

**Spectators will be right in the heart of the action at Sprint Québec, presented by Québecor**

*Members of the public will have the chance to see elite athletes up close at the FIS Cross Country Sprint World Cup*

**Quebec, Thursday November 22, 2012** – Just a few days from now, all eyes will be on Parliament Hill in Quebec City, where the course for Sprint Québec, presented by Québecor, is ready and waiting for the arrival of 150 or so athletes from all over the world for the FIS Cross Country Ski World Cup, as well as the thousands of spectators expected for this major, not-to-be-missed event in Quebec. From December 7 to 9, ski fans will have a rare opportunity to see the elite of the cross-country ski world, and even to be front row centre for the competitions. Better still, they can put their skis on and compete on the very same World Cup course as the athletes!

**Get right into the centre of the action in the VIP zone**

Above and beyond watching the individual and team sprint races from trackside, 450 people per competition day will have access to a platform set up right in the middle of the course, around the Tourny Fountain, in front of the Provincial Legislature. Tickets for this are still on sale, and can be purchased for a single race or for both. For more information on the VIP Zone, visit [sprintquebec.com/spectateurs](http://sprintquebec.com/spectateurs).

**Quebec Open Sprint: the World Cup course opens up to amateurs**

And that's not all: a maximum of 1000 lucky spectators will have the chance to try out the World Cup course, in the Quebec Open Sprint, sponsored by Chocolate Milk. On Sunday, December 9, all levels of amateur skiers can see how they measure up to their favourite National Team stars, such as Alex Harvey, Devon Kershaw and Chandra Crawford. This will be the final competition of the event, and the participants will be able to ski the 850-metre long World Cup course in a 'Time Trial' format. Registrations are still open at [inscriptionligne.ca/sprintquebecopen/](http://inscriptionligne.ca/sprintquebecopen/).

**Meet the athletes...at an autograph session**

To cap off the weekend in a great way, in the grand style of the Quebec Open Sprint, there will be an autograph session with the National Team athletes on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, in the hydraSense Family Zone, from 10:30 to 11:00. This activity, which is open to the public, will be a chance for cross country skiing fans to get up close and personal with the stars of the show before they head off to Alberta to participate in the next World Cup on the FIS calendar, in Canmore.

We are pleased to announce that, to encourage the development of future athletes in the region, all profits from VIP Zone ticket sales and from registration fees for the

amateur races will go to three Quebec cross country ski clubs: Club Nordique Mont-Sainte-Anne, Skibec Nordique and the Pierre Harvey National Training Centre.

### ***About Sprint Québec – FIS Cross Country Ski World Cup***

*With a mandate from à Corporation Événements d’hiver de Québec, GESTEV is the delegated event director for Sprint Québec – FIS Cross Country Ski World Cup, which will take place in downtown Quebec City from December 7-9, 2012. This will be the first time in North America that a Cross Country Ski World Cup will take place in an urban setting. GESTEV, an innovative and visionary company specializing in event management for sports and cultural activities, has been operating since 1992 in the Greater Quebec region. GESTEV is a certified operator under le standard BNQ 9700-253.*

**For the latest updates and to request accreditation : [www.sprintquebec.com](http://www.sprintquebec.com)**



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