

Judge Information, Orientation, & Guidelines





Session Outline

1. Welcome

2. Orientation to the judging process & forms

3. Reminders around providing constructive feedback

4. Impact of the Youth Innovation Showcase on participants

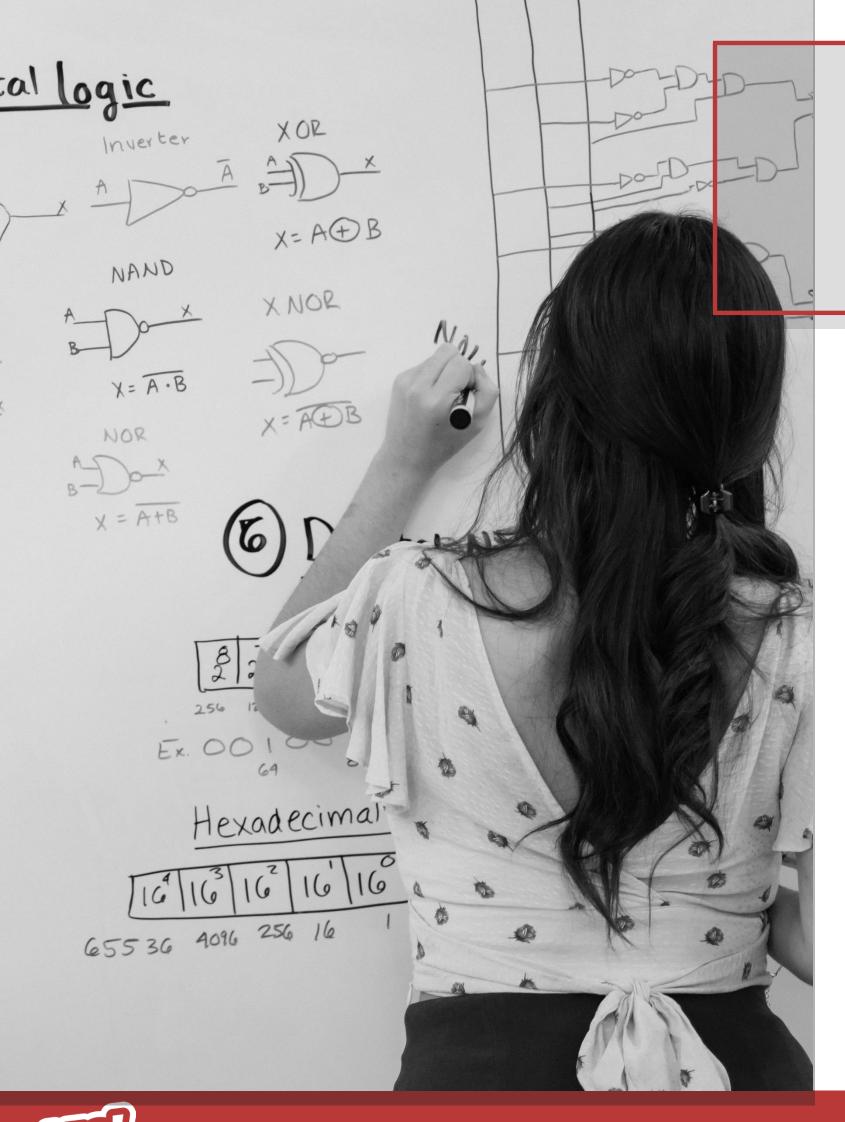




Welcome!







What is YIS?

· STEM competition for youth in BC or the Yukon between 12 and 19 years of age

· Primary purpose behind the Youth Innovation Showcase is to give youth a platform to show off their own unique innovation project and be recognized for their hard work and ingenuity



Key Components of the Youth Innovation Showcase

1 Semi-Final Judging Round

November 18, 2025

- Review participant video and report
- Attend interview
- Provide supportive feedback to participants on their project using scoring sheets

2 Final Judging Round

January 13, 2026

- Review participant video and report
- Attend interview
- Provide supportive feedback to participants on their project using scoring sheets





Judging Philosophy

· Many participants have been working hard for months in preparation for this event, and they will find their discussions with you to be a highlight of the Youth Innovation Showcase

· While this is a competition, our first priority is that all youth have a positive judging experience

· Your role as a judge is not only to evaluate the merit of various projects, but also to provide helpful, constructive feedback as an expert in your field







Innovations

All projects should be Innovations:

- These are the development and evaluation of innovative devices, models or techniques, or approaches in technology, engineering or computers (hardware of software)
- · An innovation can be a brand-new product or service, or an existing product or technology that is being used in a brand-new way







Judging Criteria

- The projects will be evaluated based on four major criteria: Innovation (40%), Communication (35%), Functional & Realistic (15%), and Engagement (10%)
- · Video and project reports are important in that they should demonstrate the participant's ability to communicate concepts, methods, and results relevant to their project







Innovation (40%):

Is this idea unique?

Is the subject matter challenging for the age category?

Younger age category: 12-15 years old Older age category: 16-19 years old







2 Communication (35%):

Did the participant explain the subject matter clearly, allowing you to develop a genuine understanding of the innovation?







3 Functional & Realistic (15%):

Did the participant make an effort to present the innovation in a manner that will work as outlined?

Did the innovation effectively address the challenge the youth identified?







4 Engagement (10%):

Did the participant capture your interest?

Did you want to hear more about the innovation?





