



WORLD CUBE ASSOCIATION NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2022



SUBMITTED: JUNE 21, 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OUR BID

The Toronto Organizing Committee is delighted to submit the following bid to host the WCA North American Championship 2022 in Toronto, Canada.

PROPOSED DATES

Thursday, July 7, 2022 to Sunday, July 10, 2022

EVENT VENUE

The Westin Harbour Castle has hosted many successful events and is more than equipped to accommodate the needs of the WCA North American Championship. It is a recognized industry leader in hospitality and located on the waterfront of Lake Ontario in the downtown core.

HOST CITY

Toronto is the fourth largest city in North America and the largest in Canada. Known for its diversity, vibrant culture and offerings in cuisine, art, shopping and events, Toronto is a prime host city for any event.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Toronto's 170 hotels offer approximately 36,000 available rooms. The Westin Harbour Castle will act as the main accommodation and will be the perfect location for competitors and spectators to stay while in Toronto. Special booking rates have been arranged for competitors and spectators.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONTINUED

ACCESS

Toronto's Pearson International Airport is the second busiest airport in North America, operating more than 1,100 daily flights to cities around the world. Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is another option for travellers and is located just 5 minutes from the downtown core. Most cities in Eastern Canada and the North-Eastern United States are within an 8-hour drive of Toronto.

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS

While the Organizing Committee certainly hopes that the COVID-19 pandemic will be over by 2022, we understand that large events may look different in the future. The Organizing Committee will pay special attention to guidelines and regulations from all levels of government and the WCA Board and we will take the necessary precautions to ensure that the competition environment is safe.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Jonathan Esparaz

Jonathan studies Engineering Science and is the President of the Cube Club at the University of Toronto. He is a Junior Delegate and has organized several competitions in Ontario. He has competed in over 50 WCA competitions and frequently promotes speedcubing to local media outlets. Jonathan is also a former North American record holder in the 3x3x3 One-Handed event.

Kris De Asis

Kris is a mechatronics engineer from Vancouver, currently pursuing a PhD in computing science at the University of Alberta. He has been speedcubing since 2007, was involved with organizing and delegating most of British Columbia's competitions until 2016, and presently delegates most of the competitions in Alberta. He is currently the WCA's regional delegate of Canada.

Liam Orovec

Liam is beginning a Master's Degree in Pure Mathematics at the University of Waterloo, he intends to pursue a PhD following the completion of his degree. Liam Started organizing competitions in 2015 and later became the delegate for Atlantic Canada in 2017. He has since delegated competitions in four Canadian provinces.

Brady Metherall

Brady is finishing his first year of a DPhil in Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling. He has helped organize multiple competitions including the Canadian Championship 2019, as well as staffed at four US Nationals. Brady is also the former national record holder and national champion for Square-1. Brady became a Trainee Delegate in February of this year.

Alyssa Esparaz

Alyssa is a recent grad of the International Development Studies program at the University of Toronto and works on the Marketing and Communications team at Compassion Canada, an international NGO. She has competed in 19 WCA competitions since 2014 and has been a staff member at many more. Alyssa is also a founding member of the Cube Club at the University of Toronto.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CONTINUED

Sarah Strong

Sarah is a high school teacher and has been speedcubing since 2007. She has been volunteering at WCA competitions since 2009 and has been organizing them since 2012. She was the President of the Cube Club at the University of Waterloo from 2012 to 2015 and was a member of the WCA Regulations Committee from 2013 to 2016. Sarah became a Delegate in 2018 in order to hold “side event competitions” to provide the Ontario cubing community with frequent opportunities to compete in all the WCA events.

Kevin Matthews

Kevin has been living and working in Vancouver for the past year, where he acts as the local WCA Delegate. Having spent periods of time living in Ontario, California and British Columbia, he has experienced lots of the variations in cubing culture across Canada and the USA. In addition to delegating all current Vancouver competitions, he has organized many quiet competitions and a few “regular” competitions, as well as staffing several US Nationals. Kevin is approaching 100 competitions attended, and has national records in Fewest Moves and Multi-Blindfolded.

Abdullah Gulab

Abdullah is a fourth-year mechanical engineering student at the University of Toronto and a Director at the University of Toronto Aerospace Team, the largest student design team in Canada. He has been speedcubing since 2013 and has competed in over 25 competitions. He was the first person to organize a WCA competition in Pakistan and was selected as the first Delegate for the country in 2019 to help grow and expand the Pakistani cubing community. Abdullah has also held several national records for Pakistan.



