

2027 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & 2027 Canadian Open Proposal for Richmond, BC

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1. Introduction

The Canadian Youth Chess Championship (CYCC) has been a guiding light for up-and-coming chess players across Canada for several years, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. At the same time, the Canadian Open (CO) has been the crown jewel of Chess in Canada and attracts excellent talent from across the country and the world every year.

We (Fraser Valley Chess Academy) are confident that our organizing committee brings the expertise and dedication needed to deliver an exceptional event that meets the high standards of the Chess Federation of Canada and the broader Canadian chess community. We would be proud to welcome players of all ages and backgrounds to Richmond, BC in 2027 to connect, compete, and celebrate the game we all cherish at the CYCC & Canadian Open.

2. Organizing Committee

Umang Banatwala

Chief Organizer | National Arbiter | BCCF Secretary | FVCA CEO | Deputy Arbiter at 2025 Canadian Open | Arbiter at 2025 CYCC

Through FVCA, Umang has successfully organized more than 50 CFC-rated tournaments in the past 3 years in BC; and various FIDE rated events, including the Keres Memorial 2024 & 2025. Having moved to Canada in 2018; Umang is pledged to bringing more quality chess to BC & Canada through his international experience as a chess player as well as organizing chess events in India.

Stephen Wright Chief Arbiter | International Arbiter | National Master | Past President BCCF

Stephen Wright, a NM for over 30 years, became an FA in 2007 (the first in Canada) and an IA in 2016. He was an arbiter at the 2006, 2007, and 2012 Canadian Opens, the North American Junior in 2014 and 2015, and has directed the Paul Keres Memorial 18 times and the BC Open 11 times, along with numerous local events. He served on the National Appeals Committee for three years.

Kyle Van Dijk National Arbiter | Events Manager, FVCA | Co-organizer at BCYCC 2026 | President, Abbotsford Chess Club

Kyle runs a non-profit organization that brings together the Abbotsford chess community and he has been closely involved with co-organizing events at FVCA as a Manager since early 2024. He is spearheading the BC Youth Chess Championship 2026 that will be hosted by FVCA in March 2026.

Aniket Kathpal

Arena Fide Master | National Arbiter | BCCF Member at Large | Co-organizer

AFM since 2022 and National Arbiter since 2024, Aniket has been an exceptional chess contributor in all aspects of the game, playing, organizing and arbiter work. He is also our Financial Analyst and helps our team to closely monitor budget, revenue and expenses to ensure that we are fulfilling all financial obligations across multiple stakeholders.

Paul Leblanc Advisor | BCCF President

Paul has been a pillar of the chess community in Victoria and Greater Vancouver Region for decades. With a wealth of experience as the current BCCF President, former BCCF Treasurer, and former CFC Ratings Auditor, he brings invaluable insight to our team. Having Paul as an advisor ensures we deliver the highest-quality experience for every participant.

3. Venue

The 2027 CYCC and Canadian Open Chess Championships will be held at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, located at 7551 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC.

a. Getting there & parking

- The Sheraton Vancouver **AIRPORT** hotel is approximately 6 km (4 miles) from Vancouver International Airport (YVR), offering a convenient location for out of town players.
- A 24-hour complimentary shuttle to and from the airport is provided for free to hotel guests at Sheraton & nearby 5 hotels. This eliminates the need to book rental cabs or road expenses for overseas guests.
- Over 700 covered and non-covered parking stalls at a <u>subsidized rate</u> shall be available for all chess tournament participants/ hotel guests.

b. Venue & capacity details

The CYCC's main playing area will be as follows:

- The Britannia Ballroom, which is 10,000 sq ft, and the Elmbridge Room, which is 2,770 square feet, accommodating 416 and 96 players respectively.
- The Richmond A & B meeting rooms, which are 1,370 square feet when combined, can accommodate 48 total players; thereby making a total capacity of 560 sitting players.
- In addition to that, we have access to the five Steveston meeting rooms (A-F). These rooms are 475 square feet each that can be combined into one room, and will be able to handle any overflow capacity needed for the tournament if it exceeds 600 players.

Room	# Tables	# Boards	# of Players
Britannia Ballroom	104	208	416
Elmbridge Room	24	48	96
Richmond A+B	12	24	48
			560



Britannia Ballroom



Britannia Foyer South

Britannia Foyer North & East

Steveston Room

There is a 4,000 square ft. foyer that is directly accessible from the street, which will be used for concession, parent waiting area, and space to socialize.

As the 2025 CYCC expects more than 500 players and close to 275 players at CO, by 2027 we expect these to exceed 550 and 300. In total, we will be able to accommodate 560 players in these main playing areas.

