



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec – Grand Prix Cycliste de Montréal 2011 Races

Teams Unveiled as six-month countdown has begun

Quebec City, Friday, March 11, 2011 – For the second year in a row, the Grand Prix Cycliste races in Quebec City and Montreal will welcome the 18 top teams in the world on the second weekend in September. In exactly six months' time, the 18 ProTeams of the International Cycling Union (UCI) and 4 Professional Continental teams invited by the race organizers will have completed the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec and will be starting the Montreal race. The Quebec City competition will take place on Friday, September 9, and the Montreal one on Sunday, September 11, 2011.

In 2011, the UCI ProTour label no longer exists, having been replaced by WorldTour. This is more than just a name change, as the general operation of the tour has been changed, as well. As far as the races are concerned, the WorldTour name unifies the international calendar once again. From now on, the cycling season will be more coherently organized, with a single calendar combining ProTour and long-standing, "historic" races. The Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec and the Grand Prix Cycliste de Montréal are now part of a circuit that includes such legendary pro cycling races as the Tour de France and Paris–Roubaix.

In addition to the 18 UCI ProTeams, which are the top UCI category, the Grand Prix Cycliste races in Quebec City and Montreal have chosen to invite 4 Professional Continental teams. This season, **SpiderTech powered by C10**, the team of the renowned Steve Bauer, has become the first Canadian Professional Continental team ever. Among its riders are several talented Quebeckers, including Guillaume Boivin, Kevin Lacombe, Martin Gilbert and David Boily, and of course the powerful racers Svein Tuft, Zach Bell and Will Routley. **Team Europcar**, formally Bbox Bouygues Telecom, includes the 2010 winner of the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec and current leader of the UCI Europe Tour, **Thomas Voeckler**, and a new member from Quebec, David Veilleux. **FDJ** lost its ProTeam status this season, but is continuing to progress with Quebecker Dominique Rollin in its squad. The **Cofidis** team rounds out the list.

Building on the first event, the organization will be making a few improvements in 2011. "Given last year's experience and the fact that the riders have said they would like the distance to be closer to that of the great classic races, this year's competitions in Quebec and Montreal will be over 200 km long. The pack will ride one more lap, and will have the daunting hills of Côte de la Montagne in Quebec City and Camilien Houde Road in Montreal to contend with. Both races promise to be really exciting, and whoever wins will be a worthy champion!" says Charly Mottet, the organization's sports manager. There will be an improved version of the Challenge Sprint on Thursday, September 8, on the streets of the Old Capital.

Here is the list of teams that will be taking part in the 2011 Grand Prix Cycliste races in Quebec City and Montreal:

ProTeams

AG2R La Mondiale
BMC Racing Team
Euskaltel-Euskadi
HTC – Highroad
Katusha Team
Lampre – ISD

Leopard Trek
Liquigas-Cannondale
Movistar Team
Omega Pharma-Lotto
Pro Team Astana
Quickstep Cycling Team

Rabobank Cycling Team
Saxo Bank Sungard
Sky Procycling
Team Garmin-Cervelo
Team RadioShack
Vacansoleil-DCM Pro Cycling Team

Professional Continental Teams

Cofidis
FDJ
Team Europcar
Team SpiderTech-C10

Grand Prix Cycliste ProTour Organization

In 2009, the Grand Prix Cycliste ProTour Organization was granted the first two UCI licences for ProTour (WorldTour as of 2011) races in North America. The organization is responsible for planning and putting on races in Quebec City and Montreal from 2010 to 2014. Please visit www.gpcqm.ca for more details about these top-calibre international cycling events.

We would like to thank our public partners, the Government of Canada, the Gouvernement du Québec, the City of Quebec and the City of Montreal.

For more information

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