

## Welcome and Invitation

Dear RoboCup Community!

We are very excited to host [RoboCup 2018](#) in [Montréal](#). This will be the first time that [Canada](#) will host the [International RoboCup](#). This prestigious event will provide countless students, researchers, professionals, and Montréal a firsthand look at the talent of RoboCuppers!

We are sure you are busy planning and preparing your robot inspirations. We hope this newsletter provides you with the information you need to plan your stay and participation in RoboCup 2018. We look forward to having you enjoy both the event and our beautiful city working on becoming the leaders in artificial intelligence. Our city advocates for robotics and AI are very excited for the visits of the talented RoboCup community which they heard talk about daily. Thank you to the RoboCup Federation for choosing Montréal Canada for 2018.

### [RoboCup 2018 Montréal Canada Delegation LOC](#)

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## Montréal



The 375 year old city of [Montréal](#) is a blend of old world charm mixed with an European feel. Recognized as a World leader in artificial Intelligence, the city counts Google, Facebook, and Microsoft as some of its prestigious citizens.

Known for our distinguished universities and innovative people, Montréal has a rich history of spawning numerous successful World class companies such as Cirque du Soleil and Bombardier.

Montréal hosts many international festivals and events every year. From the [Grand Prix](#) to the [Jazz fest](#), there is always something exciting going on. Discover Old Montréal, walking distance from the Venue, and all the activities along the [Old Port](#), including the new [observation wheel](#).

Home to the largest french-speaking population in North America, the city has a population of about 1.7 Million people. The majority of them speak two or more languages. Montréal attracts many visitors for its incredible history, culture, and technology.

## Venue - The Palais des congrès



Located in the International Quarter, next to Chinatown, this state of the art building with over 51,000 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition space takes up an entire city block.

Our recommended hotels are within walking distance from the convention centre. Centrally located to historic Old Montréal, and the entertainment districts.

Free Wi-Fi is available in most parts of the convention centre and, as usual, restricted in the competition area. There are shops and restaurants located in and around the venue.

## Montréal's Underground City



Be sure to explore Montréal's famous "Underground City". Travel from the venue across downtown through a series of underground tunnels.

You can rent a [Bixi bike](#) or ride the [Métro](#) (located within the venue) and bus system to explore more of what the city offers such as our nearby amusement park, [La Ronde](#). Single and multi-day passes are available for the transit system.

## Airport

[Pierre Elliott Trudeau Airport](#) is located approximately 25 minutes from downtown Montréal. There are [numerous options](#) to reach your hotel or the convention centre.

## Currency

The standard currency is [Canadian Dollars](#). Some places accept American Dollars as well. Credit Cards like Visa and MasterCard credit cards are widely accepted. Currency exchange office are available at the airport and several downtown locations.

## Montréal Food Culture



Montréal is famous for its diversity of restaurants that reflects the multicultural nature of the city. From traditional foods such as Tourtiere, bagels, and smoked meat to favourites like poutine and beaver tails.

You can sample all of these within walking distance of the venue.

[Halal and Kosher food](#) is available in the convention centre.

## FrancoFolies de Montréal Festival



Les [FrancoFolies de Montréal Festival](#) takes place during RoboCup International 2018 Montréal. This festival has been the true reflection of a thriving French-speaking music world! Nearly 70 indoor shows and 180 free outdoor concerts attest to the effervescent quality, diversity and energy of a music-rich, fun-filled program!

This vibrant area is next to the Hyatt Hotel where all the shops, grocery store and entertainment district is at it best.



## Electricity



Canada's electrical supply and electrical outlets (sockets, wall plugs) are the same as those found in the United States. The electrical supply is 120 Volts and 60 Hertz (cycles per second). You may need a power bar, an adaptor and a power converter.



## Wi-Fi and Internet



With over 825 [free Wifi access stations](#) throughout downtown, Montréal has one of the widest free public urban WiFi networks in the world. Many public places such as restaurants and hotels offer free WiFi as well.

## Eureka Festival



The [Eureka Festival](#) is Montréal's biggest celebration of science.

Three days of fun with over 100 FREE outdoor STEM & robotics activities within walking distance of the venue! So plan to come early to Montréal and enjoy what it has to offer!

The festival runs from June 8th to the 10th in the Old Port of Montréal next to the [Montréal Science Centre](#) and IMAX cinema.

## Cargo

To ship your robot or equipment as cargo, please contact our [official shipper](#) for assistance with the required forms and procedures. Ensure that you allow enough time for your equipment to be shipped from your country.

## Hotel Accommodations

We have reserved hundreds of rooms in various hotels which will suit the RoboCup Community. [Tourism Montréal](#) has been very accommodating in helping us welcome the RoboCuppers. We are very fortunate to have their support, enthusiasm to support such a large community of talent where you have made so many efforts towards being here. ALL our hotels are less than 10 minutes walking distance with parks and meeting places around you. The convention center, the Palais des congrès de Montréal can be seen from many districts around. Its beautifully colored stain glass exterior is one of its best characteristics.

**Important:** The hotel rooms are priced PER ROOM and not per person. Be sure to note the number of people and size of beds that the room can accommodate. They are very affordable for individuals and groups. Some hotels have laundry machines for guest use. Others, offer kitchenettes and apartment-like spaces. Some hotels are closer to the Old City of Montréal near the St. Laurent river and others are closer to the entertainment district (city centre). Almost all hotels will give you the option for breakfast so it is convenient for your groups and start you off to a full day of good work.

Some hotels offer storage options should you need additional space for your gear. Check our [website](#) for more details and RoboCup 2018 preferred rates.

## [Innovation Summit](#)

The Innovation Summit will take place during the RoboCup event one floor above the Competition area at the Palais des Congrès. This summit will provide learning and training opportunities for students, teachers, mentors, professionals, industries, and all robotic enthusiasts.

Up-to-date information can be found on the RoboCup 2018 website link



## Important Dates

Please mark the following 2018 dates on your calendar:

### Registration Schedule

#### MAJOR Leagues:

Early Registration:	March 1 - April 15
Regular Registration:	April 16 - May 18
Late Registration:	May 19 - June 13

#### JUNIOR Leagues:

Regular Registration:	March 1 - May 18
Late Registration:	May 19 - June 13

To register, please visit the [registration page](#).

### OnSite Schedule

#### MAJOR Leagues:

OnSite Check In & Set Up: (Badge and t-shirt pick up)	June 16 & 17
Competition Days:	June 17 - 21
Symposium Day:	June 22

#### JUNIOR Leagues:

OnSite Check in only (Badge and t-shirt pick up)	June 16
Set Up:	June 17
Competition Days:	June 18 - 21
Symposium Day:	June 22

We look forward to seeing you in Montréal for the **first RoboCup International Canada Event**.  
We hope to make it a memorable!