

# CANADIAN CLOSED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

## ZONAL

### Letter from FQE President: Mr. Eric Guipi Bopala

*The Quebec Chess Federation/Fédération québécoise des échecs is pleased to participate in the bidding process for the Canadian Closed Chess Championship - Zonal 2026. This project involves many voluntary people and lots of resources. The FQE has a big expertise in the field of organizing major championships. Over the years, we held national and international chess events on many occasions.*

*The Canadian Closed is a critical component of our broader strategic objectives, aiming to give a chance for Quebec and Canadian players to get chess experience against strong opposition, and also to try to obtain Fide norms.*

*We propose that the Canadian Closed 2026, which also includes an Open tournament, be held in Montreal in a brand new building. This location is particularly well adapted for chess tournaments.*

*The successful completion of this project is vital to our organization, and we are seeking people who can deliver high-quality results within the stipulated timelines and budgetary constraints. All this will be done in a bilingual environment including an internet site both in english and french.*

*To facilitate a fair and transparent bidding process, we have prepared a comprehensive bid document, which includes detailed specifications, photos and conditions. We encourage you to thoroughly review the document to ensure our bid aligns with your requirements and expectations.*

*Thank you for considering this possibility. We are confident that our participation in the bidding process will contribute to the advancement of chess in Canada.*

*Sincerely,*



*Eric Guipi Bopala  
President of The Quebec Chess Federation*

# BID

FROM :

FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES ÉCHECS

7665, BOUL. LACORDAIRE, MONTREAL, QC

**DATES OF THE TOURNAMENTS (CLOSED AND OPEN):** APRIL 6 TO 11, 2026

**TWO SECTIONS:** CLOSED (10 rounds SS, INVITATIONAL 2100 CFC +); and OPEN 5 rounds on the weekend.

**RATINGS:** BOTH TOURNAMENTS ARE CFC AND FIDE RATED

**NUMBER OF PLAYERS EXPECTED:** 60 IN THE CLOSED (ZONAL) AND 65 IN THE OPEN

**ORGANIZOR:** FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES ÉCHECS (QUEBEC CHESS FEDERATION)

The Quebec Chess Federation is a non-profit organization founded in 1967 in Quebec City. It is subsidized by the Government of Quebec through the Ministry of Education. Its offices, along with other leisure and sports organizations, are in the St-Léonard district of Montreal. It benefits from several administrative advantages: rent, insurance, accommodation, and other services dedicated to leisure and sports. It has a board of directors of 7 members elected every two years.

*La Fédération québécoise des échecs est un organisme sans but lucratif fondé en 1967 à Québec. Elle est subventionnée par le Gouvernement du Québec au niveau du ministère de l'Éducation. Ses bureaux, de même que les autres organismes de loisir et de sport, sont situés dans le quartier St-Léonard à Montréal. Elle bénéficie de plusieurs avantages administratifs : loyer, assurances, hébergement et autres services dédiés aux loisirs et au sport. Elle a un conseil d'administration de 7 membres élus à tous les deux ans.*

## GOALS AND MISSION of the FQE

The Quebec Chess Federation is recognized and supported by the Government of Quebec.

**MISSION:** The Quebec Chess Federation (QCF) is a non-profit organization founded in 1967 whose mission is to promote chess in Quebec.

**VISION:** A structuring organization for the Quebec chess community, seeking to mobilize its members involved in the organizing of chess in Quebec.

### VALUES:

Accessibility: The Quebec Chess Federation promotes accessibility to organized chess for all, without discrimination. To be achieved, this accessibility must be enhanced through several means: recreation, self-improvement, excellence, and volunteerism.

Education: The Quebec Chess Federation believes that chess is an excellent educational tool capable of promoting the well-being of all.

Adaptability: With a view to sustainability and longevity, the FQE aims to be an organization capable of adapting its resources, including the use of new technologies, to better respond to new realities.

Collegiality: Decisions within the FQE are made democratically and collaboratively, while listening to and respecting the views of its members.

**Organizing committee:** The Committee plays a key role in the planning, organization, and smooth running of the Federation's various tournaments. Its role varies depending on the type of event organized by the FQE, whether national or international. It will oversee the re-establishment of the cadet and junior categories. The committee ensures that it brings together the necessary volunteers to carry out the specific functions related to the organization of any FQE or bidding event.

