



## 2025 South West Regional Skills Canada Competition

### Contest Description

Lethbridge Polytechnic (3000 College Drive South, Lethbridge)

March 8, 2025

<b>EVENT:</b> Photography		<b>LEVEL:</b> Secondary
<b>DURATION OF CONTEST:</b> 4.5 HOURS		<b>LOCATION:</b> LETHBRIDGE POLYTECHNIC TE3219
<b>COMPETITION SCHEDULE:</b>		<b>REGIONALIZED: NO</b>
CHECK IN (FOUNDERS'SQUARE)	7:45 A.M.	
ORIENTATION	7:55 A.M.	
COMPETITION BEGINS	8:15 A.M.	
LUNCH	11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	
COMPETITION ENDS	1:15 P.M.	
JUDGING AND DEFENSE	1:15 P.M.	
<b>AWARDS CEREMONY INFORMATION:</b> The awards ceremony will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Swing Space (AN1804). It is open to the public; parents are encouraged to attend.		

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a spot reserved at the Provincial Skills Canada Competition (PSCC) for the winner of the South West Regional Skills Alberta Competition. If the South West Regional winner has registered for the PSCC competition the spot would pass to the South West Regional silver medalist. Students are encouraged to enter both competitions, providing two separate opportunities to enter the PSCC.

### CONTEST INTRODUCTION

Competitors will be able to evaluate their proficiency at creatively expressing the selected theme with the use of an SLR camera. Competitors will demonstrate how the proper use of camera settings, lens choice, lighting and angle of view can result in impactful photographic compositions. The photography competition will focus on a high-level end product.

**Please Note:** Competition requirements at the Provincial level will differ slightly from the requirements at the Regional level.

### SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED

- Creative Expression
- Composition
- Proper use of camera settings including shutter speed, aperture and ISO
- Lens Choice
- Angle of View
- Workflow

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Competitors will provide 4 well composed, correctly exposed colour photographs designed around a given theme. The photographs must consist of:
  - One outside photograph
  - One inside photograph that is of the Regional Skills Canada competition
  - One photograph that includes the mystery item
  - One photograph at the competitor’s discretion
- This year’s theme will be **“Textures”**. Open to interpretation, competitors have the ability to take this concept in any direction they deem appropriate. For example, photos may include visual elements of actual reflections, reflective surfaces and/or their effects. Or they may take a more figurative interpretation, for example, “Reflection” as a theme of contemplation or introspection. Competitors have the freedom to creatively explore whatever reflection means to them, but also need to be prepared to make a convincing argument for how their photos align with the theme.
- The Regional Skills Canada Competition will serve as the setting, with all work occurring in and on the grounds of Lethbridge Polytechnic.
- Flashes are prohibited in competition areas for safety reasons.
- Help menus may be accessed and google searches may be performed to assist with editing photos.
- The date and time must be correctly set on the camera in order for photos to qualify for judging.
- Digitally adding or removing elements to your images and combining photographs is **NOT ALLOWED** and will cause the competitor to be disqualified from the competition.
- Competitors are expected to ensure that their camera’s memory card is cleared (or reformatted) prior to the competition.
- During judging, competitors will display their photos on a computer monitor. No printing will take place. Competitors will be required to explain how their photos fit the theme during the judging portion of the competition. Judges will provide feedback to each competitor.
- Please note all competitors must ensure the following; not doing so may cause disqualification:
  - All photos must be in colour
  - Photos must be taken during the competition and on location
  - 4 photos as outlined above must be submitted – no more, no less
  - No digital addition or removal of elements to photos is allowed

**Please Note: Competitors may be granted access to Skills Competition areas ONLY if permission from the Committee Chair of that specific competition allows it. If granted access, competitors MUST be outfitted in the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment for that particular area.**

## EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

### Equipment and Materials Competitors Must Supply:

- DSLR or mirrorless camera body with interchangeable lens. Be aware of your camera's crop factor: 1.6 for most (Canon) or 1.5 for most (Nikon, Sony, Pentax) or Full Frame.
- Camera USB Cables.
- An empty memory card that must be formatted on site during the orientation to the competition.

### Equipment and Materials Supplied by the Committee:

- PC Desktop computers running the CS6 versions of: Adobe Creative Cloud 2016
- Memory Sticks
- Personal Protective Equipment required to enter other competition areas

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Evaluation Criteria:

- **Impact** - Overall impression, originality, appeal to your senses - out of 10
- **Composition** - Cropping, format, main subject focus, textures, patterns, sense of depth - out of 10
- **Presentation** - Effective use of editing software - out of 10
- **Storytelling** - Main subject focus or theme, unifying thought or idea - out of 10
- **Technical** - Use of aperture, shutter speed, exposure, other camera settings - out of 10
- Please note that photos with added or combined elements will be disqualified.
- The camera must be set with the correct date and time in order for photos to qualify for judging.
- Students will be required to verbally explain how their photos fit the theme during judging portion of the competition. Judges will provide feedback to each competitor.

## TIE BREAKING PROCESS

In the event of a tie the competitor with the highest marks in the impact category will be determined to be the winner.



## RELATED CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES COURSES

Descriptions of all modules are located at the following website:

<https://education.alberta.ca/career-and-technology-studies/programs-of-study/>

- COM1005: Visual Composition
- COM1205: Photography – Introduction
- COM1215: Photography – Exposure
- COM1275: Photography – Digital Processing 1
- COM2205: Photography – Composition
- COM2215: Photography – Communication
- COM2235: Photography – Lenses
- COM3215: Photography – Photojournalism
- COM3235: Photography – B/W Digital Technique

## CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

It is important that competitors present a professional image and appearance. Appropriate work clothing must be worn to compete. All clothing must be neat and clean and free of rips and tears. Casual wear such as shorts will not be permitted. No loose-fitting clothes or jewelry.

- In order to enter other competition areas, students must NOT wear open-toed shoes.

## SAFETY

The health, safety and welfare of all individuals involved with Skills Canada Alberta are of vital importance. Safety is a condition of participation with Skills Canada Alberta and shall not be sacrificed for the sake of expediency. At the discretion of the judges and technical committees, any competitor can be denied the right to participate should they not have the required proper safety equipment and/or act in an unsafe manner that can cause harm to themselves or others.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Lunch will be provided for all competitors, teacher chaperones, judges and volunteers. Your lunch ticket will be in the back of your name tag. Unfortunately, all allergies may not be able to be accommodated for. Please connect with the local Regional Coordinator for more information.

## PARKING INFORMATION & VENUE MAPS

Please park in Lot V – there is no charge. Overflow will also be allowed in Lot P. A printable parking map of Lethbridge Polytechnic can be found at: <https://lethpolytech.ca/document-centre/facilities-management/parking-map>

## REGIONAL REGULATIONS & POLICIES

A copy of the Skills Canada Alberta Regional Regulations & Policies can be found at the following link: <http://www.skillsalberta.com/policies-and-procedures>

**EVENT SCHEDULE**

7:55	Safety Orientation
8:05	Students moved to competition area and complete orientation
8:15	Competition Begins
11:30	Lunch Break – lab locked for 30 minutes
12:00	Competition resumes
1:15	Competition ends – Defense of Project Begins Competitors wait in hallway; one-by-one complete defense of project
2:15	Judging begins
3:15	Group feedback – competitors and teachers are encouraged to hear general feedback as a group in TE3219
4:00	Awards Ceremony (Swing Space – AN1804) – open to the public

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Holly Lehbauer	Career Transitions
Ian Martens	Lethbridge Herald
Judy Stolk-Ingram	Career Transitions