filling, and leveling aggregate material and planting media; installing trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals or sod, and other elements.⁷

Skills for Success - ¹Numeracy, ³Collaboration, ⁵Reading, ⁷Problem Solving.

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
Project	December 2023

- 3.2 Tasks that may be performed during the contest:

Elements to be included in the construction plans:

- Paving units
- Natural Stones
- Walls, retaining walls
- Wood construction
- Accent element (water feature and/or lighting)
- Planting – trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals

The planting and paving elements are compulsory components. Planting must occupy at least 30% of the total construction site surface. All the 6 components listed above will be chosen for the test project.

4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

- 4.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada:

Workspace Installation

Each competition team will have a workspace and storage space. The construction area must have clearly defined benchmark for vertical measurements.

Each team's construction area will have been previously filled and compacted with granular materials and/or planting media, as much as possible within 100 mm of finished grade perimeter.

Each team will have equal, fair access to their site.

- IQ Dustless Saw with blade and stand
- Exacto knife and blades, 25mm
- 12" compound sliding miter saw, c/w tables

- 10" 80T precision trim blade
- Circular saw 7.25" (20v) c/w blade
- 7.25" 40T precision finish blade
- Impact driver (20v)
- Impact driver bits
- Cordless Drill (20v)
- 48" carpenters' level
- 18"x24" building square
- Orbital sander and sanding discs
- Rotary laser with detector (20v)
- Metric construction grade rod
- Long and short shovels
- Hard rakes
- Brooms
- Heavy duty construction Wheelbarrow
- 10" hand tamper
- 25' hose with shutoff and nozzle
- 5-gallon buckets
- Cordless jigsaw with blades (20v)

COMPETITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE THE MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY SCC. ALL OTHER MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE SKILL AREA.

4.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor:

- Rubber mallet or deadblow hammer - 2 per team
- Sledgehammer, 3 or 4 lb - 2 per team
- Masonry hammer-stone working - 2 per team
- Carpenters hammer-'straight claw' - 2 per team
- Wood and stone Chisels, assorted - 6 per team
- Saw-hand saw - 2 per team
- Combination Square/Speed Square 12-16 inch combination - 2 per team
- Chalk Line and chalk
- Marking utensils - 10 per team
- Masonry string - 50 ft. roll-2 per team
- Torpedo level - 2 per team
- Carpenters level (2 ft.) -2 per team
- Post level
- String Level - 2 per team
- Wood clamps (6"-10")
- Tape measures-metric & imperial (25 feet) - 2 per team

- Sandpaper with block or holder 6 sheets per team
- Masonry Trowels - 2 per team
- Drill bits - assorted
- Screwdriver bits assorted
- Hand brush
- Wire cutters/wire strippers
- Pruning saw, pruning shears, 2 pairs handheld secateurs
- Handheld calculator – no cell phones allowed

Note: Any tool not listed must be approved for use by the National Technical Committee (NTC). A written application (or email) to Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat must be submitted at least 1 month before the competition start.

Teams are not required to bring all listed tools but may choose to bring what they feel is appropriate for the competition.

4.2.1 Toolboxes Guidelines:

One of the objectives of SCC is the sustainability of the Competition. As a result, the toolboxes brought by Competitors will be restricted to the following maximum specifications.

The Competitor toolbox must not exceed 1.25 meters³ in volume. It can be multiple toolboxes, but the total of all toolboxes must not exceed the maximum volume indicated. There is no exception to this rule. If the Competitor toolbox is larger than what is indicated, the Competitor, with the guidance of the NTC, will need to remove items from the toolbox and those items will not be used during the competition. All tools must fit inside one or more toolboxes. Tools outside of a toolbox will not be permitted.

4.3 Required clothing provided by the competitor:

- Long work pants of durable quality in working condition for the duration of the competition.
- Long-sleeved shirt (no tank tops) for the cutting of natural stone. However, short sleeves are allowed at any other time during the contest.
- Additional clothing appropriate for weather conditions
- Loose clothing not permitted (i.e., Hoodies with strings)
- No loose jewellery or rings
- No long loose hair

Note: Your skill area for SCNC 2024 may be hosted outside. Come prepared for any weather conditions and dress accordingly.

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

- n/a

5.3 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the competitor:

- Safety Glasses - worn at all times
- Complete safety vest - worn at all times
- Hearing protection - worn at all times
- Knee pads worn when working in kneeling positions
- CSA approved Safety boots (above ankle) - worn at all times
- N100 or P100 Dust Mask/respirator (worn when cutting materials and handling dust-generating particulate)
- Appropriate gloves - worn when handling precast concrete products, stone and wood
- Hard Hat (construction of overhead structure)
- Sunscreen, water bottle, snacks

Note: Competitors who do not have the required protective equipment will not be allowed to participate in the competition.

6 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Point Breakdown:

Note: This list is subject to change.

TASKS	/100
Horizontal Measurements (A)	15
Work Process (B)	15
Vertical Measurements (C)	15
Completion of Softscape (D)	15
Hardscape Construction (E)	15
Other items (wood, stone & elements, etc.) (F)	15
General impression (G)	10

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.

TOPIC/TASK	CONTEST SPECIFIC RULE
Assembly of components	All assembly of contest aspects must take place inside the competitor's project area.
Use of technology - personal laptops, tablets and mobile phones	No cell phone, laptop or tablet use allowed during contest. Devices will be confiscated at beginning and returned at the end of each competition day.
infrastructure –Equipment and Material	For safety reasons, all handling of materials and construction equipment (forklifts, loader, excavators) to and from the skill area will be done by the National Technical Committee (NTC) members

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 team with the highest score in the criteria's A to F will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #2: The team with the highest score in the criteria A will be

- declared the winners.
- Tiebreaker #3: The team with the highest score in the criteria B will be declared the winners.

8.3 Test Project change at the Competition:

Where the Test Project has been circulated to Competitors in advance, NTC shall change a maximum of 30% of the work content. Please refer to the Competition Rules.

8.4 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
New Brunswick	Andrew Maker
Québec	Alain Harvey
Ontario	Steve Neumann - Chair
Manitoba	Tonya Enns
British Columbia	Victor Kulla – Co-Chair

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