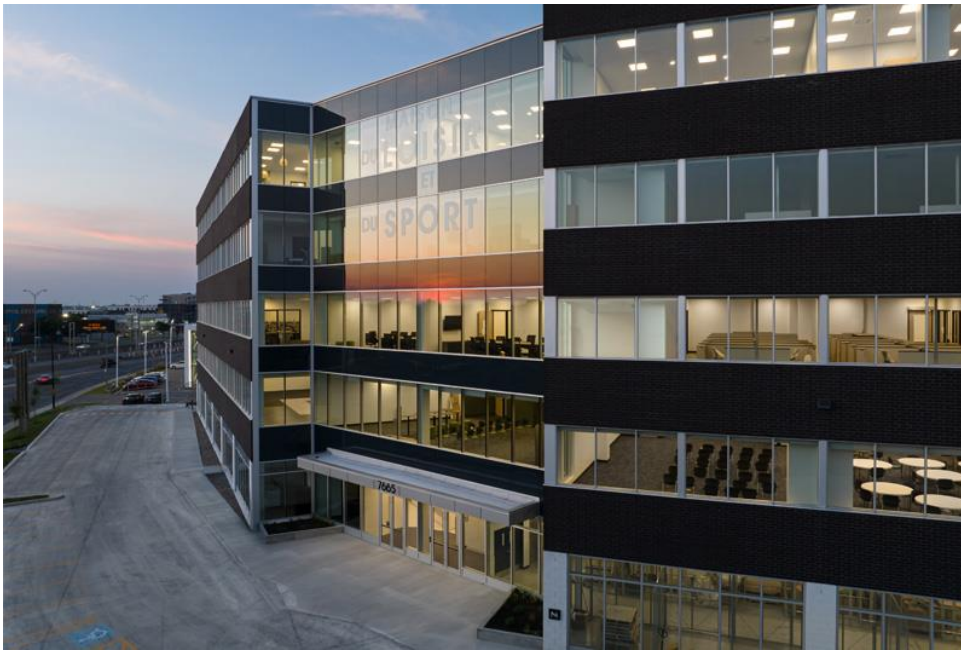
## SITE OF THE TOURNAMENT: Parking free

Maison du Loisir et du Sport, 7665 Lacordaire ave. Montréal QC H1S 2A7



This new location for amateur sports and recreation in Quebec open its doors in November 2022 and is providing an unprecedented showcase for the approximately 600 professionals and the hundred or so organizations that coordinate sports and recreation activities. The Maison, a five-story building, is erected on land located near the Metropolitan Highway and the corner of Lacordaire Street in the St-Léonard borough.

The Project to create a new Maison du loisir et du sport is the result of work carried out by the Société québécoise des infrastructures, the Regroupement Loisir et Sport du Québec, and the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur. With the announcement of the construction of this new building, the Minister puts an end to more than 30 years of waiting for organizations that have been housed since 1985 in a former parking lot converted into offices at the Olympic Stadium.

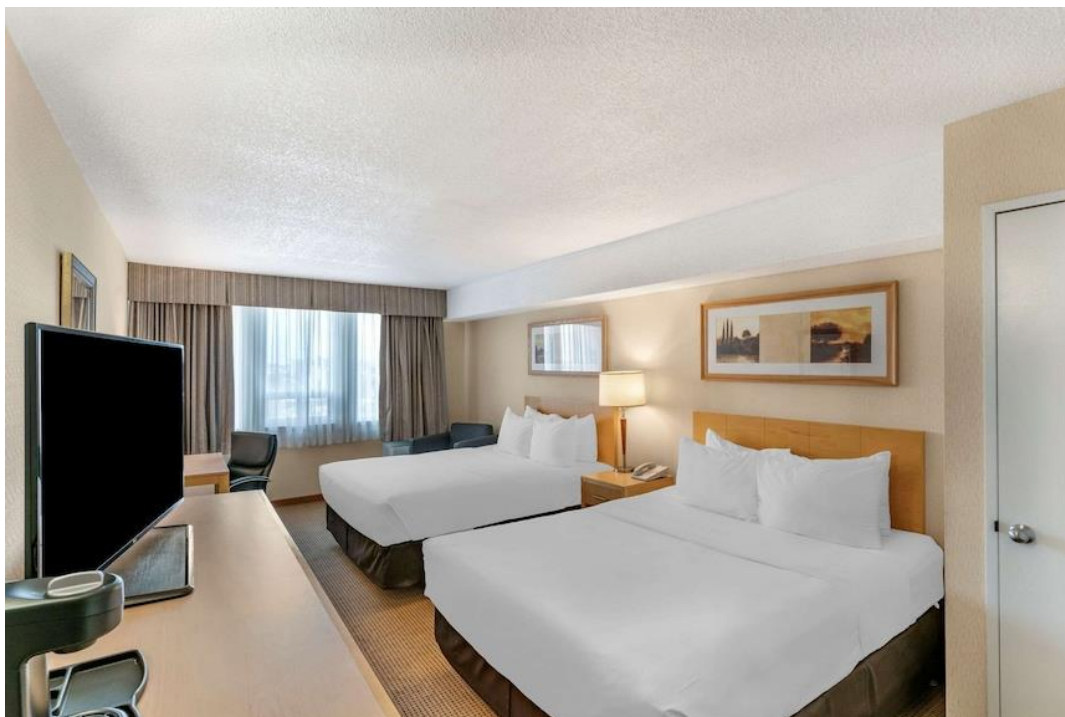


Spacious rooms with all the services associated: screen, internet, coffee, water and cafetariat.