Primary Judging Rounds:

Semi-Finals & Finals







Semi-Final Judging

- · You will receive an e-mail with links to the different projects you are responsible for adjudicating, as well as a link to the judge scoring form
- Review the 45-Second Pitch Video and the 1-Page Innovation Report submitted for each project
- · This may be helpful in generating questions to ask during the interview
- Attend the virtual interview





Semi-Finalist Interview

- · Interviews are virtual and will be 15-20 minutes
- · Introduce yourself and ask each participant to do the same
- · Allow the participant(s) two (2) minutes to explain the innovation
- · Through questioning, ascertain the participant's contribution to and knowledge of the innovation
- · Base your scoring on the quality of the answers in the interview and information in the video & report





The Interview Process - Questioning

- · Pose all questions in a conversational manner
- · Even if you experience a sense of dismay at a project, be careful not to convey this to the student via tone of voice, body language, or lack of attention
- · You may wish to give verbal feedback to the student during the interview
 - · Note this on the judging form; be sure that it is shared in a positive and encouraging way
- · As the conversation and discussion ends, be sure to thank the participant







Finals Judging

- · You will receive an e-mail with links to the different projects you are responsible for adjudicating, as well as a link to the judge scoring form
- Review the 90-Second Pitch Video and the 1-Page Innovation Report submitted for each project
- Attend the virtual interview
- Base your scoring on the quality of the answers in the interview and information in the video & report





Providing Feedback to Participants

- · At all times, it is important to keep in mind the intended audience for your feedback: the participants and youth involved in the Youth Innovation Showcase
- · Your feedback will be sent to the participant after each round of judging
- · All feedback must be constructive, supportive, and encouraging
 - · For example, rather than "You should have done this...", use "For your next project, consider doing this..."





Different Models for Providing Supportive Feedback

Glow and Grow Model:

One item where the project was glowing, and one item where the project can grow

Feedback Sandwich Model:

One item that was done well with the project, one constructive feedback on an aspect of that project that could be done differently, and ending on one aspect of the project that should be continued





In all instances, please acknowledge what was done well and provide constructive suggestions for improvement or future work





Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I differentiate my evaluation for youth that worked with mentors in a university lab versus those who did everything at home?

2. What if I am not an expert on the topic?

3. May I judge more projects than I am assigned?

4. What if I have a conflict of interest for a project I am assigned to judge?

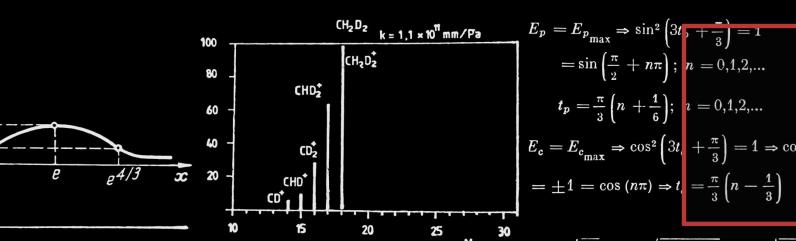




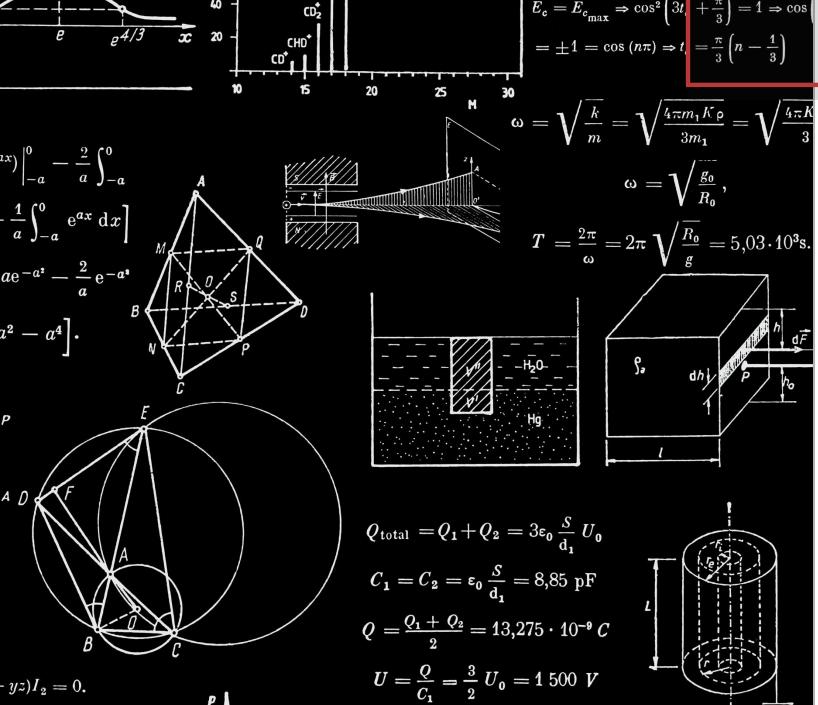
Thank You!







Questions? Comments?



 $=\frac{1}{2}QU = \frac{9}{8} \epsilon_0 \frac{S}{d_1} U_0^2 = 9,956 \cdot 10^{-6} J$

 $-Q_{34} = \nu C_V T_2(\mathcal{X} - 1) + \nu C T_4(1 - \varepsilon^{1/2}),$

Connect with us if you have any questions about the judging process, providing supportive student feedback, or other aspects related to your role as judge

E-mail: info@youthinnovation.ca



 $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ x+t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -t & y \\ z & -x \end{pmatrix}.$

