

# CONTEST DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT

## 85– PUBLIC SPEAKING

### Secondary Level

(NOTE: Scope may change without notice)

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

#### PURPOSE OF THE CHALLENGE

**DURATION: 1 day**

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 to construct answers to related questions in a clear and concise manner.

#### SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED

- Present original 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.
- Reflect upon research, make observations, and share experiences through prompted response.

#### CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Each competitor will speak on the following prompt topic:

**There are ever increasing advancements being made in technology.**

With this in mind,

**How might the skilled trades and technologies navigate this change?**

**By midnight (in your time zone) May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**, students must submit their speeches as a double spaced, justified, Arial 14 point PDF document via email to the following email address: [sahara@skillscanadanwt.org](mailto:sahara@skillscanadanwt.org)

**Students who do not submit speeches by the above deadline will receive a deduction of 5 points per day late, to a maximum of 15.**

- Competitors will attend a mandatory orientation session prior to the opening ceremonies.
- Competitors will observe the "on-site" Skills Canada competitions in the morning to gather information about skilled trades and technology careers. The intent of these observations is to support the response to the impromptu topic. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
- At 1:30pm on May 7th, each competitor will present a prepared speech in a formal public setting, and answer one (1) question based upon the submitted speech. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.

#### TIME REQUIREMENTS

##### Length of Impromptu Speech

• Starting at 2:30pm, competitors will be given a prompt based upon their observations of the skilled trades and technology contests. They will have a maximum of 2 minutes to prepare and 3 minutes to respond. Time cards will be shown at 2 minutes, 1 minute, and 15 seconds to indicate time remaining during response.

##### Length of Prepared Speech

• The speech shall be at least 5 minutes in length and shall not exceed 7 minutes.

- There will **not** be a warning light, sound, or time cards to indicate time allotment. Competitors should develop the skill to monitor the length of their presentation.

### Length of Response to Question

- In the afternoon, students will be asked one question based upon the content of their submitted speeches. Competitors will have a maximum of 1 minute and 30 seconds to respond to the question. Time card will be shown to indicate 15 seconds remaining.

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Essential skills are used in nearly every job to varying degrees. They provide a foundation for learning all other skills and enable people to evolve with their jobs and adapt to workplace change. Good Essential Skills will help you understand and remember concepts introduced in technical training. The level of Essential Skills required for most trades is as high or higher than for many office jobs.

Of the nine skills that have been identified and validated as key essential skills for the workplace, this contest involves the following:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous Learning     | <input type="checkbox"/> Numeracy                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thinking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Digital                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Working with Others |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Document Use | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reading Text       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Writing  |

## EQUIPMENT, TOOLS & SUPPLIES

### PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTEE

- Lectern with microphone (optional use for each competitor)
- Audio/Video recording of speeches is permitted
- Wireless microphone (if required)

### PROVIDED BY THE CONTESTANT

- Optional: Use of cue cards/notes
- Electronic equipment may be used at the discretion of the Technical Chair
- Competitors should be dressed appropriately on both days for a **business presentation**.
- Provincial/Territorial team shirts may not be worn during the competition.

## SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

No PPE is required for this competition category

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### CONSECUTIVE TRANSLATION

If a translator is required on site, 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 might not be guaranteed.

### TIE (NO TIES ARE ALLOWED)

In the event of a tie, the competitor with the highest score in the Delivery criteria of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner. If the tie remains, the competitor with the higher mark in the Content section of the Prepared Speech will be declared the winner. If there is still a tie, the student with the highest overall score in the Impromptu Speech will be declared the winner.

### COMPETITION RULES

Please refer to the Skills Canada National Competition rule book which will be emailed to all competitors.

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS - JUDGES

***Keneisha Buddoo, Tech Chair***

[keneisha.buddoo@yics.nt.ca](mailto:keneisha.buddoo@yics.nt.ca)