

Provincial Scope Document

Public Speaking (Secondary) 2021

Virtual Competition

Important Dates:

April 9th, 4pm - last day for speech pdf submission.

Week of April 13th, week of impromptu speeches.

April 26th – gold, silver and bronze medal winners will be notified by April 26th.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 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 a speech, conduct research and construct answers to related questions in a clear and concise manner. **This year the competition will be conducted virtually.**

1.2 Duration of contest: part or all of one day

1.3 Skills and Knowledge to be tested

- Present thoughts in a clear, coherent, and well-constructed format on the **assigned topic**.
- Capture and hold the attention of the audience within the 5 to 7 minute timeframe.
- Deliver a clear message (main idea, argument, opinion, or position).
- Speak easily, with confidence.
- Use non-verbal skills (body language and gestures) to assist in expression.
- Be expressive by varying voice in pitch, tone, tempo, and volume.
- Think quickly and answer unseen questions clearly and with conviction within the one minute and thirty-second time limit per question.
- Reflect upon research, make observations, and share experiences through prompted response.

2. CONTEST DESCRIPTION

There will be an impromptu speech and a prepared speech. Both have questions at the end. **Students will give their formal and impromptu speeches and answer all questions live through a virtual medium.**

2.1 Procedure for order of the competition.

- a. A random selection process will be used to determine the order for both the prepared and impromptu presentations.
- b. The questions will asked at the end of each speech.

Schedule for the Public Speaking Competition

- Introduction of judges, competitors and other guests
- Review of order and structure of competition events
- Random generation of prepared speech competitor order
- Prepared speech presentations and questions
- Random generation of impromptu speech competitor order
- Impromptu speeches and questions
- Formal thank you to judges, participants and guest
- Chance for participants to receive feedback from judges

2.2 Each competitor will prepare a written speech and speak on the following topic:

Canada's capable and talented people have the chance to lead in skilled trades and technology – regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity and/or ability – they bring new ideas and innovative solutions to the workplace.

With this in mind,

What needs to occur so that more people from underrepresented groups can pursue careers in the skilled trades and technologies?

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2.3 Competitors should reflect creatively on their chosen topic, ensuring they maintain focus and consideration on the content implied by the topic. Students are expected to write an original speech and express themselves clearly while capturing the attention of their listening audience.

2.4 Each competitor must submit a pdf copy of their speech to the Public Speaking chair (gyong@sd38.bc.ca) There must be a title page with competitor's name, district, email and topic clearly indicated. The speech may be submitted before but no later than April 9th, 4pm.

2.5 Length of prepared speech

- The speech shall be at least five (5) minutes in length and shall not exceed seven (7) minutes.
- Five (5) points will be deducted from each judge's score for each minute or portion thereof under the minimum time or in excess of the maximum time.
- There will **not** be a warning to indicate time allotment. Competitors should develop the skill to monitor the length of their presentation.

2.7 Length of Responses to Questions

- Competitors will have exactly one minute and thirty seconds to respond to each question.
- Two (2) points will be deducted from the final score for each question exceeding the one minute and thirty second specified.

2.8 For the impromptu speech, each competitor will be given an individual topic connected to information that can be found on the Skills Competences Canada website.

2.9 Length of impromptu speech

a. Competitors will be given a prompt based upon the Skills Competences Canada Website. They will have a maximum of 2 minutes to prepare. Preparation must be one within view of the judges and will be told when time is up. Competitors will have 3 minutes to respond. The proctor will hold up timecards to indicate time remaining. This will be done at the 2 minute, 1 minute, and 15 second points.

b. Five (5) points will be deducted from each judge's score for each minute or portion thereof under the minimum time or in excess of the maximum time.

c. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection procedure.

2.10 Tasks that will be performed during the contest time period

- Students must submit their speeches as a double spaced, justified, Arial font, 14-point PDF document. Please ensure that there is a title page with a title, the competitor's name, the date, and the proctor's name.
- **Competitors will submit a PDF copy of their speeches their proctor who will submit it to the Public Speaking chair (gyong@sd38.bc.ca).**
- **Competitors will have viewed the Skills Competences Canada website to research and gather information about skilled trades and technology careers.** The purpose of this observation component is two-fold. One, is to support the response to the impromptu topic. Two, to help students prepare for a general question that will be posed after the presentation of their prepared speeches. The focus of this question will relate to what they have observed about skilled trades and technology careers.
- Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
- Competitors will present their speeches live with a proctor present to assist with ensuring the competitor is in full body view for the judges, work the technology and help with any other issue that may arrive.

3. EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

3.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- If needed, a wireless microphone will be provided. Please inform the Chair 2 weeks in advance if you will need one.
- Virtual medium will be used for the impromptu speech and questions.

3.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor

- Optional: Use of cue cards/notes
- Optional; podium
- Technology to be used for connecting with the virtual medium and to broadcast the speech.
- No other props permitted

3.3 Required clothing (Provided by competitor)

- Clothing should be appropriate for a formal presentation.
- 1 point will be deducted from each judge's final score of 100 points for violation of this regulation.

4. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by competitors

- No PPE required

4.2 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by Skills Canada-BC (SCBC)

- No PPE required

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

5.1 Ties between competitor scores

- 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.

5.2. Audience

- There may be an audience, but they must be silent and out of camera view.
- There may not be any prompting from the audience members in any form.
- The audience may not come and/or go during the speech.
- **If the audience is virtual, cameras must be off during the giving of speeches and answering questions. The clapping icon may be used at the end of the speeches.**

5.3 Provincial and National Competitions

All competitions are being held virtually for 2021.