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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FERNANDEZ, MARINO, DABROWSKI, BOUCHARD, AND STAKUSIC TO REPRESENT TEAM CANADA AT BILLIE JEAN KING CUP FINALS IN SEVILLE**

***Canada to begin round robin against Spain on November 8, will face Poland on  
November 9***

**Toronto and Montreal, October 9, 2023** – Tennis Canada announced Monday that Leylah Annie Fernandez (Laval, QC), Rebecca Marino (Vancouver, BC), Gabriela Dabrowski (Ottawa, ON), Eugenie Bouchard (Montreal, QC), and Marina Stakusic (Mississauga, ON) have been selected to represent Team Canada presented by Sobeys at the Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge Finals in Seville, Spain. The finals will take place from November 7-12, with Canada set to take on Spain on November 8 and Poland on November 9.

“I’m extremely excited to see what this group can accomplish in Seville, playing among the world’s best for our third straight year in the finals,” said Heidi El Tabakh, Canada’s Billie Jean King Cup team Captain. “We’ve seen some incredible performances from Leylah, Gabriela, Eugenie, Rebecca and Marina as of late. This roster provides a great blend of experience and leadership, and I’m confident we have what it takes to show the world what the Canadian women are capable of.”

Fernandez, who has been ascending the rankings in both doubles and singles with her play recently, is currently ranked No. 60 in singles and No. 19 in doubles. She recently made it to her first career quarter-final in singles at a WTA 1000 event in Guadalajara. In doubles, she made it to the final at the French Open earlier this year. Fernandez has played in seven ties for Canada, playing an integral role against Belgium in this year’s qualifiers as she won all three matches she appeared in.

Marino, the world No. 138 ranked player in singles, appeared in the main draw of all four Grand Slams this year. She is gearing up to appear in her 10<sup>th</sup> tie for Canada at the Billie Jean King Cup, with seven wins and nine losses in her career.

Dabrowski, the world No. 9 in doubles, has strung together an incredible run in recent months, climbing 12 spots in the rankings since August. Dabrowski captured her first career Grand Slam doubles title at the US Open and followed it up immediately by making it to the finals at the Guadalajara Open. Dabrowski’s played in 20 ties for Canada throughout her career, going 12-7 in doubles matches.

The 29-year-old Bouchard has been ramping up her play in 2023 after a brief hiatus over the last few years due to injury. Ranked No. 232 in the world, she made it to the second round in Madrid and Guadalajara this year. The experienced veteran has appeared in 10 ties for Canada, last playing in 2018. With 13 wins and four losses while representing Canada, Bouchard will look to pick up where she left off.

The team is rounded out with the 18-year-old Stakusic, who will be making her Billie Jean King Cup debut for Canada. Ranked No. 299 in the world, Stakusic already has an impressive resumé, having won two events on the ITF Circuit in September in Berkeley and Valladolid.



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Canada's most recent meeting with Spain at the Billie Jean King Cup came in 1992, when they lost 2-1. Their only meeting with Poland came in 1980, when they recorded a 2-0 win.

Media members can click [here](#) to apply for in-person accreditation. To find out more details about the Billie Jean King Cup Finals format, click [here](#). If interested, tickets can be purchased for the Billie Jean King Cup Finals [here](#).

### About Tennis Canada

Founded in 1890, Tennis Canada is a non-profit, national sport association with a mission to lead the growth, development and promotion of tennis in Canada and a vision to be a world-leading tennis nation. We value teamwork, passion, integrity, innovation and excellence. Tennis Canada owns and operates the premier National Bank Open presented by Rogers WTA and ATP Tour events, four professional ATP and ITF sanctioned events and financially supports four other professional tournaments in Canada. Tennis Canada operates junior national training centres/programs in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. Tennis Canada is a proud member of the International Tennis Federation, the Canadian Olympic Committee and the Canadian Paralympic Committee, and serves to administer, sponsor and select the teams for Davis Cup, Billie Jean King Cup, the Olympic and Paralympic Games and all wheelchair, junior and senior national teams. Tennis Canada invests its surplus into tennis development. For more information on Tennis Canada please visit our Web site at: [www.tenniscanada.com](http://www.tenniscanada.com) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. -30- Media Contacts Patrick Steski Coordinator, Communications [psteski@tenniscanada.com](mailto:psteski@tenniscanada.com) +1 (613) 818-6237

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