



2026 South West Regional Skills Canada Competition

Contest Description

Lethbridge Polytechnic – 3000 College Drive South, Lethbridge, Alberta

Saturday, March 21, 2026

EVENT: Cabinet Making		LEVEL: Secondary										
DURATION OF CONTEST: 6 HOURS		LOCATION: LETHBRIDGE POLYTECHNIC TR 1840										
COMPETITION SCHEDULE: <table><tr><td>CHECK-IN (FOUNDER'S SQUARE)</td><td>7:25 A.M.</td></tr><tr><td>ORIENTATION</td><td>7:45 A.M.</td></tr><tr><td>COMPETITION BEGINS</td><td>8:00 A.M.</td></tr><tr><td>LUNCH</td><td>11:45 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.</td></tr><tr><td>COMPETITION ENDS</td><td>2:30 P.M.</td></tr></table>		CHECK-IN (FOUNDER'S SQUARE)	7:25 A.M.	ORIENTATION	7:45 A.M.	COMPETITION BEGINS	8:00 A.M.	LUNCH	11:45 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.	COMPETITION ENDS	2:30 P.M.	REGIONALIZED: YES If YES, students must qualify at their Regional Skills Canada Competition to compete at the Provincial Skills Canada Competition.
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AWARDS CEREMONY INFORMATION: The awards ceremony will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Swing Space (AN 1804). It is open to the public; parents are encouraged to attend.												

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED

- Reading & interpreting drawings
- Planning work procedures
- Layout and cutting of dovetail joints with hand tools
- Cutting components to size accurately with hand and/or stationary power tools
- Effective assembly of project components that are square and flush
- Ability to produce a well-finished project that is true to the drawing

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The *Curio Box* is designed to provide students an opportunity to demonstrate a variety of woodworking skills and abilities. The project utilizes hand-cut, dowel-pinned dovetails on the front corners of the box with dowel-pinned rabbet joints on the back two corners, along with a groove for the bottom panel. A hinged lid consists of a plywood panel with mitred hardwood edging on all four edges. Safe and confident use of hand tools, portable power tools and stationary power tools will be required to complete this project. Proficiency in the Regional project will be a good building block to gain the skills necessary for the Provincial project.

EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

Equipment and materials competitors must supply:

Safety glasses	CSA Safety Footwear	Metric tape measure
Pencils (HB or 2H)	Calculator (optional)	Ear Plugs



Equipment Competitors may bring:

HAND TOOLS COMPETITORS MAY BRING		
Hammer	Square	Clamps (Bar, F, & Quick)
Mallet	Sliding T-bevel	Masking and/or packing tape
Chisels	Block plane	Sanding Block
Coping/Fret saw	Scratch awl	Sandpaper (80-150 grit)
Dovetail saw	Dovetail marker	

Equipment & materials supplied by the committee:

EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES
Router table	All Material & hardware for project
Necessary router bits	*Extra materials for setup checks
Drill Press/cordless drills	Limited extra pieces
Necessary drill bits	Adhesives/glue
Compound Miter saws	Masking tape
Table saw with mitre gauge or sled	Sandpaper (80-150 grit)
Laminate Trimmers	Dowels

COMPETITION SPECIFIC RULES

The following Competition Specific rules along with SCA's overall Policies and Procedures provide specific details in competition areas that may vary from one another. Any additional contest rules will be reviewed during the Competitor Orientation.

Topic/Task	Contest Specific Rule
Use of Technology	Competitors are not allowed laptops, tablets, cameras, cell phones, ear buds or other personal electronics in the competition area unless specified by the committee for certain tasks.
Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Competitors cannot use AI to develop/generate any of the submitted work for any aspects of the competition.
Tools	1. Competitors are encouraged, but not required, to bring their own hand tools. Any tools not on the equipment list above need to be approved by competition judges and/or committee members. 2. No pre-made jigs and/or power tools will be allowed; this includes dovetail cutting jigs. Dovetail markers are allowed for layout but not as a cutting guide. 3. Competition judges and/or committee members may assist in machine set ups but only students may perform any operations. Any operations deemed unsafe will not be allowed.

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Materials	Each competitor will receive one (1) project kit which will contain the required materials to build the project. If a competitor requires extra material due to a mis-cut of the original pieces, there will be a deduction in that competitors score. Competitors will have an opportunity to inspect their project kit to ensure all materials are present with no defects before beginning.
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Recommended Procedure List:

Dovetails - Hand cut, no power tools may be used in any part of this process. Dovetails will be evaluated both before and after assembly. Dovetail parts need to be brought up for marking unassembled but with clear layout marking.

Rabbets for Case - Router table with $\frac{3}{4}$ " straight bit. *Instructors may set up some or all router and router table operations depending on the facility but only students may perform any operations.*

Lid Mitres - Table saw with miter gauge or sled. Mitre saws may also be used but are not recommended.

Lid Edging - glue and clamped or taped (clear packing tape, clear fiber filament tape, or masking tape are good options), finished with a flush trim bit in a laminate trimmer or block plane.

Chamfers - Router table set up or laminate trimmer with material securely clamped.

Bottom Panel Groove – Router table with appropriately sized straight/slot cutting bit or table saw with multiple passes, dado blades are not provided. Stopped cuts on the router table must use stop blocks or be run through and plugged with provided 6mm stock.

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.

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. Competitor may bring work gloves to wear but are not mandatory.

RELATED CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES COURSES

Descriptions of all modules are located at the following website:

https://education.alberta.ca/media/160534/con_course_summaries_old.pdf

CON1010 CON1120 CON1130 CON1160
CON2130 CON2140 CON2170



JUDGING CRITERIA

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1. Dimensions | 20% | |
| 2. Joinery | 50% | |
| 3. Fit and Finish | 30% | Overall Total 100% |

TIE BREAKING PROCESS

The quality of the dovetails will determine the winner in the event of a tie. If the results are still inconclusive the quality of the remaining joinery will be used to determine the winner.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Lunch: Provided for all competitors. Unfortunately, all allergies may not be able to be accommodated for. Please connect with the local Regional Coordinator for more information.

Parking & 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>

Regulations & Policies: View the Skills Canada Alberta Regional Regulations & Policies here
<https://skillsalberta.com/competition/regulations-and-policies/>

Skillz & Thrillz - Alberta's Trade & Tech Youth Podcast: Our talented alumni share tips and tricks on how to succeed in competitions and your career! Their insights can help you prepare for your Skills journey, and who knows, you might just be a future guest!
<https://skillsalberta.com/student-resources/skillz-thrillz-albertas-trade-tech-youth-podcast/>

REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kelly Cherpin	Lethbridge Polytechnic
Tyrel Churko	Lethbridge Polytechnic
Brody Forster	Lethbridge Polytechnic
Zac Harris	Matthew Halton High School
Holly Lehbauer	Career Transitions
Ed Noordegraaf	Lethbridge Polytechnic
Shawn Scotney	Lethbridge Polytechnic
Judy Stolk-Ingram	Career Transitions