The Canadian Open will also take place in the Britannia Ballroom, which will comfortably fit what is projected to be about 300 participants.





Above is a Map of secured hotel areas for the tournaments

c. Accommodations

- We are offering an exclusive room rate of \$225 CAD/night with the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel for the first 100 rooms per night for CYCC and the first 50 room nights for CO. All additional room blocks have been negotiated at a special rate of \$289 CAD/night, keeping in mind the prices for summer 2027. Taxes separate.
- We have a confirmed room block of 150 rooms per night, with the possibility of blocking an additional 150 rooms held at the Marriott and Hilton located in the same hotel complex at a similar rate per night.
- Rooms are a mix of Sheraton's Traditional Guest rooms:
 - Single king bed
 - Two queen beds

There are several hotels nearby that are a 2 to 10-minute walk away that players can stay at if needed:

- Hilton Vancouver Airport
- Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel
- The Executive Hotel
- SureStay by Best Western

d. Nearby attractions

Centrally located in the beautiful city of Richmond, British Columbia, the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel offers an upscale hotel experience and has the best of Vancouver at its doorstep. The hotel is 30 minutes or less away from most of Greater Vancouver's attractions, including:

- Richmond Olympic Oval
- Stanley Park
- English Bay
- Grouse Mountain

4. Tournament Outlines and Event Schedule

a. CYCC details

Sections (by age)

U8 Open and U8 Girls U10 Open and U10 Girls U12 Open and U12 Girls U14 Open and U14 Girls U16 Open and U16 Girls U18 Open and U18 Girls

Time Control

7 rounds of 90 mins + 30 sec/move increment, Swiss format

Entry Fees

- \$225 Super Early Bird before May 1st, 2027
- \$275 Early Bird before June 1st, 2027
- \$300 Regular until July 12th, 2027

Prizes

Trophies for the top 5 place winners for each section

The CYCC qualifies players to international corresponding events as per the actual FIDE announcements that would be declared for 2027.

In the past, we have seen that CYCC helps qualify 3 finishers in each category for events such as:

- 1. World Cadet Chess Championships / 2025 World Youth Chess Championships
- 2. Pan-American Youth Chess Championships
- 3. North American Youth Chess Championships

b. Canadian Open details

Sections

Open U2000 U1600

Time Control

9 rounds of 90 mins + 30 sec/move increment, Swiss format

Entry Fees

- \$225 Super Early Bird before May 1st, 2027
- \$275 Early Bird before June 1st, 2027
- \$300 Regular until July 16th, 2027

**Free entry is offered to all Grandmasters if registered before May 1st, 2027. Travel conditions for GMs may be offered as applicable.

Prizes

- CAD \$30,000+ prize fund (20% increase from 2025)
- Trophies for the top 5 places in each section

c. Schedule

Details	Date (2027)	Timings
CYCC Welcome Ceremony	July 19 (Mon)	9AM
Round 1	July 19 (Mon)	10AM
Round 2	July 19 (Mon)	4PM
Round 3	July 20 (Tue)	10AM
Round 4	July 20 (Tue)	4PM
Round 5	July 21 (Wed)	10AM
Round 6	July 21 (Thu)	4PM
Round 7	July 22 (Thu)	10AM
Celebration Banquet & Prize Ceremony	July 22 (Thu)	3PM to 6PM
CO Welcome Ceremony	July 23 (Fri)	5PM
Round 1	July 23 (Fri)	6PM
Round 2	July 24 (Sat)	10AM
Round 3	July 24 (Sat)	4PM
Round 4	July 25 (Sun)	10AM
Round 5	July 25 (Sun)	4PM
Round 6	July 26 (Mon)	10AM
Round 7	July 26 (Mon)	4PM
Round 8	July 27 (Tue)	10AM
Round 9	July 27 (Tue)	4PM
Prize Ceremony	July 27 (Tue)	ASAP



Malcolm D. Brodie Mayor

6911 No. 3 Road Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1 Telephone: 604-276-4123 Fax No: 604-276-4332 www.richmond.ca

June 17, 2025

Chess Federation of Canada c/o Fraser Valley Chess Academy info@fraservalleychess.com

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

Re: Letter of Support for 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open – Bid Application.

On behalf of the City of Richmond, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the Fraser Valley Chess Academy's bid to host the 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open in Richmond, BC.

As the gateway to British Columbia and one of the most diverse cities in Canada, Richmond is a natural setting for the gathering of sport, business and travel professionals. Being the host city for the 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open would be of great benefit to Richmond's tourism industry, providing hundreds of room nights at local hotels as well as revenues realized in the food and beverage industry. It would also have a positive impact on the attractions and retail sectors.

