

September 18, 2023



Dear Educator,

Registration is now open for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ECU Scripps Regional Spelling Bee!**

Your students will have the opportunity to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Maryland, USA. Students will compete at the school level, with the school champion advancing to the ECU Regional Spelling Bee. The Regional Champion and one chaperone will travel to compete on the world stage at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May 2024 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland! Travel expenses for our regional champion and one chaperone to the Scripps National Spelling Bee will be paid for by ECU – a Division of WFCU Credit Union. Prizes for our area's top spellers include scholarships and trophies, with all participants receiving participation medals. There is no financial cost to teachers to participate in the Bee Competitions!

Each year, the Scripps Spelling Bee begins in classrooms around the world, and progresses to theatres and auditoriums, bringing communities, friends, families, and educators together, where students compete to attend the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Our inaugural ECU Regional Spelling Bee champion was Eleanor J., 13, from MacGregor Senior Public School in Kitchener! Eleanor represented the Kitchener-Waterloo Region and travelled to Maryland, where she tied for 141<sup>st</sup> at the 2023 Scripps Spelling Bee. We are so proud of Eleanor!

No matter how your school chooses to determine a spelling bee champion, all champions from enrolled schools will move forward to the ECU Regional Spelling Bee. Our Regional Spelling Bee is scheduled for **Sunday, February 11, 2023**, at the Kitchener Public Library Theatre. The winner of the ECU Scripps Regional Spelling Bee will represent our region at the 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Maryland and will be awarded various prizes!

ECU – a Division of WFCU Credit Union will once again cover the cost of the enrollment fee of \$175 USD per school until enrollment ends on December 18, 2023. Visit [www.myecu.ca](http://www.myecu.ca) for more information!

When you enroll by emailing [communityinvestment@wfcu.ca](mailto:communityinvestment@wfcu.ca), you will receive exclusive online access to:

- Study lists for grades 1-8,
- The 2024 *Classroom Pronouncer Guide* for administering classroom spelling bees,
- The 2024 *School Pronouncer Guide* for administering a school spelling bee,
- Access to the Bee's new online testing platform,
- *Words of the Champions*, the 4,000-word study resource for your school spelling bee champion,
- The *Great Words, Great Works* reading list with all source books for the *School Spelling Bee Study List*, organized by grade level,
- Supplemental vocabulary materials for classroom and school levels,
- Award certificates for participants and your school champion!

The Bee helps students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives. In addition to the academic benefits, students also develop important life skills – such as goal setting, time management, and public speaking – that will help them as they advance in school and eventually to successful careers.



We are excited to host the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ECU Scripps Regional Spelling Bee** and we look forward to providing this wonderful opportunity to your students!

For more information about the Scripps National Spelling Bee, please visit [www.spellingbee.com](http://www.spellingbee.com).

Sincerely,

Beth Ann Prince  
Manager, Member Engagement & Community Investment

