



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

FIS Cross-Country World Cup Quebec City to host world's elite cross-country skiers again in 2019 and 2020

Quebec City, Friday, October 6, 2017 – News doesn't get any fresher than this! With the annual FIS (International Ski Federation) Technical Committee and FIS Cross-Country Committee meetings still underway in Zurich, it has just been confirmed that the FIS Cross-Country World Cup will be coming back to Canada in March 2019 and 2020. "It's a huge step forward for Quebec City to cement its place on the calendar for two years in a row, said FIS Race Director Pierre Mignerey. "We should stress, though, that the entire race calendars for both years are subject to FIS Council approval this November." All bets, therefore, are on the world's elite cross-country skiers taking the Plains of Abraham by storm from March 22 to 24, 2019. "The format of the 2020 event is yet to be confirmed, but the 2019 competition will be the same as what we saw in March this year," added GesteV President, Patrice Drouin from his seat at the FIS meetings.

That means it's going to be all hands on deck for Quebec Winter Events Corporation and event producer GesteV in the next few months as preparation begins for these world-class events. The most recent FIS Cross-Country World Cup Finals attracted more than 60,000 people to Quebec City's Plains of Abraham in March 2017 and the event was voted the top stop on the World Cup circuit last season, according to an FIS survey.

Alex Harvey fever

Local favourite Alex Harvey was over the moon to hear the news that he'll be able to retire from World Cup competition on home soil surrounded by family and friends. "Right now, my plans are to stay on the World Cup circuit until the end of the 2018-2019 season. It would truly be an honour for me to wrap up my career here in Quebec City. In fact, I could never dream of a better scenario," Harvey said. "I'll never forget what I achieved here back in March, and I have fond memories of the 2012 Sprint Québec and 2016 Ski Tour Canada competitions. It's such a huge source of pride for me and the rest of the Canadian team to ski in front of a home crowd. It really is an incredible opportunity for us to race in a World Cup right in our back yard!"

About FIS

FIS, founded in 1924, is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee, FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing, and Snowboarding, and sets the international competition rules. Through its 119 national federations, more than 7,000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote winter sports, particularly for young people.

About Cross Country Ski De Fond Canada

Cross Country Ski De Fond Canada is the governing body of cross-country skiing in Canada—the nation's optimal winter sport and recreational activity with more than one million Canadians participating annually. Its 58,000 members include athletes, coaches, officials and skiers of all ages and abilities, including those on Canada's National Ski Teams and Para-Nordic Ski Teams. With the support of its valued corporate partners—Haywood Securities Inc., AltaGas, and Mackenzie—along with the Government of Canada, Canadian Olympic Committee, Canadian Paralympic Committee, Own the Podium and B2dix, Cross Country Canada develops Olympic, Paralympic, and world champions.

About Quebec Winter Events Corporation

The mission of Quebec Winter Events Corporation (QWEC) is to promote winter sports on home soil through international events such as the Sprint Quebec FIS Cross-Country World Cup and the Jamboree FIS Freestyle Ski and Snowboard World Cups. In addition to attracting the world's top winter sport athletes, QWEC works hard to support the development of amateur sport through each of its events.

About Gestev

Founded in 1992, Gestev is a dynamic event management company specializing in sports and cultural events that make their mark locally as well as on the world stage. Over the years, Gestev has raised event management standards by adding a party twist to high-calibre competitions, including music shows and live entertainment, while making competitions accessible to all. Jamboree, Red Bull Crashed Ice, Vélirium, Ski Tour Canada and Transat Québec Saint-Malo are just a few of the major events organized by Gestev. Gestev also manages the Baie de Beauport recreational site and is certified under the BNQ 9700-253 standard for responsible event management.

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