

MONTREAL REGIONAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FAIR
FROM MARCH 28th TO MARCH 30th 2021

**HYDRO-QUÉBEC SCIENCE FAIR, REGIONAL AND QUEBEC FINALS
IN VIRTUAL MODE!**

This year, as you've experienced, many activities are taking place remotely, and that's going to be the case for the Hydro-Québec Science Fairs – from the Regional Science and Technology Fairs and the Quebec Finals. We would have liked to hold the events in person, but we have adapted and we continue to move forward!

We will do our best to make the experience something you will remember! Through this virtual event, we can have Thousands of visitors, international visibility, tons of prizes to be won, and all this without leaving home! We hope you're ready for the 2021 edition of the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Science Fair!

The Show is next March from **Sunday March 28th to the Tuesday March 30th, 2021** for the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair. Reserve these three days, because it will be YOUR event!

On the following pages, you'll find all the information you need to prepare for the 2021 MRSTF, so that you can plan your participation. We request that you to read this package carefully and follow all the steps. If you have any questions after reading them, don't hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to answer you as soon as possible.

Important note: Some information is not definitive and may therefore change in the coming months.

Enjoy your reading!

Paige Fairlie

Montreal Regional Science & Technology Fair Coordinator

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CONTENTS

I.	Main information	2
II.	The Judging Process	3
III.	Your Presentation.	3
IV.	Your Project.	4
V.	Written Report	6
VI.	Award Ceremony	5
VII.	Registrations	7
VIII.	Eligible Participants from 2020	8
IX.	SUMMARY	8

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I. Main information

When :

- Montreal Regional Science and d Technology Fair: March 28th to 30th, 2021
- Super Expo-sciences Hydro-Québec (Provincial Finals): April 21st to 25th, 2021

Where:

A virtual event that you may participate in from home or in class. You will need to have access to the internet and have the necessary equipment (computer with webcam and microphone). The MRSTF will take place virtually via a specialized platform. Details about the platform will be sent to you later (latest early February 2021).

How to participate:

You will connect via a special Internet platform. We will send you all the information you need to connect to the platform in February 2021.

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The cost:

Although it is virtual, there are costs involved in organizing the MRSTF (rental of the conference software, sending of T-shirts/medals, awards etc.). This year it will be \$40 for a solo and \$50 for a duo project (discounted this year from the regular price of \$90 and \$100 in previous years). If you are not a member of EAST, there is a supplemental fee of 50\$/project. Members of EAST include: English Montreal School Board, Lester B. Pearson School Board, QAIS Affiliate Schools, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

II. Judging Process

Depending on the number of projects registered, judging will take place between Sunday March 28th and Monday March 29th, 2021. Your judging times will be spread over four (4) periods. You will have 15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions and a 10 minute break between periods.

The judging will take place live via the platform chosen for the event.

You will be in a videoconference with at least one judge during the 20 minutes of your presentation. Each judge will listen to you and ask questions afterwards.

Judging times will be sent to you in March, following the registration period. **IMPORTANT:** Your (virtual) presence is mandatory for the judging. Any absence will exclude you from the finals and prizes (see details in the rules).

III. Your Oral Presentation

For the judging, and public viewing, your presentation will have a similar format; however it will take place live via a digital platform. Don't be afraid, you won't be online for 10 hours each day!

Public viewing will be in the form of group lectures. You will receive a schedule in advance that will tell you the time you must be available to present your project.

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Each public viewing session lasts one hour and you will be four projects to present during this period. Your presence during this period is mandatory.

We will be scheduling the public viewing times in the coming weeks, but will take place on Sunday March 28th and Tuesday March 30th.

In order to highlight all the projects, there will be several virtual conference rooms at the same time (2 or more depending on the number of projects registered). Each room will have its own schedule. The details of the presentations will be communicated in early March 2021.

During your presentation, there will also be a moderator and the three other teams in the virtual room. The audience will be able to connect to the room to watch your presentation, but they will not be able to interrupt you and their camera will be disabled. Questions from the audience will be asked via an online chat to the moderator, who will ask them at the end of your presentation.

Note: In the case of school visits, you may be able to see visiting classes (with camera). This has yet to be determined.

For this public viewing presentation, you will have 7 minutes to present your project and 3 minutes for questions, i.e. 10 minutes in total. So think of this as a synthesised version of your project presentation for the public.

Some presentations may be broadcast live on platforms such as Facebook Live, Twitch, YouTube, etc...

IV. Your Project

Material:

You will have to present your project in a virtual way. For this, you will need access to a camera and a computer/tablet that are connected to a good quality Internet connection. Instead of a display board, you will be asked to create a digital presentation that can be shared on-screen from your computer.

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Support:

This year, the Science Fair will be in virtual mode, which means that your presentation will be virtual.

