



2026 South West Regional Skills Canada Competition

Contest Description

Lethbridge Polytechnic – 3000 College Drive South, Lethbridge, AB

Saturday, March 21, 2026

EVENT: Hairstyling Intermediate – Creative Bridal		LEVEL: Secondary - Grade 10, 11 & 12								
DURATION OF CONTEST: 1.5 HOURS		LOCATION: AN1801								
COMPETITION SCHEDULE: <table><tr><td>CHECK-IN (FOUNDERS SQUARE)</td><td>8:00 AM</td></tr><tr><td>ORIENTATION</td><td>1:00PM</td></tr><tr><td>COMPETITION BEGINS</td><td>1:15PM</td></tr><tr><td>COMPETITION ENDS</td><td>2:45</td></tr></table>		CHECK-IN (FOUNDERS SQUARE)	8:00 AM	ORIENTATION	1:00PM	COMPETITION BEGINS	1:15PM	COMPETITION ENDS	2:45	REGIONALIZED: YES If YES, To compete at the Provincial Skills Canada Competition students must qualify at their Regional 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 (AN1804). It is open to the public; parents are encouraged to attend.										

Please Note: This document is subject to change as competition information is updated.

Competitors are responsible for staying up to date with the most recent information. Check the footer for the last updated date. Changes will be highlighted in **yellow**.

CONTEST INTRODUCTION

Enable industry as well as observers to view the level of skill taught within the secondary and post-secondary programs and encourages interaction between the various sectors. This relationship will ensure the skills gained by young hairstylists at all levels of training will meet the demands of the beauty industry. The competition also challenges students in hairstyling and promotes this career area.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED:

This competition will be a **photo replication** very typical of what a client would ask for in a salon. This look will be **commercial/wearable**. The level of this competition will allow the young stylists to demonstrate their technical skills and creative design ability in the following test by creating a Bridal Style (Long Hair) Evening. **NO ornamentation will be allowed at the Regional level but will be provided at the Provincial competition.**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Test: Bridal Style: Must be Commercial and Wearable

A photo (one of the three below) from a sealed envelope will be revealed live during the orientation. Students will not have a chance to confer with coaches or others before the start of the competition. Each student will receive a copy of the photo they are expected to replicate at the orientation and will put it onto their station so they can reference it during the competition.

2026 Regional Skills Canada Competition

There will be NO:

- Clothing or jewelry
- Ornamentation (only provided at Provincials)
- No temporary color including but not limited to chinks, glitter, and mascara

Objective:

- The competitor will re-create the revealed up-style from the photo.
- The style will be acceptable for a typical bridal client to wear & will not be fantasy.
- The competitors will handle hair confidently and will brush, comb and part hair correctly to duplicate the elements of the photo.
- Hair must be completely dry and brushed through at the beginning of the contest.
- No curls, waves or shapes can be incorporated prior to the start of competition.
- There will be NO braiding in this event.

EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

Equipment and Materials Competitors Must Supply:

Long hair mannequin and stand – this stand must be able to fit onto a 2" thick table, NO TRIPOD STANDS ALLOWED , no body mannequins, shoulders allowed, no neon colors	Working tools and equipment, which should include the following: water bottle, towels, cape, all cutting implements, all thermal tools (flat irons, crimpers, curling irons) hair dryer (must not require more than 1800 watts)
Preferred types of styling products (ALL PRODUCT LABELS MUST BE COVERED)	

Equipment and Materials Supplied by the Committee:

Table	Mirror	Single electrical outlet
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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
Time Limits	All work must be completed within the specified timeframe. Tools may be set up beforehand, but no hair manipulation may begin until the official start signal. Time will be announced at various intervals throughout the competition by members of the committee.
Authentic Practice	Stylists must treat the mannequin as they would a live client. No techniques, products, or fastening methods may be used that would be unsafe, inappropriate, or impossible to perform on an actual person.
Respectful Work Space	Competitors must maintain a clean, safe work area. All tools must be sanitized according to industry standards.

