



Canadian British Parliamentary Debate Championships

October 16, 2022

Dear Provincial Coordinators, Coaches, and Debaters;

The Quebec Student Debating Association (QSDA) and Selwyn House School are pleased to invite you to the 2022 Canadian British Parliamentary (BP) Debate Championships, to be held in **Montreal, Quebec from Friday, November 18th to Sunday, November 20, 2022**. We are especially pleased to be hosting this in-person event after nearly three years of online debate.

This event includes two divisions: the senior division, and the under-15 division. The top senior teams may be invited to attend either the Oxford and/or Cambridge Schools competitions in the UK next March. The top U-15 teams may be invited to compete at the International Competition for Young Debaters held next spring at either Cambridge or Oxford. No firm information is available at this time, and it will be communicated to the top placing teams at the appropriate time.

COVID Considerations:

Please note that this tournament is fully in-person. There will be no arrangements for debaters who are unable to participate in the event. There will be no hybrid debates of any kind. Students or adults who test positive for covid will not be allowed to come to Selwyn House. While we cannot require masks, we ask you to consider wearing one if you otherwise feel ill or you have been around others who are unwell. We suggest coaches have contingency plans in place should debaters test positive.

Registration:

At this time, each province may register up to **six senior teams**, and up to **four U-15 teams**. Given the late date of this invitation, we are inviting slightly more teams than we otherwise would as we are uncertain of the numbers each province may send, and therefore we will not cycle back to allow additional teams per province if others do not fill all their spots. That said, we may use some discretion to round out multiple of four in each division as necessary, and the QSDA as host will send some additional teams.

To register, we need each province to confirm with 100% certainty by **Friday, October 28**, how many teams in each division your province will register. We do not need names at that point. Registration will be handled by Chris George (cgeorge@videotron.ca), who will communicate directly with your province to confirm number of teams, and eventually names of debaters and judges. Registration of teams will be done via email – there will be no google forms.

Location:

All debating, and meals, will take place at Selwyn House School located at 95 Cote St. Antoine Street in Montreal.

There is no dedicated tournament hotel per se as no events officially take place at the hotel. However, as usual for Montreal events, the Best Western Ville Marie (3407 Peel Street) has secured a number of rooms for this event at what is a very good rate. There are approximately 40 rooms available on a first come first serve basis at the group rate. Our understanding is that the hotel is otherwise full, so if rooms are not secured before the block is gone, or before November 10th at the latest, teams will need to make alternate accommodation arrangements (and potentially their own transportation arrangements to Selwyn House each day). Please see the last page for hotel reservation information.

Transportation will be provided from (only) the Best Western Hotel to Selwyn House and back to the hotel each day. The buses on Sunday will take people directly to the airport at the conclusion of the tournament on Sunday.

Schedule:*Friday, November 18th:*

Teams are welcome to arrive on Thursday, November 17th, or the morning of November 18th. The hotel rate applies to Thursday as well. Buses from the hotel will depart at approximately 3:00 pm (maybe a bit later). The opening and briefing will take place at Selwyn House, as will two rounds of impromptu debate separated by dinner.

Saturday, November 19th:

All delegates will travel to Selwyn House for breakfast, followed by four rounds of impromptu debate. Lunch will be provided after the second round of debate. Buses will travel back to the hotel late in the afternoon. **All delegates must make their own arrangements for dinner on Saturday. There are no other activities planned.**

Sunday, November 20th:

Sunday will be reserved for the semi-finals, and finals of both divisions. Buses will take you to Selwyn House for breakfast. Lunch is also provided this day. The event is expected to end no later than 2:00 p.m. It is recommended that out-of-town guests do not book flights departing Montreal until after 5:30 p.m. Transportation to Trudeau Airport will be provided at the end of the event for out-of-town guests.

Registration Fee and Payment:

The registration fee for the event will be **\$200 per person**, or \$400 per team. The same fee applies to coaches and other registered attendees. We highly discourage spectators, but if someone is attending and not paying the fee, they may not under any circumstances use the tournament buses or touch the tournament food.

Judging:

As you can imagine, we need support of a number of people to help with the judging. Note that we must have one judge per province available as a minimum per round and ask for your help in making this work for us. Any coaches attending the event who wish to judge (for potentially) all rounds of debate may register for a discounted fee of \$100.

Chaperons:

We expect and require that all teams must be fully chaperoned at all times, and registered officially with the event. Unchaperoned teams will not be accepted. We must be able to at all times know who and where the chaperon is of each team in case they need to be contacted.

Payment:

To register your team(s) and chaperone(s) for the event, please have your provincial representative email Chris George, the event registrar, directly at cgeorge@videotron.ca. Further payment instructions will be provided to you directly by Chris. The preferred method of payment will be a cheque payable to Selwyn House, but it is possible electronic options may be available.

Please include the following in your registration email:

- Names of debaters and their school
- Name of chaperone(s) (and if chaperone is willing to judge)
- Dietary restrictions
- Date of birth of all debaters in U-15 division (to confirm age category eligibility)

All payment must be received in advance of the tournament.

Eligibility:

All students in the U-15 Division must be 15 years of age or less as of September 1st, 2022. This means that the U-15 category is open only to students born **after September 1st, 2007**. In order to compete in this age category, both debaters must qualify.

All high school students are of course eligible to compete in the senior division. Each division will debate separately.

Please note while hybrid teams are technically allowed under unique circumstances and with permission of the provincial organization, **they are not eligible to qualify for any subsequent tournaments held in the UK, and are not eligible to break into semi-finals at this event.** Therefore, we highly discourage this practice.

If you have any questions, please email either Jon or Chris directly. We look forward to seeing you on November 18th!

Sincerely,
Jonathan Bracewell
QSDA President
Event Chair
BracewellJ@selwyn.ca

Chris George
Event Registrar
cgeorge@videotron.ca

Hotel Information

The following rooms have been blocked between **November 17th-20th 2022**:

- **Rooms with one Queen bed:** \$140.00 single and double occupancy plus tax
- **Rooms with two Queen beds:** \$155.00 single to quad occupancy plus tax

Guests can proceed immediately on reserving their rooms as follows:

By Phone: Call our toll free number **1-800-361-7791**, mention block name “**National Debate Championship**” and complete reservation with a credit card.

Online:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.67012.html?groupId=M53VL9J2

Please note that rooms will be held until **November 10th, 2022**.

The group discount will not be applied to any reservations made after this day.