

ROAD TRIP



2026 JN HARPER YOUTH CHALLENGE

GUIDELINES

The 2025 challenge for youth is to complete a quilt based on the theme *Road Trip* using any style of quilting—art, traditional, and/or modern. The quilt *must* include all part of the main challenge fabric (the licence plates) on the face of the quilt, which you can obtain by emailing irene.lafleche@canadianquilteradministration.com. A second fabric (Canadian moose) will also be included with the main fabric and its use is optional.

The quilt can be any size, up to a 200-inch perimeter (total of the length of the four sides of the quilt), but a smaller size may be easier to tackle. The quilt must be made of three layers and be quilted, either by hand and/or machine. It must be either bound or closed along the edges with either hand- and/or machine-stitching. Most of the quilt must be the work of the young quilter. The quilter may use any combination of hand- and/or machine-piecing, appliqué and quilting. The use of embellishments such as beads, embroidery, fibres, ribbon, paint, crayon, etc., is the choice of the young quilter. This is an opportunity to experiment and try new things!

The entry must be free of any text or images that are protected by copyright unless you have written permission from the holder of the copyright. For any patterns or designs that are not your own, please give credit to the source. The challenge is open to all youth in Canada between 5 to 19 years of age. The entries must be sponsored by a CQA/ACC individual, professional or shop member, in good standing. Members may sponsor more than one entry. By entering you are giving the CQA/ACC permission to display your quilt on its website, blog, social media and in the magazine, *Canadian Quilter*.

ENTRY TIME FRAME

There will be an online display and voting for *Viewers' Choice* in three age categories (5-9; 10-14; 15-19). In addition, participants are invited to send their quilts to be displayed at *Quilt Canada 2026* in Winnipeg, MB.

STEP 1

Your quilt can be entered into the challenge by filling out the online entry application on the CQA/ACC website, complete with a photo of your quilt. The completed entry form **MUST** be submitted online between February 2 and May 1, 2026. The quilt photo will be uploaded to the CQA/ACC website and will be available for viewers to vote for *Viewers' Choice* from May 11 to June 12, 2026. Please remember that the online voting for *Viewers' Choice* is based on the photo alone. The photo should be taken in good lighting, with no background distractions and at a close distance with no people in the photo. It needs to be between one to three MB so when people look at it on our website your quilt will show clearly. All edges of your quilt need to be visible in the photo.

STEP 2

If you wish to have your quilt displayed at *Quilt Canada 2026* in Winnipeg, follow the instructions that will be provided to you upon entry of your quilt in Step 1. If you will be sending your quilt for display, please attach a four-inch hanging sleeve to the top of the back of the quilt. In addition, a label will need to be attached to the back of the quilt showing the title, artist's name, age category, date completed, and credits, if any. The quilts will be displayed at *Quilt Canada 2026* from June 18-20, 2026, where visitors to the show will also be able to vote for their favourite entry in each age category. The online winners (the one entrant in

each of the three age categories with the most online votes) will be announced the evening of June 17th at the *Quilt Canada 2026* Welcome and Award Ceremony.

The quilts displayed at *Quilt Canada 2026* will be voted on by the show's attendees. The three quilts in each age category, which receive the most in person *Viewers' Choice* votes, will receive their awards on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at the *Viewers' Choice* Award Ceremony. After the event, the quilt will either be picked up by the entrant (if prior arrangements have been made) or will be mailed back to the entrant.

PRIZES

Entrants will be divided into three age categories: 5-9 years, 10-14 years, and 15-19 years. For the online voting component, a \$100 cash award will be given to the entrant in each of the three age categories that received the most online votes.

For the quilts displayed in Winnipeg at *Quilt Canada 2026*, sewing machines provided by JANOME will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners in each age category. Note: to be eligible for the sewing machine prizes your quilt must be displayed at *Quilt Canada 2026* in Winnipeg, MB. If the winners choose to submit a photo of themselves with their quilt by July 15, 2026, the photo will be published in the autumn *Canadian Quilter* magazine.

Members are encouraged to find young quilters! The sponsors of the entries who win the *Viewers' Choice* awards will receive a free one-year renewal of their CQA/ACC membership. ✨

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