**ACCOMODATION: 130 \$/ night, single or double**

We have a special agreement with a 4 stars hotel nearby for the players who play in the tournament.  
**Quality Inn** at 10 minutes walking distance. Address: 8100, Neuville Ave. Montreal (Anjou).



## BUDGET

CANADIAN CLOSED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2026						
	<b>INCOME</b>					\$
		Entry fees				12 500
		PAFEL - Government Aid				6 000
		Sponsor				1 000
		FQE				2 000
		Sales - souvenirs surplus				300
				Total		21 800
	<b>EXPENSES</b>					\$
		Prizes - Closed				6 000
		Prizes - Open				2 500
		Locations - rooms playing site				3 900
		Accommodation - guests (GM)				3 800
		Arbiter and other officials				2 550
		Audio Visual + DGT				1 200
		Chess material				500
		Trophies				400
		Ratings (CFC + FIDE)				950
				Total		21 800

**Prizes for the closed: 6 000 \$**

3 000 \$, 1 500 \$, 750 \$, 375 \$, 185 \$ + trophies (190 \$)

**Prizes for the Open: 2 500 \$**

1 000 \$, 500 \$, 250 \$, 125 \$, U1800: 175 \$, U1500: 140 \$; U1200: 100 \$ + trophies (210 \$)

**Entry fee:**

Closed = 150 \$; Open = 60 \$. Free for GMs and IMs. Defending champion and vice-champion has free accomodation.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE:**

It is important to remember that when creating an important event, in addition to our goals for the event, we must assess where it fits in the current calendar of general chess tournaments. If we are creating a unique event, many other factors must be taken into consideration. The Canadian Closed is long event who last six days. The Open last 3 days. So to find the right place in the calendar is crucial. We decided to propose the Easter holidays because the mains tournament can benefit of two free days (Friday and Monday. Those days are usually legal holidays in Canada.

#### **CANADIAN CLOSED**

**Sunday April 5, 2026:** Arrival

**Monday April 6:** Round 1 – 7pm

**Tuesday April 7:** Rounds 2 and 3 – 10am and 4pm

**Wednesday April 8:** Rounds 4 – 7pm

**Thursday April 9:** Rounds 5 and 6 – 10am and 4pm

**Friday April 10:** Round 7 – 7pm

**Saturday April 11:** Rounds 8 and 9 – 10am and 4 pm

**Sunday April 12:** Round 10 – 11am

#### **OPEN**

**Thursday April 9, 2026:** Round 1 – 7pm

**Friday April 10:** Round 2 – 7pm

**Saturday April 11:** Rounds 3 and 4 – 10am and 4pm

**Sunday April 12:** Round 5 – 11am

#### **CANADIAN WOMEN ZONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Sunday April 5, 2026:** Arrival

**Monday April 6:** Round 1 – 7pm

**Tuesday April 7:** Rounds 2 and 3 – 10am and 4pm

**Wednesday April 8:** Rounds 4 – 7pm

**Thursday April 9:** Rounds 5 and 6 – 10am and 4pm

**Friday April 10:** Round 7 – 7pm

**Saturday April 11:** Rounds 8 and 9 – 10am and 4 pm

<b>CANADIAN WOMEN ZONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2026</b>
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Historically, when the Canadian Championship was a zonal, it was accompanied by the Women's Championship. One of the difficulties, however, is to hold both tournaments according to the Swiss system with an equivalent number of rounds. The reason being that the number of active female players in Canada is much lower, which makes it difficult to maintain an integrated Swiss system.

This is why we are proposing a round-robin system of 10 hand-picked players for the women's part of the event. This means that the women's tournament will consist of 9 rounds. The schedule will be the same as the main tournament except for the last round. The other conditions are presented below.

If this idea is accepted, the composition of the tournament remains to be determined because the players must be chosen in advance according to criteria that remain to be determined. We have an idea on the subject that reminds us of the ways of doing things in the 1970s and 80s. The principle sought is that of regional representation.

So, for the 10 players, the selection would be as follows:

- 1 place for the defending Canadian Woman champion
- 3 places for Ontario
- 2 places for Québec
- 1 place for Maritime
- 1 place for Saskatchewan - Manitoba
- 1 place for Alberta
- 1 place for BC

Provinces will determine their representation. Time control will be the same as the main tournament: 90/30.

**PRIZES:** 3 000 \$

1 500 \$, 750 \$, 400 \$, 250 \$, 100 \$ + trophy.

**Entry fee:** 100 \$

**Deposit:** 125 \$ refunded to the players who played all 9 games.

No byes.

**Hotel free** for the defending champion.