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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TENNIS CANADA UNVEILS FIRST PART OF 2025 NATIONAL EVENT CALENDAR, THREE NEW PROFESSIONAL TOURNAMENTS ADDED IN QUEBEC**

*The period from January to July 2025 will see 49 tournaments taking place on Canadian soil*

**[TORONTO, ON] February 20, 2025** – On Thursday, Tennis Canada released its National Event Calendar for the 2025 season through to the National Bank Open presented by Rogers. A total of 49 tournaments will be held in seven provinces from January to July, including eight on the professional circuit.

The tennis season in Canada had already begun, with Team Canada presented by IGA contesting a Davis Cup Qualifiers 1<sup>st</sup> Round tie at IGA Stadium in Montreal, Quebec earlier this month. In March, several International Tennis Federation (ITF) professional tournaments will be featured, with a new M15 event in Sherbrooke, a W15 in Trois-Rivières, replacing the W15 in Brossard, and the addition of a men's event in Montreal, making it a combined W15 and M15 tournament.

"We always look forward to releasing our Canadian tennis calendar, especially when we're able to announce new men's and women's events," said Richard Quirion, Director of Professional and International Events, Quebec, at Tennis Canada. "Throughout the year, we remain committed to having a balanced number of men's and women's tournaments, which ensures a fair representation of all athletes.

"I would also like to acknowledge the work of the volunteers in Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières, and Montreal, the three new professional events to be held in Quebec in March. Their dedication and support enable the tournaments to run smoothly, provide an enjoyable experience for players and spectators alike, and create a strong sense of community in these cities."

During the summer, professional events will begin to ramp up ahead of the National Bank Open, starting with the M25 event in Laval, Quebec. Winnipeg, Manitoba will host an ATP Challenger tournament, the first in the National Bank Challenger series, followed by the Granby National Bank Championships – a combined ATP Challenger and ITF W75 event – which will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

"An important part of our long-term strategy, and a major investment for our federation, is to provide Canadian players with as many opportunities as possible to play tournaments in Canada, at all levels of the game," said Guillaume Marx, Vice-President of High Performance at Tennis Canada. "Domestic events are essential to player development and, ultimately, to the growth of the high-performance pipeline. These events not only offer fans the chance to witness high-level tennis, but they also provide Canadians with valuable playing time and the opportunity to collect crucial and affordable points, allowing them to improve their ranking with the aim of competing abroad in the future."

In July, a new era will begin for Canada's premier tennis event, the National Bank Open, as it expands to a 12-day format and a 96-player main draw. This upgrade in status sees the tournament join an elite group of six extended combined events on the WTA and ATP Tours, bringing the format closer to that of



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a Grand Slam. A one-day, 32-player qualifying format kicks off the event on Saturday, July 26, and runs until championship night on Thursday, August 7.

### **CALGARY NATIONAL BANK CHALLENGER NOT TAKING PLACE**

The Calgary National Bank Challenger will not be returning in 2025 after successfully completing its five-year contract with Tennis Canada. The tournament's organizing committee stated that the current economic uncertainty due to the falling Canadian dollar and the ongoing threat of tariffs was too great to move forward with hosting an event this year.

"It will feel strange not having the Calgary National Bank Challenger on the schedule this year," said Gavin Ziv, CEO of Tennis Canada. "It's an event that has played a pivotal role in growing tennis in Canada, especially in the West. In its five years, the organizing committee, led by Danny Da Costa, has done a tremendous job in staging an event that has consistently gone above and beyond, and we are hopeful it will return in the coming years. We remain committed to the growth and development of tennis across the country, which starts by inspiring the next generation of athletes and providing them with opportunities at domestic events to hone their skills."

### **MONTREAL TO HOST QUALIFIERS FOR 2025 ITF JUNIOR TEAM COMPETITIONS**

For the first time since 2019, Canada will host the North/Central America & Caribbean Final Qualifying for the ITF World Junior Tennis (boys and girls), Davis Cup Juniors, and Billie Jean King Cup Juniors by Gainbridge. At Montreal's IGA stadium, the participating nations' top players aged 14 & Under and 16 & Under will compete for a chance to qualify for the final stage of the competition.

Altogether, 23 junior events will take place in Canada ahead of August, including the much-anticipated Fischer Indoor Junior Nationals, which will be held in March in four different provinces. Other events scheduled during this six-month span include nine Masters tournaments, notably the MT1000 Mont Tremblant Cup, five ITF Future Series as part of the UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour, four beach tennis events, and the annual Canadian University Championships.

The remainder of the National Event Calendar, covering the months of August to December, will be unveiled in due course.

### **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



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Canada invests its surplus into tennis development. For more information on Tennis Canada please visit our website at: [www.tenniscanada.com](http://www.tenniscanada.com) and follow us on LinkedIn, X, Facebook and Instagram.

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