Fannish Inquisition Survey: Montreal in 2017 Worldcon Bid

Worldcon Bid: Montreal in 2017

What are the proposed dates for which you are bidding? August 17 to 21, 2017

What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

Montreal, Quebec, Canada Palais des congrès de Montréal (same as Worldcon 2009) Downtown Montreal

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne? Atlanta?

Retrieved from Travelocity / Air Canada on 2012-11-18, lowest fare used for August 2013 travel dates, all prices in USD:

- London: 1108
- Boston: 410 (or approx six hour drive)
- Chicago: 487
- Los Angeles: 582
- Melbourne: 1813

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

There are over 130 locations with direct flights both international and domestic to Montreal, airlines include Air Canada, British Airways, KLM, Lufthansa, Delta, United, American Airlines, CanJet, Porter, and Westjet.

Montreal is also accessible by rail from New York and Toronto

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

Airport:

Distance: 21km (13 miles) Cab fare: \$40 (fixed fare between the airport and downtown) There is a special bus route from the airport to downtown, cost is \$8 and includes unlimited travel in buses and metro for the next 24 hours.

Train Station: 700 m (about half a mile) Cab fare: approximately \$5 The distance can be covered by Metro, fare is currently \$3.00, TBD.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

We expect to have room rates when the bid formally launches.

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet in the room? How firm are these rates?

In negotiations. There are several hotels near the convention site, including several (Holiday Inn, Embassy Suites, Westin [new since 2009], Intercontinental) across the street.

What is the cost to *park* at the convention/hotel facilities?

What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

500 m or less, depending on final choice

If using overflow hotels (or hotels not directly connected) what is the cost of a cab ride door-to-door with the convention center?

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

The convention centre has a total of over 500,000 sq feet and 100 rooms of exhibit and meeting space. All rooms are accessible via several banks of elevators.

Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

In the Convention centre

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

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There are over 300 restaurants, bars and cafés within 1 km (0.6 mile) of the convention site and over 850 within 2 km (1.25 miles). Chinatown is a stone's throw away, while the Old Port is a little bit further (in a different direction).

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.

No smoking in public spaces (this includes all convention spaces).

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

Average August temperature: 21°C / 68°F August average high: 28°C / 83°F August average low: 16°C / 60°F Average days of rainfall in August: 9

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Montreal has over 30 museums, covering arts, science and history, among other things. the Montreal Botanical garden comprises 190 acres of gardens and greenhouses and is open year-round. Old Montreal, the historic district is right next to the convention site. The Cirque du Soleil site is within walking distance.

Who is on your committee? Who is your bid chair? What experience do they have in general? In running this convention in particular?

Committee is still forming but Robbie Bourget, Liz Cano, Bruce Farr, Terry Fong, Eugene Heller, Dina Krause, Diane Lacey, Jannie Shea. Bid co-chairs are Terry Fong and Diane Lacey Most have been Worldcon division heads. All have Worldcon experience.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have? TBD

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

TBA. Judging from 2009, arranging for a corkage waiver should be no problem.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors?

TBD. In 2009 we had taster and weekend (Friday evening to Sunday night) memberships.

Are you participating in pass-along funds?