For the presentation, we strongly suggest that you set it up using presentation software (Example: Powerpoint, Prezi, Google Slides, LibreOffice, Keynote, etc.). Computer support makes the presentation simpler, more visible and requires less technical assistance!

All types of projects (study, design, experimentation) are allowed this year.

Personal page:

In order to allow the public (and the judges) to have an idea of your project, you will have access to a customisable web page on which you can put the relevant information (text, video, images, etc.). The concept will be explained in more detail in early January.

A few elements are mandatory:

- An individual photo of each team member (Mandatory) must be provided
- A photo of your scientific equipment or design materials used (If applicable)
- The summary of your project (Compulsory)

Video of your presentation

The Science Fair will be in virtual mode, so this provides the possibility of last-minute technical problems. This could be an Internet problem, a computer that no longer turns on, a webcam that doesn't work, etc.

In order to alleviate these problems, we will organise a test session in the weeks before the event with the participants. This will be a very quick session which will allow us to test your Internet connection, to see if your image quality is suitable and so on.

However, one is never safe from a technical problem. Therefore, it is mandatory to provide us with a video of your presentation. It will be used if necessary in order to present your project if a valid technical reason does not allow you to be available live, in particular for judging or public visits.

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Tips and recommendations for taking your video:

- Digital method: The easiest way to make your video is to make it as if you were live with the judge or a visitor. To do this, we invite you to use a platform such as ZOOM, Microsoft Team, Google Meet, etc.
 1. Log in to your account and organise a meeting with an adult (parent or teacher for example).
 2. Share your digital presentation (PowerPoint for example) so that it can be seen on your video.
 3. You or the adult starts the recording of the session.
 4. You present your project as if you were presenting your project at a science fair. (See recommendations below)
 5. Send us the video.

The video will be uploaded via a specialised platform and you will receive the information in the coming months. In the meantime, we ask that:

- The video lasts between 10 and 15 minutes (same length as the judging period).
- The final format is in AVI, MP4, MKV or MOV.
- You send us a video file. You may want to use a google link from Google Drive.
- Your presentation (text and images) is visible on the video.

V. Written Report

You will have a written report to send us (directly to the SGI). As always, this document is compulsory and will be evaluated by the judges during the judgement.

VI. Award Ceremony

The Award Ceremony is scheduled on Tuesday March 30th at 7PM.

Your (virtual) presence at the award ceremony **is compulsory**. Any absent team will not be able to receive an award even if it finishes first in the judges' ranking.

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The ceremony will be in the form of a televised show. It will be live and webcast. The procedure will be similar to a classic ceremony. The only difference is that all participants and visitors will be online and not on site.

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Prizes will be sent by post directly to the young people's homes once the final is over.

VII. Registrations

Registration is already open on the SGI. We advise you to register today (first name, last name, email and project title) in order to reserve your place. You will then be able to complete your registration until February 24, 2021.

Important: By registering today, you will help us better prepare for the final. So don't forget and do it now!

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VIII. 2020 Eligible Participants

Students who were registered for the 2020 Science Fair are automatically registered in SGI for 2021. They can use the same project as last year and improve it if they wish. Students may also choose to create a new one. All the information from the 2020 teams is stored on the SGI and is automatically transferred to 2021. If needed, you can directly change your information on the SGI without having to start from scratch.

We recommend that you check ALL the information of your project on the SGI site and correct or modify it if necessary. You can ask your teacher for help, or contact the MRSTF Coordinator at: mrstfcoordinator@sciencetech.ca.

If you are a 2020 participant, please confirm that you will be present again for our 2021 virtual edition ASAP.

IX. IN SUMMARY

The Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair will be held from Sunday March 28th to March 30th, 2021 in virtual mode.

You must be present for:

- The opening presentation (an event briefing) which will take place before the Science Fair
- Your Judging periods to be determined on Sunday March 28th (afternoon) or Monday March 29th
- Public Viewing : You will be asked to participate in 2 student presentation periods that will be communicated to you in advance.
- The Award Ceremony on Tuesday, March 30th at 7PM.

You must have 2 versions of your project presentation prepared in advance:

- A 15-minute presentation for the judging.
- A 7-minute presentation for the public viewing.

Materials Required:

You must have access to a computer or digital tablet equipped with a webcam and microphone, all connected to the Internet during the Science Fair.

You will be asked to submit (more details to come in the New Year):

- A video of your project presentation
- A photo of each participant in your project.
- A summary of your project (via SGI)
- The written report of your project (via SGI)
- Remember that a digital presentation of your project (PPT, Google Slides, etc...) will replace the project board for your presentation.

Don't forget, we are there to help you every step of the way. If you have any questions whatsoever, don't hesitate to email us at **mrstfcoordinator@sciencetech.ca**. We're here for you!

We can't wait to see your projects at this 39th edition of the 2021 Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair.

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