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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADA FALLS 3-1 TO KAZAKHSTAN IN BILLIE JEAN KING CUP QUALIFIERS

Team Canada will now head to the Billie Jean King Cup Play-offs in November

[ASTANA, KAZ] April 11, 2026 – On Saturday, Team Canada fell 3-1 to host nation Kazakhstan in a tightly contested tie at the Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge Qualifiers, held at the Beeline Arena in Astana, Kazakhstan. As a result, the No. 4-ranked Canadian team will compete in the 2026 Play-offs in November.

“They faced a very strong team, and I loved how the girls competed out there,” said captain Marie-Ève Pelletier. “It wasn’t the result we wanted, but I’m incredibly proud of the fight and heart they showed. They have a lot to be proud of.”

After Bianca Andreescu (Mississauga, ON) and Kazakhstan’s Yulia Putintseva each earned singles victories on the opening day, the tie was level at 1-1 heading into day two. The doubles match was up first, with captain Pelletier opting to pair Andreescu with Kayla Cross (London, ON). The Canadian duo faced Kazakhstan’s Anna Danilina and Zhibek Kulambayeva, falling 7-5, 6-1 in a one-hour, 28-minute match.

In the second match, the top players from each team faced off – world No. 130 Andreescu and world No. 74 Putintseva. Andreescu needed a win to keep Canada’s hopes alive and started strong, breaking her opponent in the third game. However, Putintseva turned things around and clinched the first set in a tiebreak. Andreescu regained momentum in the second set, winning it 6-3. The marathon match, which lasted three hours and 39 minutes, ultimately went the distance, but it was Putintseva who prevailed 7-6(5), 3-6, 7-6(4). The match marked their third meeting, with Putintseva now winning all three.

“I’m really proud of the way I played and how we showed up as a team,” said Andreescu. “We did everything we could. Marie-Ève [Pelletier] was with us the whole way, and the team supported us throughout. I really enjoyed the week – and sometimes, that’s tennis.”

Canada will now await the Play-offs draw, scheduled for Thursday, April 23 at the ITF offices in London, Great Britain. The Play-off ties will take place in the week of November 16.

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,



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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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