



Landscape Gardening

Competition Scope and Description

2024 Edition

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The Skills for Success for Careers in the Skilled Trades and Technology:

In response to the evolving labour market and changing skills needs, the Government of Canada has launched the new Skills for Success (formerly Essential Skills) model defining nine key skills needed by Canadians to participate in work, in education and training, and modern society more broadly.

Skills Competences Canada (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 the contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. The next phase and very important aspect of our Skills for Success 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 the nine identified skills for Success based on their competition scores. With this knowledge, the competitor will be made aware of which skill may require improvement. Full implementation is expected in the next Skills Canada National Competition.

The following nine skills have been identified and validated as key Skills for Success for the workplace in the legend below:

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

Organizational Values:

The values that are embraced and practiced by competitors, coaches, PTC members and Skills Canada Members:

- Accountability:** Transparent and trustworthy
- Camaraderie:** Enjoy and celebrate the best in each other
- Commitment:** Passionately involved, willing to go beyond what is expected
- Communication:** Timely and relevant
- Diversity:** Inclusive in everything we do
- Excellence:** Embrace the highest standards
- Fairness:** Treat others as we wish to be treated

Integrity: Beyond reproach

Safety: Always top of mind, never compromised

Competition Introduction:

Description of the associated work or role(s):

A full description of the associated roles and responsibilities for the Landscape Horticulture can be found on the Skills Competences Canada website:

https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skill_area/landscape-gardening/

Purpose of the Competition:

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

Duration of Competition:

Each competition at the Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition has a maximum duration of **six (6) hours over one (1) day**. These times include a **half-hour lunch break**. Once the competition duration is included in the contest description and posted online, it cannot be modified before or onsite without the approval of the Director of Competition, Skills Canada BC.

Skills and Knowledge to be Tested:

- Reading plans
- Accurately scaling measurements and setting dimensions on site and using vertical measurement techniques
- Collaboration
- Technical ability in the:
 - Cutting, shaping, and placing of natural or manufactured materials for the construction of walls, screens, fences, patios, walkways, and steps.
 - Cutting, filling, and levelling aggregate materials and planting media
 - Installing trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, sod, and other element

Competition Description:

Competitor Eligibility:

To participate in the Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition, the competitor team must meet the following criteria:

- Registered student with a training institution in a program related to the skill they wish to compete in, provided they registered anytime after July 1 of the previous year of the competition
- Or, registered as an apprentice in the skill they wish to compete in
- And not be a certified journey person prior to May 1 of the competition year. The following qualifications are considered the definition of a certified journey person:
 - Journeyman certificate
 - Certificate of qualification

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- Confirmation of Apprenticeship completion
- Completion letter
- Any other documentation confirming completion of a related skill area

There is no longer an age restriction for competitors to be able to compete in a Skills BC competition.

Documents Timeline for Competitor Access:

Document	Date of Distribution
Project drawing	Posted on line, at least 2 weeks before the competition
Competition Details	Posted online, at least 2 weeks before the competition

Competition Elements:

- Elements that may be included in the project construction plans:
 - Paving units
 - Planting
 - Walls, retaining walls
 - Wood construction
 - Accent element (water feature and/or lighting)
 - Turf

The planting and paving elements are compulsory elements. Planting must occupy at least 40% of the total constructed site surface. Any of the above elements will be chosen for the test project.

Skills for Success: Numeracy, Collaboration, Reading, Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation

Equipment, Material, Clothing:

Equipment and Material Provided by the Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition PTC:

Workspace Installation:

- Each competition team will have a workspace and a storage space.
- Each construction area must have clearly defined benchmarks for vertical measurements.
- Each competition team 3.5m x 3.5m construction area will have been previously filled and compacted with granular materials, and/or planting media to within 100mm of the finished grade of the perimeter of the construction area.
- Each team will have equal and fair access to their construction area.

Tools and Equipment:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brick saw with stand ● Utility knife ● Replacement utility knife blades ● 18v Rotary laser system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10" compound miter saw with stand and blade ● 20v 7.5" circular saw with blade ● 20v impact driver ● 20v drill |
|--|---|

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- 48" carpenters' level
- 18" x 24" carpenters square
- Hard rakes
- Round nose shovels
- Square nose shovels
- Hand tamper


Project Materials:

- Hardscape and softscape materials
- Wood and lumber
- Plants, trees, and shrubs

Competitors will be required to use the material and equipment provided by SCC. All other material and equipment will be removed from the competition area.

