



Canadian British Parliamentary Debate Championships
(Formerly known as the Oxford Cup)

September 7, 2018

Dear Provincial Coordinators, Coaches, and Debaters;

The Ontario Student Debating Union (OSDU) is pleased to invite you to the 2018 Canadian British Parliamentary (BP) Debate Championships, to be held in **Toronto, Ontario from Friday November 30th to Sunday December 2nd, 2018.**

As you may be aware, this tournament was previously referred to as the Oxford Cup Championships. This event has been renamed as it will now include two divisions; a senior division, and an under-15 division. A detailed explanation of these divisions and their respective eligibility criteria can be found later in this invitation.

At this time, each province may register up to **six senior teams**, and up to **three U-15 teams**.

Location:

All debating will take place at the York School (1320 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON, M4T 1X2). Some events will take place at the Bond Place Hotel (65 Dundas St E, Toronto ON M5B 2G8). If you are travelling to Toronto via Pearson International Airport, it is recommended that you take either a taxi to the Bond Place Hotel, or utilize the UP Express Train, and subway to Dundas Station. Transportation between the Bond Place Hotel and the York School will be provided.

Schedule:

This rough schedule is only a draft, a final schedule will be provided to all delegates upon arrival, and is subject to change.

Friday, November 30th:

Teams will arrive on Thursday, November 29th and the morning of November 30th. Registration will take place on Friday November 30th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Bond Place Hotel for out-of-town participants. Registration will be open from 4:00 - 5:00 pm at the York School for local teams and judges. All delegates must be at the York School by 4:30 pm.

Friday night will entail a briefing, and two rounds of impromptu debate separated by dinner. Transportation between the York School and Bond Place Hotel will be provided.

Saturday, December 1st:

All delegates will travel to the York School for breakfast, followed by four rounds of impromptu debate. Lunch will be provided after the second round of debate. All delegates (regardless of whether or not they are staying at the Bond Place Hotel) will attend a banquet dinner at the Bond Place Hotel. Attendance at the banquet dinner is mandatory. Transportation between the Bond Place Hotel and the York School will be provided.

Sunday, December 2nd:

Sunday will be reserved for the semi-finals, and grand-finals of both divisions. Breakfast, lunch and all rounds of debate will take place at the York School. The event is expected to end no later than 2:00 pm. It is recommended that out-of-town guests do not book flights departing Toronto until after 5:30 p.m. Transportation from the Bond Place Hotel to the York School will be provided in the morning. Transportation from the York School to Pearson International Airport will be provided at the end of the event for out-of-town guests.

Meals:

Event registration fees will include the following meals:

- Dinner on Friday November 30th
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks on Saturday December 1st
- Breakfast and lunch on Sunday December 2nd

Registration Process:

The registration fee for the event will be \$150.00 per person, or \$300.00 per team. Coaches attending the event who wish to judge the debates may register for a discounted fee of \$100.00, all other attending adults must register for the full \$150.00 fee. All teams must be fully chaperoned at all times. Unchaperoned teams will not be accepted during registration.

To register your team(s) and chaperone(s) for the event, please email Chris George, the event registrar, directly at cgeorge@videotron.ca. Further payment instructions will be provided to you directly by Chris. Please include the following in your registration:

- Names of debaters
- Name of chaperone
- If chaperone is willing to judge
- Dietary restrictions
- Contact phone number and email
- Date of birth of all debaters in U-15 division (for age category eligibility)

All registration must be received by **October 30th, 2018**. All payment must be received by **November 16, 2018**.

Provincial coordinators are asked to please email osdupresident@gmail.com and cgeorge@videotron.ca directly with a list of teams who have qualified for the event in each division as soon as possible. This is to assist us in ensuring that the correct teams are registering.

Accommodation:

OSDU has coordinated a discounted room rate at the Bond Place Hotel, located at 65 Dundas Street East in downtown Toronto, located beside the Eaton Centre. The hotel phone number is 416-362-6061.

Rooms are available as of Thursday, November 29, through to check out on Sunday, December 2. The options available are:

- Standard twin room, with 2 twin beds, for \$115 night plus taxes (ideal for accommodating two students)
- Standard Queen room, with 1 queen bed, for \$115 night plus taxes (meant for coaches in single accommodation)
- Deluxe room with 1 double bed and 2 twin beds, for \$145 a night plus taxes (ideal for accommodating 3 students)
- Deluxe room with 1 queen bed and 2 twin beds, for \$145 a night plus taxes (ideal for accommodating 3 or 4 students)

These configurations will provide some economical options to put 3 students in many rooms, and the last option can accommodate 4 students at no extra cost. We encourage you to coordinate with other schools if possible to make maximum use of the triple rooms, as the room block was set up based on using a large number of these room types.

Note that you are responsible for booking your own rooms using the group booking link below. Accommodation is NOT included in the event registration fee.

In order to book, you can call the hotel, and the group name is "Ontario Student Debating Union".

Or you can book with the following link:

<http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=2291035&hotelID=12522>

Please note the hotel cut-off date is **Sunday, October 14**. We encourage you to book as soon as possible. If you are unable to meet the booking deadline, let Chris know and closer to the date as we may be able to negotiate an extension.

Divisions and Qualifications:

U-15 Division:

All students must be 15 years of age or less as of September 1st, 2019. This means that the U-15 category is open only to students born **after September 1st, 2003**. In order to compete in this age category, both debaters must qualify.

The top teams in the U-15 Division will qualify for the ICYD (International Competition for Young Debaters), held at Cambridge University in April, 2019.

Senior Division:

All high school students are eligible to compete in the Senior Division, provided they are still high-school students during the current academic year.

The top senior teams at this event will qualify for one of two events; the Oxford Schools Debating Championship, or the Cambridge Schools Championship in March, 2019. In order to promote broad access to international tournaments, the top teams will choose **which** tournament they wish to attend. Subsequent teams will be permitted to choose which tournament they wish to attend, until all available spots have been filled.

Please note that hybrid teams are not eligible to qualify for any subsequent tournaments held in England, and are not eligible to break into semi-finals at this event.

If you have any questions, please email Nicole directly at osdupresident@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you on November 30th!

Sincerely,

Nicole Ratti
OSDU President
Event Chair
osdupresident@gmail.com

Chris George
OSDU Treasurer
Event Registrar
cgeorge@videotron.ca