Skills Compétences Canada











CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Photography

SECONDARY

SkillsCompétences Canada
Calgary2027

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

The Government of Canada has updated the previous Essential Skills framework to the new Skills for Success model in response to the evolving labour market and changing skill requirements. This model outlines nine fundamental skills Canadians need to thrive in work, education, training, and daily life.

Skills/Compétences Canada aims to highlight the importance of these skills, vital for success in trade and technology careers. Competitors can see how Skills for Success are integrated into contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. Recognizing these skills during the competition helps competitors match tasks with specific skills necessary for success and understand how these skills apply within their trade or technology programs and future careers.

The nine key Skills for Success, validated for workplace success, are:

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

These Skills for Success are detailed in sections 2.4 and/or 3.2 (to be completed by SCC) of your Contest Description and, if relevant, 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/photography/

2.2 Purpose of the Challenge

Create a collection of photographs over the two-day competition period, with the exact number to be determined.

2.3 Duration of contest

10.5 hours

2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested.

- Composition – e.g.: visual elements, style, balance and harmony, framing, DoF
  - Technical – e.g.: focus, exposure, contrast, use of light, tonal range
  - Impact – e.g.: overall impression of the photograph, tells a story, the emotion, meaning
  - Respect of the theme or collection

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 2026

3.2 Tasks that may be performed during the contest.

• 6.5 hours will be allocated to photography, postproduction and delivery of final images[7,8,9](Day 1)
• 4.0 hours will be allocated to photography, postproduction and delivery of final images[7,8,9](Day 2)

Skills for Success – [7]Problem Solving, [8]Creativity & Innovation, [9]Digital

4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

4.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- Table and chair
- Two studios equipped with studio strobes/triggers and stands, LED lighting option, light modifiers, and backdrop

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.

- Computer and editing software
- Pen and paper for taking notes
- Digital camera
- Camera lens or lenses of the student's choice
- Card Reader

- Thumb drive to hand in pre-assignment, back up images and take images home (**mandatory**)
- Light meter (optional)
- Reflectors (optional)
- Tripod (optional)
- Speedlight Flashes (optional)
- Transmitter and receivers for speedlight and strobe flashes (optional)
  • Portable lighting gear: LED, continuous lights, strobes, etc. (optional)
  • Wacom Tablets and required drivers on a thumb drive (optional)

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 0.1 meters^3 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.

- Contestants must wear appropriate clothing, including closed-toe shoes. Attire such as muscle shirts or shorts is not permitted. Please dress suitably for both indoor and outdoor photography.

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

- Safety glasses
- Hearing protection
- Safety Vest
- Hard Hat
- Protective Toe Guards (2 x small,2 x medium, 2 x large)

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

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

- Closed toe shoes
- Long Pants (shorts, skirts or frayed/torn pants will not be permitted)

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
Part 1 – Lighting Magic	10
Part 2 – Double Exposure	10
Part 3 – Mystery Object 1	10
Part 4 – Personal Project Triptych	10
Part 5 – Magazine Cover	10
Part 6 – Minimalist Monochrome	10
Part 7 – Photojournalistic Triptych	10
Part 8 – Studio Portrait Model	10
Part 9 – Mystery Object 2	10
Part 10 – Entire Portfolio	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
Food and beverage	• No food shall be consumed in the photography competition area • Liquids (i.e., Coffee, water) are allowed if they are in a thermos or a sealed bottled.
Image Submission	• You are only allowed to use an image once. • Pictures must be submitted as JPG or RAW as indicated in the project document. • The date and time must be set accurately in the menu of your camera. • Incorrectly submitted images, and images that fail to meet the criteria and or circumvent the spirit and intent of the competition will be disqualified, and all judges' decisions are final.
Use of External Images	• The use of *any* external images not created by the competitor during the competition (including *but not limited to* graphics, text, stock, logos, etc.) will not be permitted for **any use** in the competition unless otherwise noted in the contest project document.
Artificial Intelligence (AI)	• In adherence to the principles of fair competition and authenticity, the use of any form of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is prohibited in assisting with image creation. This includes AI tools that generate, insert, or modify images, whether partially or entirely, and which were not created by the participant themselves. Our primary concern is to ensure that all submittedimages are a genuine representation of the participants' own work. • The judging panel retains the right to request access to the raw files associated with any submitted image. This step may be taken in cases where doubts arise, regarding the involvement of AI tools in the image creation

	process. • If an image is identified to contain elements that were not captured by the competitor, it will lead to the disqualification of that image from the competition. All judges' decisions will be final.

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 Mystery Object 1 criteria will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #2: The competitor with the highest score in the Portrait with Model in Studio criteria will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #3: The competitor with the highest score in the Photojournalistic Triptych criteria will be declared the winner.

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.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER ORGANIZATION	NAME
Newfoundland and Labrador	Christina Cox
Prince Edward Island	Jean-Sébastien Duchesne
New Brunswick	Wes Perry
Nova Scotia	Kelci Wood
Ontario	Ben Eby
Manitoba	Jocelyne Hebert
Saskatchewan	Chad McDowell
Alberta	Lance Burns
British Columbia	Dirk Erkau

Yukon	Erik Pinkerton
Northwest Territory	V. Lee Sacrey
Quebec	Elizabeth Delage

Contact the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat for any questions or concerns: Olga Malvine Rwemera (olgamr@skillscanada.com).