

(Peace Region)

Regional Scope Document

Public Speaking (Secondary) 2021

Virtual Competition

Important Dates:

February 17th, 4pm - last day for speech pdf submission.

February 19th, 4pm - last day for recorded speech submission.

Week of February 22 – 26th, week of impromptu speeches.

March 1st – gold, silver and bronze medal winners will be notified by March 1st.

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: virtual

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 impromptu speeches and all questions live. Students will record their long speeches and submit them according to the rules under . Proctors will be used to ensure all rules and requirements have been made available.**

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

a. A time will be booked for each competitor to give their impromptu speech and answer the question. **The proctor will ensure this can be done live via Zoom.**

Microphones will be provided.

<https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en>

2.2 Length of impromptu speech (done live)

a. Competitors will be given a prompt based upon the Skills Competences Canada Website. They will have a maximum of 2 minutes to prepare and 3 minutes to respond. The proctor will hold up timecards at the 2 minute, 1 minute, and 15 second points to indicate time remaining during response.

b. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process. **Each competitor and proctor will be given the date and time for the live impromptu presentation.**

c. **All questions for both the impromptu and written speech will be asked and answered live after the impromptu speech.**

2.3 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?

SCNC 2021 – Contest Description 85 – Public Speaking (Secondary)

2.4 Competitors should reflect creatively on their chosen topic, ensuring they maintain a focus and consider the content implied by the topic. Students are expected to express themselves clearly while capturing the attention of their listening audience.

2.5 **Each competitor must submit a pdf copy of their speech to the Public Speaking chair (jafox@telus.net) 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 Feb 17th, 3pm.**

2.6 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.
- **Students will be asked two questions on their long speech after giving their impromptu speech.**

- **Students will be given one minute, on camera, to review their written speech before answering the two questions live.**

2.8 Tasks that will be performed during the contest time period

- Students must submit their speeches as a double spaced, justified, Arial 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 (jafox@telus.net).**
- **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.
- **A date for the speech recording must be given to the Public Speaking Chair. Only one take may be made and must be sent immediately to the Public Speaking chair.**
- Competitors will present their speeches in a quiet setting. **The speech will be recorded by the proctor according to the rules.**
- **Recorded speeches must be sent to the Public Speaking Chair no later than February 19th, 4 pm.**

3. EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

3.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- If needed, a wireless microphone will be provided.
- Zoom will be used for the impromptu speech and questions.
- Any piece of recording equipment may be used for the long speech as long as there is no special playback app, program needed. Please check with the Public Speaking chair if you are unsure.

3.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor

- Optional: Use of cue cards/notes
- 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

- 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.

5.3 Provincial and National Competitions

All competitions are being held virtually for 2021.