



JUNIORS TO CURL IN NEW EVENT WITH CHALLENGE DE CURLING DE GATINEAU

Gatineau, Quebec – April 2, 2018 – the Challenge de Curling de Gatineau and Junior Slam Series today unveiled plans for a new junior curling event October 12 -15, 2018 in Gatineau, Quebec. Called the U21 Crystal Slam, the new competition will bring about 40 high performance men’s and women’s junior teams from Quebec and other Canadian provinces, U.S.A., Europe and Asia to compete at Buckingham Curling Club and Centre Robert Rochon Arena, Gatineau next Fall.

“We are excited to have so many young teams taking part as we celebrate the 10th edition of the Challenge and the 100th Anniversary of Buckingham Curling Club” said Richard Faguy, Event Coordinator of the Challenge de Curling de Gatineau. *“This will bring a great deal of activity to the community as hundreds of junior curlers and their families join the 256 elite and open class curlers already coming in for our adult event.”*

In addition to a cash prize, the junior men’s winners of the new U21 Crystal Slam earn a spot to compete in the Challenge de Curling de Gatineau’s World Curling Tour event taking place the following week (October 18-21, 2018) at the Centre Sportif Robert-Rochon arena. Details are being finalized for the women’s champions to earn a chance to compete in an elite women’s event.

“A chance to take part in a premium World Curling Tour event like the Challenge de Curling de Gatineau, and to play on arena ice, will be very appealing for our junior teams,” said Byron Scott, founder of the Junior Slam Series. *“We are thrilled to have this opportunity to grow the game and to expand the Junior Slam Series into Quebec.”*

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The U21 Crystal Slam encourages development opportunities for Quebec junior curling by guaranteeing 6 spots in the line up for three U21 women's and three junior men's teams from Quebec. All 40 junior teams in the event will play a minimum of four games each over the three-day weekend October 12-15 at the Buckingham Curling Club and the Centre Sportif Robert-Rochon arena. A unique feature of the U21 Crystal Slam will be a ROCKTalk, a short powerful presentation given by a curling 'celebrity'. This talk will be held Friday October 12, 2018 .

The Crystal Slam will be managed and convened by the Junior Slam Series in partnership with organizers of the Challenge de Curling de Gatineau. The event is endorsed by the City of Gatineau, the Buckingham Curling Club, Curling Quebec and the Ottawa Valley Curling Association.

Registration for the new U21 Crystal Slam begins on line in June 2018 at www.juniorslamseries.com.

For more information, please contact:

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