

PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

FIS delighted with Ski Tour Canada 2016

Cross-Country skiing at its best, March 1 to 12, 2016

Québec City, Thursday June 18, 2015 – The FIS (Fédération internationale de ski) technical committee met in Varna, Bulgaria last week, and the FIS expressed its delight at plans for Ski Tour Canada 2016 – FIS Cross-Country World Cup presented by Viessmann. Local organizing committees are actively preparing for each of the eight stages that make up the tour to be held March 1st to 12th, 2016 in the iconic Canadian locations of Gatineau, Montréal, Québec City, Canmore, and Lake Louise. "The next major milestone includes a visit in August by the FIS technical staff and marketing representatives to approve tracks and stadium layouts used on each stage of the tour," explains Dave Dyer, director of events at Cross Country Canada. "With under a year to go before the Tour gets underway, we're really excited about the project and can't wait for the 2015-2016 season to start!"

The world's top Cross-Country skiers from over 25 countries will go head-to-head on Canadian soil at the FIS Cross-Country World Cup's grand finale for the season. With no Olympic Games or World Championships on the international calendar in 2015-2016, Ski Tour Canada 2016 will be one of the pinnacle events of the upcoming cross-country ski season.

Website

After months of work and consultation, the national organizing committee has unveiled the official event logo and website, <u>skitourcanada.com</u>. The website will be home to full details for each of the eight FIS World Cup stops until the very last day of competitions, meaning that the general public, athletes, teams, and the media will be able to follow all the action online from this history-making event in Canada. Moreover, the latest news of the event will also be available via the social networks of the event.

https://www.facebook.com/skitourcanada https://twitter.com/skitourca

At a Glance

Gatineau – March 1 (Sprint F) Montréal – March 2 (13/22 km – Mass Start - C) Québec City – March 4 (Sprint F) Québec City – March 5 (10/15 km – Pursuit – F) Canmore – March 8 (Sprint C) Canmore – March 9 (15/30 km Skiathlon) Lake Louise – March 11 (10/20 km – Interval Start – F) Canmore – March 12 (10/15km – Pursuit – C)

*F = freestyle *C = Classic

About FIS

FIS, founded in 1924, is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee, FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross-Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing, and Snowboarding, and sets the international competition rules. Through its 119 national federations, more than 7,000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote winter sports, particularly for the young.

About Cross Country Ski Canada

Cross Country Canada is the governing body of cross-country skiing in Canada, which is the nation's optimal winter sport and recreational activity with more than one million Canadians participating annually. Its 58,000 members include athletes, coaches, officials, and skiers of all ages and abilities, including those on Canada's National Ski Teams and Para-Nordic Ski Teams. With the support of its valued corporate partners—Haywood Securities Inc., AltaGas and Mackenzie—along with the Government of Canada, Canadian Olympic Committee, Canadian Paralympic Committee, Own the Podium, and B2dix, Cross-Country Canada develops Olympic, Paralympic, and world champions.

About the National Organizing Committee (NOC)

The (NOC) has been established by Cross Country Canada (CCC) to assist in managing and coordinating Ski Tour Canada 2016. By facilitating communication between CCC and the Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) including ÉVÈNEMENTS NORDIQUES GATINEAU (Gatineau), QUÉBEC WINTER EVENTS CORPORATION (Montreal and Quebec City) and the ALBERTA WORLD CUP SOCIETY (Canmore & Lake Louise) the NOC plans to deliver a seamless Tour in both eastern and western Canada.

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https://www.flickr.com/photos/skitourca/

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