



NEAT week -
Capstone
Competition
College
Briefing
Package

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NEAT Week – Background

For many years, the Provincial Member Organizations (PMO's) of Technology Professionals Canada (TPC) have been participants in either National Engineering Month (NEM) activities, or other cooperative activities designed to highlight engineering and engineering technology in their respective provinces. Other provinces were working closely with the Skills Canada organizations focusing on the skilled trades and technology. However, many of the PMO's were finding that engineering technology was being overshadowed by the focus on either professional engineers or the skilled trades. Our members are the important and often overlooked professionals in the middle. Therefore, following the reunification of the provincial organizations under TPC, it was agreed that a week dedicated to engineering technology would be a better way to gain the desired profile. There was agreement to launch National Engineering and Applied science Technology (NEAT) week as the last week in November, starting in 2024.

Capstone Project Competition

A National Capstone Project competition will be the cornerstone of NEAT week activities. It will be an annual team or individual competition held for students completing their engineering technology diploma studies from the polytechnic institutes and colleges across the country. This competition is designed to showcase, celebrate, and recognize the technical excellence and ingenuity that exists within engineering and applied science technologies.

Each of the Capstone finalists will have their projects featured and advertised on the TPC micro-website and other applicable media outlets. The members of the three finalist teams / individuals will receive individual awards, along with a team / individual certificate that can be displayed at the institution the team or individual represents.

Competition Cycle

Each province will establish the cycle for their provincial competition that works best within their organization and their institutions, as long as the winners can be brought forward for the national competition no later than October 20. In order to accommodate the national cycle, Technology Professionals Saskatchewan (TPS) is requesting submissions from the Saskatchewan Polytechnic colleges by August 30.

Once all the provincial winners have been submitted for blind review (so that no one knows the originating province), the National Reviewers (which will comprise the TPC Leadership Council) will take approximately two weeks for review and scoring. Once the reviews are complete, the scores will be compiled to determine the top three projects. Non-disclosure agreement (NDA) forms will be sent to the finalist team or individual prior to acknowledging the official decision. The final competition will be in the format of a webinar during NEAT week where all three finalist projects will be presented. The webinar audience will be invited to vote on the winner and will determine first, second, and third place. We strongly urge you to promote the webinar to your students and their family and friends and encourage participation in the voting.

Following the webinar, the winning project will be publicly announced, and all team or individual will be informed and congratulated for their participation.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Capstone Competition Criteria

The Capstone finalists will have their projects evaluated by the TPC Leadership Council who will consider:

- Project originality
- Quality of research
- Methodology and explanation
- Practicality and importance to society

- Creativity and innovation.

Eligibility Guidelines

To be eligible for the competition, all team / individual members must be either Student or Associate members of their respective PMO (i.e. TPS).

Submission Guidelines

Project submissions will be via an on-line form and will have three components: a written project summary (maximum 10 pages), a video presentation by the team / individual (maximum 10 minutes), and the full technical report for the project. The submission form should be completed by an instructor or representative from the institution. Prior to completing the form, the team should collect the following items for the submission package:

Team or individual Components:

- The **names, membership ID numbers** and **post-graduation contact** information for each team or individual member so the PMO and TPC may contact them regarding the competition.
 - Each team or individual must select a primary and secondary contact (*not the instructor*) to act as the liaison between the PMO and TPC and their team / themselves.
- A brief **personal biography** for each team / individual member that may be used in an article about the Capstone competition.
- **Photograph(s)** – prepare a team / individual photo with the file name identifying team members from left to right or individual headshots of each team member with the file names identifying the person in the photo.

Project Components:

- Each submission must include a **presentation package**, which demonstrates how the project was presented and/or explained to instructors and peers. Maximum 10 pages plus appendices.
 - *PDF/Word Documents only. If the presentation was created as a PowerPoint, please convert the file into a PDF document prior to uploading it to the submission form.*
- Each submission must include a **video presentation** of the project – 10 minutes maximum.
- Each submission must include a copy of the **full technical report** for the project, including the instructor's marking rubric.
 - *PDF/Word Documents only.*
- Each submission must include relevant **high-resolution photos, drawings/schematics.**

Application Form

Please click [here](#).

We look forward to working with you on this initiative and will continue to discuss other activities that may be of interest to your institution during NEAT week. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Feltis, AScT, ceo@tpsk.ca.