LETTER OF INTEREST

June 21, 2020
Bob Burton
Executive Director
World Cube Association
5042 Wilshire Blvd #43206
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Dear WCA Board of Directors,

It is with great pleasure that we express our interest to host the WCA North American Championship 2022 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Canada boasts the sixth largest number of WCA members in the world. Our team brings the experience of organizing WCA North American Championship 2020, and we aspire to finish what we started by hosting the inaugural Championship in 2022.

The Organizing Committee includes many Junior Delegates, Delegates and local organizers who each contribute unique skills and experience to the team. The core members are Jonathan Esparaz, Kris De Asis, Sarah Strong, Kevin Matthews, Liam Orovec, Brady Metherall, Abdullah Gulab and Alyssa Esparaz.

The proposed venue is the Westin Harbour Castle—a hotel and conference centre located in the heart of downtown Toronto. Multiple banquet halls and hotel rooms are on hold for the competition. Just a 10-minute walk from Toronto's Union Station, local and visiting competitors can enjoy easy access to and from the venue. Canada's largest city has lots to offer—exciting attractions, international cuisine and vibrant communities—and it is all just steps away from the Westin Harbour Castle.

We aspire to run a fair, enjoyable and memorable competition that promotes the WCA's mission.

We look forward to discussing our bid in further detail.



JONATHAN ESPARAZ
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CHAIR



PROPOSED PROGRAM

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE IS PREPARED TO HOST UP TO 850 COMPETITORS IN TORONTO!

Proposed Schedule

The competition will start Thursday morning with setup occurring the evening before. To ensure that the competition stays on schedule, a staff competition will be held each morning, Thursday through Saturday. The competition will conclude Sunday evening when we will crown the first WCA North American Champions. The competition dates conveniently align with school summer holidays in Canada, the United States and Mexico.

Proposed Competitor Limit

The Organizing Committee is planning for 850 competitors and qualification requirements will be implemented.

Spectators

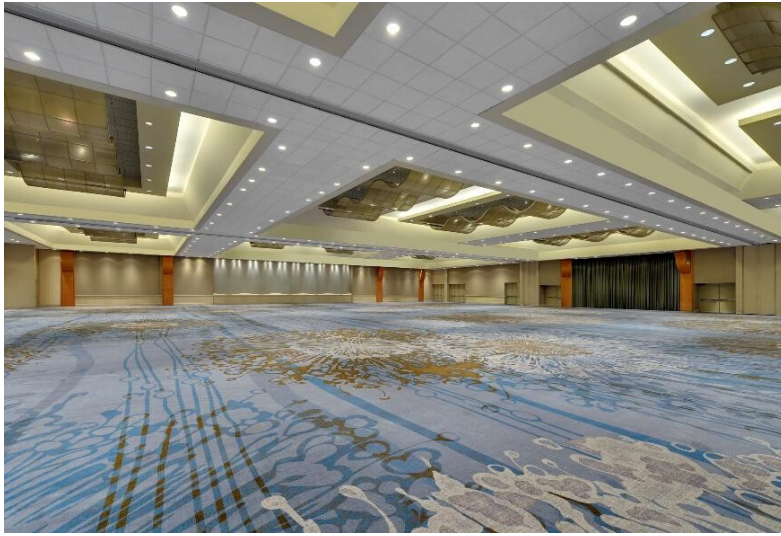
The Metropolitan Ballroom can accommodate 1,600 spectators.

Competition Equipment

The Metropolitan Ballroom can be configured with four stages and accommodate up to 48 timing stations. The Frontenac Ballroom can seat 200, allowing many competitors to participate in blindfolded events and FMC.

Other Technologies

Sound systems and projectors are available for use in the Metropolitan Ballroom. Live streaming will be arranged so that the competition can be viewed around the world.



THE WESTIN HARBOUR CASTLE

The Westin Harbour Castle enables you to restore the body and expand the mind within our 70,000 square feet of refined function space. Hold a convention in the adjacent conference centre amid the graceful surroundings of the 25,000-square-foot Metropolitan Ballroom, accommodating up to 3,400 guests.

