

STADE IGA 285, rue Gary-Carter Montréal QC H2R 2W1

T. 514.273.1234

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# TEAM CANADA TRAILS HUNGARY 2-0 AFTER DAY ONE OF DAVIS CUP QUALIFIER TIE IN MONTREAL

The Canadian squad will need to win out to advance to the second round of qualifying

**[MONTREAL, QC] February 1, 2025 –** Team Canada presented by IGA lost their first two matches against Hungary in their Davis Cup Qualifiers 1<sup>st</sup> Round tie, featuring victories from Hungarians Fabian Marozsan and Marton Fucsovics. The tie will resume on Sunday at IGA Stadium, starting with a doubles match between the duo of Liam Draxl (Newmarket, ON), and Vasek Pospisil (Vernon, BC) and Hungary's Marozsan and Mate Valkusz.

"There's no panic buttons going off right now in the locker room," said Team Canada captain Frank Dancevic. "We're not done, we haven't lost yet, and our teams have always fought to the end. It's not an easy task coming back from 2-0, but I've got a lot of confidence in this team that we can do it. So, we're going to go in tomorrow and try to get that first point in doubles."

Alexis Galarneau (Laval, QC) was drawn to play the first match of the day against Marozsan, world No. 56 and Hungary's top-ranked player. In the tight encounter, Marozsan got off to a quicker start, breaking Galarneau right out of the gate en route to claiming the first set 6-3. In the second set, it was Galarneau who proved more solid, saving both break points he faced and converting his second break point opportunity to level the match at 1-1. Although both players raised their game in the decisive set, it was Marozsan who managed to edge out the Canadian to win the opening match 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

"He's a complete player," said Galarneau in his post-match press conference. "I think with both his forehand and backhand, he can generate power and be dangerous. But also his serve, I was surprised by it. I thought he served really precisely and mixed it up quite well – so all credit to him."

In the day's second match, Diallo, ranked 85<sup>th</sup> in the world, faced No. 96 Marton Fucsovics. It was the opposite of what happened in the first match, with the Canadian being the one who came out swinging. Diallo won 88 per cent of first serve points on his way to an early one-set lead. However, the tenacious Fucsovics was not to be denied, taking the second set in less than 30 minutes. In the third set, the Hungarian team came out on top again, as Fucsovics managed to break Diallo in the sixth game and fended off all five of the break points he faced.

"Of course, after losing that first match which could have gone either way, you look to get your team on the scoreboard," said Diallo after his loss. "I started the match super well and had a few small opportunities in the beginning of the second set. For sure I started well, but at the Davis Cup, everything can change so quickly with the momentum swings, and unfortunately today it didn't go my way."

Canada will now need to win the remainder of their matches to advance to the Qualifiers 2<sup>nd</sup> Round in September. A loss tomorrow would mean heading to World Group I.

## SUNDAY'S MATCH SCHEDULE

SOBEYS STADIUM 1 Shoreham Dr, Suite 100 Toronto ON M3N 3A6

T. 416.665.9777

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# Sunday, February 2, 2025

- Liam Draxl / Vasek Pospisil vs. Fabian Marozsan / Mate Valkusz at 11 a.m. ET
- Followed by Gabriel Diallo vs. Fabian Marozsan
- Followed by Alexis Galarneau vs. Marton Fucsovics\*

\*If the tie is decided following the doubles rubber, the last singles rubber may not be contested.

TVA Sports subscribers can watch the live coverage on the main channel, while all Canadian fans can enjoy free livestreaming of the matches on CBC Sports digital platforms, including CBC Gem and cbcsports.ca.

### **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, it financially supports 15 other professional tournaments in Canada, as well as operating more than 60 events nationally across junior, wheelchair, university and Masters tennis categories. 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 masters tennis national teams. Tennis Canada invests its surplus into tennis development. For more information on Tennis Canada please visit our website at: www.tenniscanada.com and follow us on LinkedIn, X, Facebook and Instagram.

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#### **Media Contact**

Patrick Steski Advisor, Communications psteski@tenniscanada.com +1 (613) 818-6237