I am confident that the City of Richmond has the quality services and attractions to ensure this event will be a huge success, as proven by our success as a Venue City for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, along with our hosting numerous other cultural, business, and sporting events. The City of Richmond recognizes the benefits of a healthy, active community and vigorously works in partnership with community organizations to achieve our vision of creating a dynamic and sustainable quality of life.

Please accept this letter in support of the Fraser Valley Chess Academy's application to host the 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open.

Yours truly,

Malcolm D/Brodie Mayor





Justine Cheng Manager, Richmond Sport Hosting <u>icheng@richmondsporthosting.ca</u> | 778.231.6376 6111 River Road, Richmond BC V7COA2

Dear CFC President Vlad Drkulec, Executive Director Robert Gillanders, CFC Executives, and CFC Voting Members:

Re: Letter of Support for 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open – Bid Application.

On behalf of the Richmond Sport Hosting (RSH) office, I am writing this letter to show our full support of Fraser Valley Chess Academy's bid to host the 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open in Richmond, BC. As an advocate for bringing people together through the power of sport, we are thrilled to see the potential of this exciting event come to life in our community.

The RSH office has been a trailblazing player in Canada's sport tourism since 2009, the team is dedicated to attracting and supporting a diverse range of provincial, national, and international level sporting events, competitions, and conferences. RSH frequently works with event organizers to aid in the sourcing of venues, accommodations, funding, as well as a number of other event related services. The city of Richmond is known for its incredible hospitality, accessibility, Olympic spirit, and is a growing vibrant hub for sports.

The city of Richmond with its world-class facilities, provides the perfect destination to ensure that athletes have the best possible environment to compete, celebrate, and connect. This event will not only provide athletes with a platform to demonstrate their skills, but there is something for everyone – from family-friendly activities to adult competitions, and festival fun.

I am confident that Fraser Valley Chess Academy's has the expertise and knowledge to host this internationally recognized event. Please know that Fraser Valley Chess Academy's has our unwavering support, and we look forward to contributing to the success of their event in any way we can and hope that you will consider doing so too.

Sincerely,

Justine Cheng

Justine Cheng Manager, Richmond Sport Hosting jcheng@richmondsporthosting.ca C: 778.231.6376



Re: Letter of Support for 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open – Bid Application

Dear CFC President Vlad Drkulec, Executive Director Robert Gillanders, CFC Executives, and CFC Voting Members:,

On behalf of the Richmond Hotel Destination Association (RHDA), we are pleased to extend our full support to Fraser Valley Chess Academy in hosting the 2027-2028 **Canadian Youth Chess Championship (CYCC)** and the **Canadian Open Chess Championship (CO)** in **Richmond, British Columbia**.

These prestigious events will bring together top-tier chess talent from across Canada and around the world, and we are thrilled to welcome participants, families, and fans to our vibrant city. Richmond has long been a hub for cultural, sporting, and international events, and we are confident that your tournament will contribute positively to the city's reputation and economic growth.

In recognition of the significant tourism and hospitality impact of the CYCC and CO event is expected to generate, RHDA is proud to commit **guaranteed funding of \$35,000 to \$45,000 if a minimum of 1,000 room nights is actualized at participating RHDA Hotels,** with the opportunity for increased funding as additional room nights are realized.

This funding is designed to assist the organizing committee in delivering a world-class event experience and showcasing Richmond as a premier destination for major tournaments and family travel. RHDA is excited to be part of this effort and will continue to collaborate with Fraser Valley Chess Academy to ensure the success of the event and a warm welcome for all guests.

We look forward to working together to make this an unforgettable event for Richmond and for the Canadian chess community.

Warm regards, **Franco Michielli**

Franco Michielli Executive Director Richmond Hotel Destination Association 778-867-5274 francomichielli.rhda@gmail.com



205 South Tower, 5811 Cooney Rd Richmond, British Columbia Canada, V6X 3M1 604 821 5474 info@tourismrichmond.com

June 23, 2025

Dear CFC President Vlad Drkulec, Executive Director Robert Gillanders, CFC Executives, and CFC Voting Members:

Re: Letter of Support for 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open – Bid Application.

Tourism Richmond fully supports Fraser Valley Chess Academy's bid to host the 2027-2028 Canadian Youth Chess Championship & Canadian Open.

Richmond is a unique and perfect destination for your event, with top-class facilities, 20+ hotels, and easy access to Canada's second-largest airport, Vancouver International Airport.

