

NEWS RELEASE

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**QUÉBEC CITY AND MONTRÉAL GRANDS PRIX CYCLISTES ANNOUNCE
RYDER HESJEDAL, TEAM GARMIN-SHARP, TO COMPETE**

Saint-Lambert, Québec – Thursday July 19, 2012 – The Québec City and Montréal Grands Prix Cyclistes (GPCQM) announced today that Canadian Ryder Hesjedal of Team Garmin-Sharp, the winner of the 2012 Tour of Italy, will compete.

"I love competing all over the world, but there is something extra special about racing at home," Hesjedal said. "I look forward to these races all year and am proud and excited to compete at home in Canada."

Hesjedal's victory in the Tour of Italy was the best result ever by a Canadian cyclist in a Grand Tour event. The Québec City and Montréal Grands Prix Cyclistes, which are the only UCI WorldTour races in North America, and have been a special moment of the season for him since their inception.

At the initial running of the Grands Prix Cyclistes in 2010, Hesjedal came fourth in Québec City and followed that up with a podium finish in Montréal, crossing the line in third place.

The team lineups for this year's GPCQM races will be unveiled the week of August 20.

The Grands Prix Cyclistes Québec – Montréal

In 2009, the Grands Prix Cyclistes de Québec-Montréal (GPCQM) organization was granted the first two UCI WorldTour licences for races in North America. The organization has been responsible for planning and putting on these world-class cycling races in Québec City and Montréal since 2010. Please visit the website www.gpcqm.ca for more details on these races at the premier level of world cycling. The GPCQM organization would like to highlight the contribution of the following partners: the Government of Canada, the Government of Québec, the City of Québec, the City of Montréal, Tourisme Montréal, Québecor, KIA and Air Transat.

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