
Congratulations on your selection to Team Canada (*Insert Year*)

On behalf of the CSDF's Worlds Committee, I am pleased to invite you to confirm your selection to the next stage of the national team selection process. But before you do so, please consider carefully the commitment that you are about to make. To be on the Canada Schools Team, you must be able to commit to all events related to the WSDC which include:

- (a) a week-long preparation session (date and location to be confirmed)
- (b) a week-long preparation session immediately before the WSDC; and
- (c) the WSDC itself (*location of this year's event*)

The national team will also be attending two additional tournaments, the Pan Americans (*early spring year*) and a European tournament (*enter location of this year's event*). Team members are expected to attend the EurOpens and may be invited to attend both of these tournaments.

At the training camp, you will be participating in Worlds Style workshops, advanced debating strategies and competitive debates. There will be a number of past Team Canada members and coaches who will be involved in the process of selecting the final 7 member team. Those who are not selected to compete at the WSDC may still be offered a position on teams that we take to additional international tournaments.

To maintain your position on the national team, you also must agree to communicate regularly with the team's coach during the year and to prepare diligently and complete any assignments. The process of researching the resolutions which are announced in advance of the WSDC is particularly important. **You must also sign the Code of Conduct that is attached to this document as this indicates your commitment to represent Team Canada to the best of your abilities.**

You must note that you and your family/school assume all costs related to your participation in these events. The CSDF cannot and do not fund these events. There may be an opportunity to apply for one of our bursaries, if you have exhausted all other funding opportunities.

The average cost of the national team involves:

- (a) travel expenses to the training camp from your home city
- (b) training camp fees (covers accommodation/meals)
- (c) travel expenses to the WSDC host city
- (d) WSDC debater registration fee
- (e) share of some of the costs for a coach/Team Manager

Please view the attached financial commitment estimate attached to this letter. Although you assume these expenses at the outset, sponsorship and fundraising opportunities will be a priority of the committee.

If you have discussed these details with your family and are confident that you are willing and able to make the commitment to the expectations above, please indicate (X) in the space below and return to (*email of current Committee Chair and a deadline inserted here*)

___ Yes, I accept the selection to Team Canada (*year here*) Development Team

___ Thank you, but NO, I will not be accepting the selection to Team Canada (*year inserted here*)

debater

Financial Commitment Estimate

Over the past few years, Team Canada members have participated in the following tournaments and training events leading up to the World Schools Championship:

Heart of Europe (Olomouc, Czech Republic)

EurOpens (Stuttgart, Germany)

Pan American Debate Championships (rotates between member countries from year to year)

The cost of these tournaments have historically been between \$1500-\$2000 (registration fee, **airfare**, accommodations and meals included). **One** of these tournaments will be mandatory i.e. used as a part of the selection process for the WSDC team, while participation in the others is usually voluntary. For example, the members of the 2015 team were asked to commit to attending Pan Americans 2015 but could opt out of attending EurOpens.

All team members are also required to attend the weeklong training camp from *(insert date here)* to be held in *(insert location here)*. The cost of this camp will cover team members' accommodations, meals and airport transfers. Team members are expected to pay for their flights to Toronto to attend this event. You can expect the cost of this training camp to be between \$450. to \$550.

For the WSDC 5 (the team members selected to compete at the World Championships), the cost has included the registration fee (approximately \$1000 and includes 10 nights accommodations, all meals and events associated with the tournament). The airfare to *(insert location here)* is estimated to be around *(insert cost here)* per person. Immediately preceding the championship, the team will spend 5 days at a pre-training camp before leaving Canada. The cost of this training camp is usually around \$350. You can also expect extra hotel accommodation and meals costs, during travel days.

Therefore, the estimated cost for a student on the development team would be \$2000-\$2500 (one international tournament and training camp). The estimated cost for a student who also advances to the WSDC 5 would be \$5000-\$6000.

In previous years, Team Canada has received donations and sponsorship from various organizations such as the provincial debate associations, corporate sponsors (RBC, Scotiabank) and private donors (law firms). In addition, team members have at times received funding from their schools (PAC, club funding). While we cannot predict the amount of support this team may receive from funding sources, the Team Canada Committee will attempt to attain financial support for our bursary program through various fundraising events.

We will endeavor to give families clear timelines for each of the tournament payments. Current CSDF policy requires families to cover the cost of transportation directly, so once our travel agent has confirmed the group booking, we usually require families to call in to the Travel Agency to pay for the flight directly by credit card. More details about this procedure to follow. We are also able to collect payment via e-transfers so that families making payments easier for all.

Please indicate that you have read this disclosure and are aware that the financial cost of your child's participation in these events will be assumed by your family/school.

Name of Debater

Signature of parent/guardian