Pre and post your attendees can enjoy Richmond's vast array of attractions including Steveston Village, parks and trails, and the world-famous Asian cuisine.

Richmond is ready to host your attendees and welcome you to our city.

Kindest regards,

Navy Snall

Nancy Small CEO, Tourism Richmond



6. Grants

Below are the grants and funding relationships that we have lined up and plan to submit, **subject to bid success**:

- Richmond Hotel Destination Association (RHDA): *Guaranteed funding will be between \$35-\$45k for 1,000 room nights. More funding is available as additional rooms are actualized.
- Destination Events Program, Province of BC: This program funds up to 10% of total event budget, for a projected \$5,000.
- Richmond Sports Hosting: Funds up to \$7,000 a year. Attached is a letter of support from RSH.
- BC Chess Federation: Oversees official chess tournaments in BC and will be supporting the CYCC and CO.

Grant / Funder Name	Maximum Funding Amount	Projected Amount
Richmond Hotel Destination Association	Up to 10% of total room nights cost	35,000*
Destination Events Program	Up to 10% of total event budget	5,000
Richmond Sport Hosting	Up to \$7,000 a year	7,000
BC Chess Federation	3,000	3,000
		50,000

7. Budgets

a. Canadian Youth Chess Championship

CYCC 2027			
Revenue	Entry Fee	400 players	500 players
Super Early Bird before May 1st	\$225	\$90,000	\$112,500
Guaranteed Grants		\$15,000	\$15,000
Total Revenue		\$105,000	\$127,500
Expenses		400 players	500 players
Facility Rental		\$22,500	\$27,500
Tables and Chairs (Included)		\$0	\$0
Equipment Rental (none needed)		\$0	\$0
Awards		\$5,000	\$5,000
Arbiters		\$3,500	\$3,500
Volunteers/ Staff		\$3,500	\$4,500
Hospitality		\$2,000	\$2,500
Advertising		\$3,000	\$3,000
Insurance		\$500	\$500
Rating Fees - CFC	\$0.50	\$200	\$250
Rating Fees - BCCF	\$3.15	\$1,260	\$1,575
Rating Fees - FIDE	\$2.20	\$704	\$880
Card processing fee	3%	\$3,150	\$3,825
CFC Youth Fund	\$150	\$60,000	\$75,000
Total Expenses		\$105,314	\$128,030
Net Profit/ Loss		-\$314	-\$530

b. Canadian Open

CO 2027			
Revenue	Entry Fee	225 players	250 players
Super Early Bird before May 1	\$225	\$50,625	\$56,250
Guaranteed Grants		\$20,000	\$20,000
Total Revenue		\$70,625	\$76,250
Expenses		225 players	250 players
Facility Rental		\$22,500	\$22,500
Tables and Chairs (Included)		\$0	\$0
Equipment Rental (none needed)		\$0	\$0
Awards		\$30,000	\$30,000
Arbiters		\$2,000	\$2,500
Volunteers/ Staff		\$2,000	\$2,500
Hospitality		\$2,000	\$2,500
Advertising		\$2,000	\$2,000
Insurance		\$250	\$250
Rating Fees - CFC	\$3.00	\$675	\$750
Rating Fees - BCCF	\$3.15	\$709	\$788
Rating Fees - FIDE	\$2.20	\$495	\$550
Card processing fee	3%	\$2,119	\$2,288
Miscellaneous		\$500	\$750
Total Expenses		\$65,248	\$67,375
Net Profit/ Loss		\$5,378	\$8,875

Net Profit/ Loss		
400 players (CYCC) + 225 players (CO) 500 players (CYCC) + 250 players (CO)		
\$5,064	\$8,345	

8. Conclusion

Fraser Valley Chess Academy is proud to present an opportunity to host the Canadian Youth Chess Championship and the Canadian Open Championship in Richmond, British Columbia. With our track record of delivering high-quality chess events, our team and committee, who bring a wealth of experience and dedication, and our mission to support and develop the next generation of Canadian chess players, we are confident in our ability to deliver a memorable and professionally run tournament.

Richmond is an ideal host city—just minutes from Vancouver International Airport, it offers exceptional accessibility for players and families travelling from across Canada. The Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, an internationally recognized brand, is well-equipped to host large-scale events with professionalism and ease. Richmond is not only a hub for chess talent but also a vibrant destination ready to welcome visitors for both high-level competition and unforgettable experiences on and off the board.

Date submitted: June 24th, 2025.

Proposal expiration date: Sept 30th, 2025.

Submitted by: Umang Banatwala for Fraser Valley Chess Academy.

9. Appendix

Floor plans: Britannia Ballroom and Elmbridge Room



