



**FISM**<sup>TM</sup>

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques  
International Federation of Magic Societies

# FISM Newsletter

**Nr. 38 – August 2016**

**To all Presidents of the FISM member-societies  
and Delegates in the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the FISM**

Dear Delegate, Dear Friend in Magic,

It's my pleasure to keep you abreast of the latest developments.

## **FISM WCM2021**

The application of Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, to organize of the World Championships of Magic in 2021, gave cause to a site inspection, the report of which I'm sending you as a supplement to this Newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Domenico Dante  
International President





# Site Inspection Report

## Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, June 16-18, 2016

- Inspector:** **Domenico Dante**, FISM International President
- Purpose:** Inspection of the facilities, including venue, hotels, city attractions and restaurants in the immediate vicinity of the convention centre.
- At the request of:** **Renee-Claude Auclair** and **Pierre Hamon**, co-organizers of the Quebec Festival of Magic, and **Joan Caesar**, Canadian FISM representative and Past President of The Canadian Association of Magicians
- Hosts:** During my stay I was hosted by **Renee-Claude Auclair**, **Pierre Hamon** and **Joan Caesar**
- They were also joined by:
- **Jocelyn Guertin**, Sales Manager of the Convention Centre
  - **Marie-Elaine Lemieux**, Sales Manager of the Convention Centre
  - **Julie Imbeault**, planner of cultural events, Quebec City
  - **Paule St-Amand**, advisor for the Quebec government
  - **Philippe DuPont**, AV technician for The convention centre
  - **Eric Bilodeau**, communications and Advertising Director Quebec Tourism Bureau
  - **Regis Labeaume**, Mayor of Quebec City
  - **Louis Côte**, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

The site visit was well organized. The places we visited were expecting us, and we were made very welcome and all time schedules were respected.

**Quebec City**, is rich in culture, and most historical sites are within an easy walk of the convention centre. It's an interesting mix of North American and European cultures. Situated on the St Lawrence River, it is very close to the United States. Quebec is socially vibrant, a village atmosphere within the active city life. There are numerous festivals and other cultural events throughout the year that bring life to the streets. Quebec is one of the safest cities in North America. The crime rate is comparatively low and in all parts of Canada, residents are not allowed to carry guns.

### Other information

Quebec airport has many direct flights from Paris and a few each week from London in the summer months. The airport is about 20 minutes from the city. A bus fro. The airport costs \$3.25, or a taxi is about \$20.00 USD

### Climate and temperature

The average temperature in the summer is around 25 degrees but it cools off at night.

### Language



French is the official language of Quebec, but most people also speak English.

### Money

The currency is the Canadian dollar, which at this time is about 30% lower than the US dollar, making travel very affordable. Of course currency levels change over time.

**The Quebec City Convention Centre** is an extremely modern facility, featuring the latest technological advances. We were shown rooms well suited to each of our main events: contests, gala shows, dealers, banquet, and lectures. As well, they have ample space for friendly visits among registrants. We were assured that the screens AV for close up would be of the highest quality.

The theatre for the gala shows which will have to be built in one of the exhibition halls, will hold an audience of 2400. We were assured that FISM specifications and recommendations will be followed in the strictest way possible. The close up theatre will hold 1200 people and the banquet hall will hold 2000 people. The close up competition and show will have a large screen and superior AV, handled by well trained people. Tiered seating will guarantee a good visibility.

The dealers' room will hold 120 stands of approximately 3 by 3 meters if they include a lounge area with snacks. If there are only dealers, the room can hold up to 168 of these stands.

There are a couple of snack bars in the facility, but we were assured that during our event, a better area with hot and cold food would be prepared. There are many restaurants within a 10 minute walk of the facility, so food should not be a problem. You can have a very good dinner for \$25.00 USD

The convention budget is being carefully formulated with several scenarios (registration numbers) in mind. It will be complete by the time of the vote in Busan.

## **HOTELS**

Hotels within a 15 minutes walk of the convention centre are plentiful and varied. There are about 3000 hotel rooms within a 10-15 walk. Prices vary from \$100.00 USD up. The average room price is about \$140.00 US for a 4 star hotel. There are also Bed and Breakfast places advertised on the Internet and will be advertised in the website along with nearby hotels. The Hilton is next to the convention centre. We didn't visit this hotel, deeming it too expensive for the average conventioneer. The Delta is a block away, for people who feel more comfortable in a hotel chain. We preferred Le Concorde, a family owned hotel, a block from the venue. It's beautifully decorated, reasonably priced, featuring a revolving restaurant.

### Other information

US Customs Clearance will soon be possible at the Quebec airport, and the organizers plan to have close contact with the customs authorities, making it much easier than previously to bring goods into the country.

## **Conclusion**

Taking into account the many positive aspects of our visit, we consider Quebec City to be a suitable place to hold FISM 2021.