Equipment and Material Provided by the Competitor and/or Team:

- Rubber mallet or dead blow hammer (max 2 per team)
- 3 or 4 lb sledgehammer (max 2 per team)
- Masonry hammer (max 2 per team)
- Claw hammer (max 2 per team)
- Wood chisels (max 6 per team)
- Stone chisels (max 6 per team)
- Hand saw (max 2 per team)
- Combination square (max 2 per team)
- Chalk line
- Marking utensils
- Masonry string
- Torpedo level (max 2 per team)
- 2' level (max 2 per team)
- Post level
- String level
- Wood clamps
- Tape measure – metric and imperial
- Utility knife
- Sandpaper block (max 2 per team)
- Sandpaper (max 6 sheets per team)
- Masonry trowel (max 2 per team)
- Drill bits
- Screw drivers
- Hand brush
- Wire cutters or wire strippers
- Handheld calculator

Any tool not listed must be approved for use by the Provincial Technical Committee (PTC). A written application to the Provincial Technical Chair  must be submitted at least 30 calendar days 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.

Toolbox Guidelines:

One of the objectives of the Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition Landscape PTC is Sustainability of the Competition. As a result, the toolboxes brought by the competitors will be restricted to the following maximum specifications:

- The competitor team toolboxes must not exceed a combined total volume of 1.25 m³.
 - There can be multiple toolboxes.
- All tools must fit inside the toolbox.
- Tools outside the toolbox will not be permitted.

There are no exceptions to this rule.

Required Clothing provided by the Competitor and/or Team:

The competition skill area may be hosted outdoors in a covered area. Come prepared for any weather conditions and dress appropriately.

- Long pants of durable quality
- Long sleeved shirts for cutting of stone and concrete products
- Short sleeved shirts
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts
- No loose clothing or hoods
- No loose jewelry
- Long hair must be tied up

Health and Safety:

Safety Program:

Skills Canada BC has implemented a comprehensive safety program as health and safety is an integral part of our competitions. The safety program includes guidelines and procedures to make the work environment in each competition area safer.

Safety Manual:

As part of the program, a safety manual has been created to monitor and document health and safety within each competition area. It included a definite plan of action designed to prevent accidents. The safety manual will be provided for every competition and these instructions must be followed and respected by all participants and officials at the Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition.

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.

Competitors breaking health, safety, and/or environmental rules may be required to take a second safety workshop, and will have points deducted from the final score.

COVID-19 Protocols:

The Skills Canada British Columbia Provincial Competition follows all recommendations set out by the provincial health authority.

List of Required Personal Protective Equipment Provided by SCC:

Competitors are expected to provide their own PPE.

List of Required Personal Protective Equipment Provided by the Competitor and/or Team:

- Safety glasses – to be always worn when in competition area
- Safety vest – to be always worn when in competition area
- Hearing Protection – to be always worn when in competition area
- Knee pads
- CSA approved safety footwear
- Half Mask with P100 cartridges

- Appropriate gloves
- Hard hat

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

Assessment:

The drawing and construction details for the test will be provided by Skills Canada BC, and will be presented just before the start of the competition. If changes are to be introduced, they will be made from the very beginning and agreed upon and approved by all the judges or experts, by mutual consent.

Competitors will be clearly informed of the quotes, evaluation criteria, and notation as well as health and safety standards that must be adhered to.

Criteria for work process, such as correct levelling or compacting techniques shall be defined in detail before the start of the competition.

Point Breakdown:

This list is subject to change:

Element	/120
Horizontal Measurements	15
Vertical Measurements	15
Work Process	15
Completion of softscape	15
Completion of hardscape	15
Other Elements	15
General Impression	15
Safety	15

The team with the highest total score will be declared the winner.

There are no ties. If a score is tied after the competition, the safety component will be used as the tie breaker.

A score of at least 60% is required to be eligible to receive any medals or advance to the Skills Canada National Competition.

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 competition to competition. Any additional competition rules will be reviewed during the competitor orientation.

Topic/Element	Competition Specific Rule
Use of technology: personal laptops, tablets, and mobile phones	No cell phone, laptop, or tablet use is allowed during the competition. Devices will be

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	confiscated at the beginning of the day and returned at the end of each competition day
Infrastructure – Equipment and Material	All handling of materials and equipment to and from the competition area will be done by PTC members.

Additional Information:

Interpreter:

If a competitor requires the help of an interpreter once onsite during the competition, the competitor must advise the Provincial Technical Chair a minimum of 30 calendar days before the competition, or this service may not be guaranteed.

Test Project Change at the Competition:

The Provincial Technical Committee reserves the right to change up to 30% of the work content once the test project has been circulated among competitors. The Competition Rules has further details.

Provincial Technical Committee Members:

Name	Company/Organization	Role
Victor Kulla	Huckleberry Landscape Design	Committee Chair
Iain Wilson	ISW Landscapes	Committee Co-chair
Derek Churchill		
Mariah Kivari		