2026 Regional Skills Canada Competition

Products and Tools	Hair products must be professional-grade and safe for client use. No adhesives, glues, tapes, or non-hair-safe fastening methods. No sharing of tools or products with other competitors. All product labels must be covered.
Use of Technology	Competitors are not allowed smart watches, cell phones, ear buds, or other personal electronics in the competition area unless specified by the committee for certain tasks.
Assistive Notes	Competitors may not bring any written instructions, diagrams, step-by-step guides, or reference materials onto the competition floor. All work must be completed from memory and without external prompts.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All judging will be performed according to both subjective and objective criteria. Objective areas are those areas which are a simple yes or no. Subjective areas are those which require trade specific, creative judgement. Subjective areas judged by an independent panel and included the following five areas:

1. Replication of Photo
2. Quality of Design
3. Balance of Design
4. Clean Finish
5. Harmony from every view angle

Objective areas judged by the Regional Technical Committee or similar Judging Panel include:

1. In category: Commercial look
2. Contains the elements in the photo
3. Appropriate use of the accessories provided (at the Provincial competition)

JUDGING RUBRIC

Element	1 Beginning	2 Developing	3 Proficient	4 Exemplary
Balance of Design: Side to side, front to back, back to side, profile, overall look	No Balance in any area	Has balance in one or two areas only	Has balance in three or more areas	Has complete balance in all 5 areas
Clean Finish: No pins showing, intentional texture achieved, seamless transition of all the elements, no stray hair, no overspray 5 views being judged: front, top, back, right side, left side	There is a violation in each of the 5 identified clean finish elements	There is a violation in more than two of the identified clean finish elements	There is a violation in at least one of the identified clean finish elements	There is no violation in each of the 5 identified clean finish elements

2026 Regional Skills Canada Competition

Replication of Photo: The style is an exact replication of the photo provided	Style does not accurately represent the photo and minimal replication is evident	Has some significant discrepancies between the finished design and photo	Style is similar to the photo but has minimal discrepancies in replication and the elements required	Demonstrates superior replication of photo and the elements required
Quality of Design: Shown through integration of various elements. Shows deliberate transitions through unified design elements	Demonstrates a beginning level and needs further development in the quality of work	Transitions are weak and style looks underdone, but the work is developing	Style demonstrates proficient quality, and transitions of elements are visible, but need more practice to execute	Style demonstrates an exemplary quality of work, and transitions are smooth and clear
Harmony from every view: Every angle demonstrates a harmonious style	No harmony is evident	Limited harmony is evident but is lacking in one of more views	Proficient harmony is evident in all views	Superior harmony in all views

Demerits will be given for any rule infractions listed in the Contest Specific Rules section including:

- Mannequins will be displayed on the table facing the mirror with a regular stand (no tripods).
- No additional props on the display surface.
- Students are only allowed to bring one mannequin onto the competition floor (no choosing mannequins after the photo has been shared)
- Hair must be completely dry and brushed through at the beginning of the contest.
- All contestants must have closed toed shoes (No platform or high heel shoes).
- No hair fillers, pads, builders or nets.
- No temporary color can be added.
- No touching the hair after the time has been called.
- Only 1 appliance plugged in at any given time.
- Any communication between audience and competitor during the competition times will be seen as coaching and will result in demerits.
- Competitors are urged to create a clean finish and may remove hair that is deemed to interfere with a clean finish using shears only. Removal of excess length or bulk from the hair will result in demerits.
- No ornamentation will be used at regionals but an ornamentation will be provided at provincials.



TIE BREAKING PROCESS

In the case of a tie, judges will be called back to the competition floor to break the tie. The highest score in the quality of design category will be the deciding factor. If there is still a tie, the replication of photo score will be the next deciding factor.

RELATED CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES COURSES

Descriptions of all courses are located at the following website: <http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/cts>

HSA3900: APPRENTICESHIP SAFETY

HSA3521: STYLING DRY HAIR

HSA3526: UPDO AND UPSTYLE STYLING TECHNIQUES

HSA3531: STYLE HAIR USING ACCESSORIES

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Clean and comfortable work attire as would be worn in a modern hair salon, as well as any protective clothing if needed. Proper footwear must be worn (no platform, high heeled, or 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: 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

April Takahashi	Community Member
Amanda Wark	Livingstone Range School Division
Angela Huculak	Community Member
Holly Lehbauer	Career Transitions
Kayla Reyes	Bella Elite Beauty Academy
Sherry Silvaggio	Bella Elite Beauty Academy
Judy Stolk-Ingram	Career Transitions

2026 Regional Skills Canada Competition





