

International Urban Planning Olympiad

2026 Competition Results

Competition Date: February 1, 2026

The 2026 International Urban Planning Olympiad challenged high school students worldwide to tackle real-world urban planning problems across five key categories: Transportation, Zoning & Land Use, Housing & Community Development, Urban Policy, and Sustainable Cities. Participants demonstrated exceptional analytical thinking, creativity, and passion for building better communities.

2026 Champion

Vladyslav Pynda

Armbrae Academy, Nova Scotia, Canada

Final Score: 76/100

Champion Performance Breakdown

Section	Score	Percentage
Section A: Multiple Choice (10 questions)	8/20	80%
Section B: Short Answer (4 questions)	14/20	70%
Section C: Final Challenge	46/60	77%

Competition Statistics

Overall Performance Metrics

Mean Score	71.3/100
Section A Average	16.0/20 (80.0%)
Section B Average	14.3/20 (71.7%)
Section C Average	40.7/60 (67.8%)

Score Distribution

The competition demonstrated strong performance across all sections. Section A (Multiple Choice) showed the highest average performance at 80%, reflecting participants' strong grasp of fundamental urban planning concepts. Section B (Short Answer) averaged 71.7%, demonstrating solid analytical and problem-solving skills. The Final Challenge (Section C) averaged 67.8%, showcasing participants' ability to integrate multiple planning concepts into comprehensive solutions.

Notable Highlights

- Champion achieved exceptional integration of transportation planning and transit-oriented development concepts
- Strong technical competence demonstrated across all competition categories
- Creative approaches to sustainable urban mobility and equitable development
- Participants showcased understanding of real-world planning constraints and stakeholder considerations

Section By Section

Section A: Multiple Choice Questions

Average Score: 16.0/20 (80.0%)

This section tested foundational knowledge across all five competition categories: Transportation, Zoning & Land Use, Housing & Community Development, Urban Policy, and Sustainable Cities. The strong average performance indicates solid understanding of core urban planning concepts and quantitative reasoning skills.

Section B: Short Answer Questions

Average Score: 14.3/20 (71.7%)

These questions required participants to apply planning concepts to specific scenarios, perform calculations, and provide brief analytical explanations. Performance demonstrated strong problem-solving abilities and understanding of housing affordability metrics, zoning tools, and policy analysis.

Section C: Final Challenge

Average Score: 40.7/60 (67.8%)

The Final Challenge presented a comprehensive urban redevelopment scenario requiring

integration of multiple planning categories. Participants proposed solutions for transforming a 45-acre industrial site into a sustainable mixed-use district. Evaluation criteria included: Comprehensive Planning Integration (15 pts), Technical Competence & Feasibility (15 pts), Stakeholder Consideration & Equity (15 pts), and Innovation & Sustainability (15 pts). Responses demonstrated creative thinking and understanding of complex urban systems, though feasibility and cost realism varied across submissions.

Award Recognition

Once again, on behalf of the IUPO team, congratulations to our overall winner Vladyslav Pynda. The remaining awards and recognition details will be sent out to the winning participants shortly via email.

Looking Forward

The 2026 International Urban Planning Olympiad successfully engaged talented high school students in tackling authentic urban planning challenges. Participants demonstrated impressive analytical capabilities, creative problem-solving, and genuine passion for creating more sustainable and equitable cities. We look forward to continuing this important work of inspiring the next generation of urban planners and fostering global dialogue about the future of our cities.

International Urban Planning Olympiad
www.iupo-official.org
Results Published: February 12, 2026