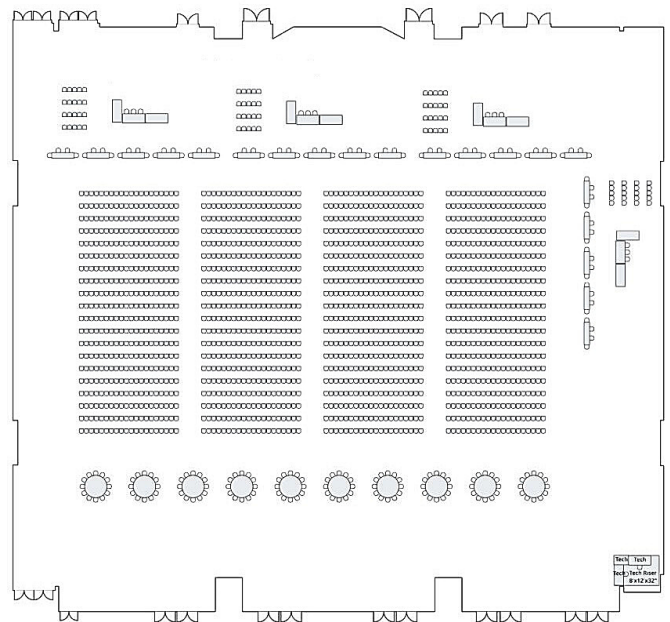
-- Westin Harbour Castle management

VENUE

The Organizing Committee has selected the Westin Harbour Castle for both its facilities and prime location.

The Metropolitan Ballroom is suitable for both competitors and spectators. The Frontenac Ballroom is a quiet space for side events such as FMC and 3x3x3 Multi-Blind. We have arranged for use of both the Metropolitan and Frontenac Ballrooms for the duration of the competition.

Both ballrooms include large foyers—space that can be used for registration tables, booths and sponsors. Additionally, Queens Quay is a meeting room that will be dedicated for staff to relax, eat lunch and store bags.



Metropolitan Ballroom: competition setup

TRAVEL

Toronto has two airports. Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) is the second busiest airport in North America with travel connections to every continent. Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (YTZ) is located in the downtown core and offers convenient flights to cities across Canada and the United States. Both airports offer easy access to the venue via transit or taxis and ride sharing.

A quarter of Canada's population lives within 160km (100 miles) of Toronto. Several U.S. states with major speedcubing communities are within a day's driving distance of Toronto, including New York, Ohio and Michigan.

U.S. citizens only need a valid passport to enter Canada. Visa-exempt foreign nationals need an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) to fly to Canada. Applying for an eTA is a simple online process. Most applications are approved within minutes via email.

For more information on requirements for traveling to Canada, visit: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/>

Toronto's Union Station is within walking distance of the venue. Local, regional and inter-city transit and trains are all accessible at Union station. The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) runs bus, streetcar and subway service throughout the city while GO transit provides regional bus and train service throughout southern Ontario. VIA Rail provides train service between Toronto and several major Canadian cities. UP Express also services Union Station directly from Toronto Pearson International Airport with a 25-minute train ride that runs every 15 minutes.

As one of North America's best transit systems, the TTC makes it easy for visitors to get around the city. Other options include taxis, ride sharing services and cycling.



TORONTO'S ATTRACTIONS

CN TOWER

Once the tallest structure in the world, the CN Tower is a must-see. Visitors can enjoy some of the city's best views, the thrilling EdgeWalk and glass floor.

RIPLEY'S AQUARIUM OF CANADA

Canada's largest indoor aquarium (over 135,000 square-feet and 1.5 million gallons) immerses you into a thrilling underwater adventure with marine and freshwater creatures from around the world.

HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

Home to exhibits about NHL records, memorabilia and trophies, The Hockey Hall of Fame offers the finest collection of hockey artifacts including the Stanley Cup.

KENSINGTON MARKET

The market is located within a walkable bohemian neighbourhood that features independent bakeries, shops, restaurants and cafes.

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO

The museum features over 95,000 pieces including contemporary works, European masterpieces and Canadian art collections.

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

The Royal Ontario Museum is Canada's largest museum. With 6,000,000 items and 40 galleries, the museum features exhibits on world art and natural history.

CANADA'S WONDERLAND

Canada's premier amusement park is not to be missed by thrill-seeking visitors to Toronto. The park's many rides, shows and food options make for unforgettably fun days.

TORONTO ZOO

The Toronto Zoo, the largest in Canada, covers 710 acres and is home to over 5,000 animals. There's over 10 km of walking trails that take you on a journey from the savanna to the tundra.