



## 2012 15th ANNUAL SKILLS MANITOBA COMPETITION CONTEST SCOPE

**CONTEST NAME:** PREPARED SPEECH

**CONTEST NO:** 85

**LEVEL:** Secondary Level - 2 competitors per school allowed

**CONTEST LOCATION:** Red River College – Notre Dame Campus

**CONTEST START TIME AND DURATION:**

Orientation will take place immediately following opening ceremonies at which time each competitor will submit four hard copies of his/her speech. Competitors will be given opportunity to observe other on-site competitions. Formal Speech Competition begins at 10:30 a.m.

**PURPOSE OF 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 communication including the ability to do the following:

- write and speak so others pay attention and understand
- listen and ask questions
- share information
- use technological knowledge and skills to explain or clarify ideas

The prepared speech competition is designed to encourage and enhance the development of these skills in making career choices. The challenge provides the opportunity for competition 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:**

Competitors will demonstrate these abilities:

- Present thoughts in a clear, coherent, and well-constructed format on **one** of the assigned topics
- Capture and hold the attention of the audience within the five (5) to seven (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, with conviction within the one minute and thirty second time limit per question.
- Reflect upon research, make observations, and share experiences through prompted response.

Each competitor will choose ONE (1) of the following topics:

**TOPIC 1: “Life is to be lived and passed on to others...Skills Canada allows this to happen!”  
(Mark Bramer, Skills/Competences Canada, Worldskills Expert)**

**OR**

**TOPIC 2: Skilled Trades and Technology – Securing Canada’s Future**

Competitors should reflect creatively on their chosen topic, ensuring that 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. During the orientation session, competitors must submit four (4) hard copies of his/her speech to the provincial committee chair. Hard copy must clearly indicate chosen topic (Topic 1 or Topic 2).

**LENGTH OF PREPARED SPEECH:**

- The speech shall be at least five (5) minutes in length, and shall not exceed seven (7) minutes.
- Fifty (50) 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 light or sound to indicate time allotment. Competitors should develop the skill to monitor the length of their presentations.

**LENGTH OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS:**

- At the end of the speeches, students will be asked two (2) questions. Competitors will have exactly one minute and thirty seconds to respond to each question. Twenty (20) points will be deducted from the final score for each question exceeding the one minute thirty seconds specified. One of the two questions will relate to the other skills and trades competition observations made during the time between the orientation and the speech presentations.

**TASKS TO BE PERFORMED DURING THE CONTEST:**

- Competitors will attend an orientation session at 8:00 a.m.
- At the orientation session, the competitors will submit four (4) hard copies of their speeches to the provincial committee chair.
- Competitors will observe the “on-site” Provincial Skills Canada competitions to research and gather information about skilled trades and technology careers. The purpose of this observation component is 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.
- Competitors will present their speeches in a formal public setting with all competitors present. Order of presentations will be determined through a random selection process.
- Competitors will then respond to two (2) questions. One (1) question will be based on their chosen topic, as outlined above. The second question will be based upon the required observation and research component completed prior to the speech presentations.

**EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED BY COMMITTEE:**

A lectern will be provided (use is optional for each competitor)

## **EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, MATERIALS TO BE SUPPLIED BY COMPETITOR:**

- Optional: use of cue cards/notes.
- No electronic equipment of other props will be permitted.
- Clothing should be appropriate for a formal presentation.
- Competitors must not identify their home schools or names during the competition, and the delivery of their speeches. Ten (10) points will be deducted from each judge's final score out of 1000 points for violation of this regulation.

## **POINT BREAKDOWN/1000 TOTAL:**

### **CONTENT /300**

Point breakdown:

- Ideas and information; related to and focused on the chosen topic (150)  
This portion may be scored with the aid of the hard copies submitted at the time or orientation
- Organization: logical and focused structure (100)
- Opening of Speech: lead into topic, creating interest (25)
- Closing of Speech: summary and conclusion (25)

### **DELIVERY /500**

Point Breakdown:

- Mechanics: diction/grammar/pronunciation (50)
- Effectiveness: convincing/coherent/interesting/descriptive language (150)
- Eye Contact (50)
- Non Verbal: gestures/mannerisms/body language (50)
- Voice: pitch/tone/tempo/volume (50)
- Poise: confidence (150)

### **QUESTIONS /200**

Point Breakdown:

Question 1: (100)

- Clarity/to the point (100)
- Conviction/Knowledge of topic (100)

Question 2: (100)

- Clarity/to the point (100)
- Conviction/Knowledge of topic (100)

## **NATIONAL COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY:**

- A mark of **70% or higher** must be scored by the gold medalist in order to attend the National Skills Competition

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

Mrs. Irene Peters – Committee Chair

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