

**Executive Director's Report**  
**November 24, 2020**  
**12:00 – 1:00 PM**  
**Online Meeting**

**Online Challenges**

During the pandemic, Skills Canada BC began hosting a series of “At Home Challenges” now called “Online Challenges”. These virtual challenges have become very popular with students, parents and teachers alike. These “Online Challenges” will be continued into the fall and winter schedule. Teachers are now accessing the Online Challenges to augment classroom activities and learning. Going forward, the Online Challenges will be developed with Regional competitions in mind. That way, the Online Challenges will become precursors that can help participants get prepared to compete in SCBC’s Regional competitions. #SkillsAtHome Digital Challenge Series.

**Inspire Program**

As SCBC didn’t have the funding to continue the Inspire Program in the classroom, the Inspire Program was converted into an Open Source Learning Tool that students and teachers could access online. As the pandemic has continued into the fall, SCBC has been able to rework its planning so that it can begin offering the Inspire Program again in the regions where presenters are still able to access classrooms.

**Regionals 2020**

- In 2018 Skills Canada BC hosted 1,800 competitors in its Regional competitions.
- In 2019 Skills Canada BC hosted 3,100 competitors in its Regional competitions.
- **In 2020 Skills Canada BC hosted 4,835 competitors in its Regional competitions.**

Without question, SCBC had its best year offering the Regionals in 2020. In 2020, 4,835 which is an increase of 3,035 competitors since 2018. The last day of the Regional 2020 competitions was on March 12, 2020. On March 13, 2020 SCBC announced it would be cancelling its Provincial 2020 competition due to the coronavirus outbreak.

**Regional 2020 Report**

[https://skillscanada.bc.ca/Board\\_Reports/November-24-2020/2020-REGIONALS\\_Total-Competitors-and-JrSkills-v2.pdf](https://skillscanada.bc.ca/Board_Reports/November-24-2020/2020-REGIONALS_Total-Competitors-and-JrSkills-v2.pdf)

**Regionals 2021**

Despite many obstacles to delivering in-person Regional competitions in 2021, SCBC staff have been meeting with its Regional Coordinators on an ongoing basis. To overcome the limitations of the pandemic, some new online robotics and coding challenges have been developed that can be scaled province-wide. Additionally, new models of offering the Regionals in classroom cohorts are being considered and costed.

### **Provincials 2021**

The Provincial 2021 Planning Committee meets on a monthly basis to provide input to the planning of the Provincials 2021. Due to social distancing requirements for Covid-19, SCBC will not be able to use the Tradex for the Provincials 2021. So, Provincials 2021 planning have included working with alternative host sites/schools that could host the 2021 competitions. Options for hosting Provincial 2021 competitions include holding the competitions on Saturdays and/or alternate days when regular classes may not be in session. Remote/virtual competitions are being considered as well. As the pandemic is in its second phase it is not possible to confirm all competition sites/dates currently in the planning phase for April 2021.

### **Nationals 2021**

Quebec City will not host the Nationals 2021 as planned. Rather, the Nationals 2021, at this time, will likely be held as remote competitions, across the country so that competitors will not have to travel. The National Tech Chairs will be meeting on or before December 3, 2020 to decide upon remote judging, competition specs, logistics, etc. Other nationally-focused competitions will be held in various provinces and territories in 2021. These will not be qualifying competitions for WorldSkills 2021 (now WorldSkills 2022).

### **Nationals 2022**

The National board approved rescheduling the National competitions for the next three years as follows:

- Vancouver 2022
- Winnipeg 2023
- Ontario in 2024

### **Shanghai 2021 (Postponed)**

WorldSkills 2021 has been postponed. At this time organizers are considering Shanghai for hosting WorldSkills in 2022. Dates for the rescheduled event have not been released.

### **Audit 2019 & 2020**

Audit 2019 has been completed. The 2019 audit went very smoothly given the high standard of bookkeeping throughout 2019. ESDC paid for the 2019 which resulted in a \$12,000 savings to SCBC.

### **Audit 2020**

Audit 2020 started mid-November. ESDC will pay for the 2020 audit which will result in a \$12,000 savings to SCBC.

### **Alumni & Partner Series**

Skills Canada BC has been working with Alumni and its partners to create video content for its Inspire Program, new YouTube Channel, and social media feeds. Many of these videos tell inspire stories of SCBC's Alumni and their journeys into the skilled trades.

**Communications Team**

Skills Canada BC has been participating in regular zoom calls with the Member Organizations to coordinate communications activities for alumni and special events. Collaboration with the National office and the Member Organizations have never been higher. These collaborative efforts are resulting in significant information sharing, best practices and learning/teaching moments.

**Staff Bonuses**

The Executive Director is recommending that the staff be paid a bonus in lieu of salary increases and/or RSP contributions. Despite a downturned economy and organization disruption, SCBC is in a strong financial position. Most of its partner Member Organizations are providing raises/salary increases to its employees at this time. Paying out a one-time bonus provides a plan for the organization to recognize its employees without incurring ongoing financial costs.