

Fannish Questionnaire

The questionnaire below includes some of the most commonly asked questions at a Fannish Question Time.

If the answer won't be known until some future date, please provide an estimate of when you'll be in a position to answer. For example, for the question about room rates you might answer "These are expected to be agreed by [date]. Current internet rates are X per night room only for a double or twin and Y for single occupancy."

We will follow the general format that has been used recently.

QUESTIONNAIRE

General

- Name of Bid:
Winnipeg in 2023
- What dates are you bidding for?
August 24-28, 2023
- What is your proposed convention host city? Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? City Centre.
- What are your main facilities? RBC Convention Centre, site of the 1994 Worldcon, ConAdian. With a new additional tower!

How far are your hotels from your main venue? Main hotel is connected by skyway. Other hotels are connected via skyway and within a 6 block walking radius.

- Who is your bid chair? Terry Fong
Who is on your committee? We have three vice-chairs, Robbie Bourget, Linda Ross-Mansfield, Jannie Shea
Our bid committee is listed here:

<https://main.winnipeg2023.ca/about/>

We are continually adding to our lists.

What experience do they have in general?

Average 30+ years experience with running conventions across a wide range of subgenres.

- In running Worldcons? Worldcon chair level and down. We have 4 former Worldcon chairs on our committee in various capacities.

- If known, who will be the chair of the convention? Terry Fong
What experience do they have? Too long to list, here's a statement and summary:

<https://main.winnipeg2023.ca/2021/09/13/from-the-chair/>

- Have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds? Yes
Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus?
We are open to discussion.

Travel

- What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne etc?
- Quoted prices (USD) are during a worldwide pandemic (July 25, 2021 from Google flights, for the corresponding week in 2021) and we expect drastic reductions once travel restrictions ease.
- - \$ 561 NYC, US
 - \$ 541 Chicago, US
 - \$ 580 Dallas, US
 - \$ 394 Los Angeles, US
 - \$ 990 London, UK
 - \$ 704 Paris, FR
 - \$ 686 Tel Aviv, IS
 - \$ 3,229 Chengdu, CHN
 - \$ 9,633 Sydney, AUS
 - \$ 1,886 Taipei, TWN

- \$ 3,989 Wellington, NZ
- Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport?
Yes, James Richardson International. Just underwent a brand new renovation
Which airlines? Pre-pandemic, Air Canada, Delta, United, West Jet, Swoop and major regional airlines fly into Winnipeg's international airport.
- Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport? Currently, the Canadian border is restricted but we expect more flight information when the anticipated border openings on August 9 (US) and Sept 7 (other countries). Pre-pandemic, 80 flights a day into Winnipeg.
- 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?
Downtown Winnipeg is an easy 10-15 minutes from James Richardson International. You can get there by taxi, ride share, city bus or limo, chartered bus or car rental. Most inexpensive way is by city bus, with a pre-purchased of \$2.60 (CAD). Taxi fare is typically about \$25 (CAD).

Facilities

- What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?
Our proposed main hotel is the Delta adjacent to the RBC Convention Centre. We have roughly 1,900 hotel rooms in the Downtown core. Negotiations are in progress. 3 Hotels with Skywalk access.

How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.? We have 1900 rooms

over multiple room types under negotiations. All hotels have accessible rooms.

- What are your hotel room rates? Preliminary negotiations are \$144-184 (single-quad) at the Delta. These are baseline and we are negotiating for lower rates. Other room rates are comparable

Do these rates include breakfast? No.

Do they include internet in the room? Yes.

How firm are these rates? Very, these are our starting points.

What additional taxes and fees are there? 5% city accommodation tax plus, 5% GST, 8% PST

- What does parking cost at your main hotel? \$18 CAD
- What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel to the closest entrance of the convention site? Short, it's connected by skywalk. What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties? We are investigating shuttle buses for the hotels (1994 had them) We expect to have mobility scooter rentals available.
- Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held? RBC Convention Centre
- Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.
 - Varied, from \$100/plate down to food trucks
 - We will negotiate with the RBC for custom in-house concessions and additional pop-ups.
- What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?
 - We are currently negotiating with the hotels and plan to have one. Keycon, the local convention, has a long history of social suites and we look to

scale that up.

- Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.
 - No smoking. Hotels may have smoking rooms but overall, smoking is banned in enclosed public spaces and it's limited in outdoor public spaces as well.
<https://winnipeg.ca/cms/BLES/PNS/smoking.stm>
- Given the current pandemic, have you considered any arrangements have been made for social distancing and the health and safety of members? If you have, can you describe what your current plans are?
 - We will follow the guidelines set out by Public Health officials and the venues. The staff of the RBC Centre is accustomed to this, as the centre is currently being used as a vaccination site.

Miscellaneous

- What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year? 26C to 32C avg, lows in mid teens
- What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?
Canadian Museum of Human Rights, Quamajuk, Assinibone Park Zoom, Symington Yard, so many places! Go to our YouTube channel and watch our first Twitch episode for a 19 minute overview of things to do in our city.
- Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors? Yes. Under discussion for a variety of groups
- What is your vision for your Worldcon? Celebrating our beloved genre of sf/f. How do you plan to make it happen? By being as inclusive as possible.
- What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your Worldcon?
Worldwide fandoms, hometown community feel. Midwest fandom has a wonderful intangible community quality that we hope pervade our Worldcon.

- Do you have a code of conduct?
It is tremendously important to create a safe space for our community. We are working towards a robust and simple to understand Code of Conduct, all within the traditions and boundaries of local, provincial and Canadian laws and strictures. We have a placeholder policy until our full Code of Conduct is finalised.
- What do diversity and inclusion mean to you? Normalising and appreciating all the ways that our vast differences enrich all of us.
- How are you working towards your goals in these areas? We are activatively talking to potential stakeholder groups about how to achieve this.
- What would concrete achievements look like in these areas? A Worldcon that reflects the multicultural mosaic of Winnipeg.
- What changes or challenges do you expect the current pandemic to present? As we see with Omicron, we expect our required levels of preplanning to be at least double that of pre-pandemic years.
- Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?
Yes, in fact the RBC Centre has three programme rooms already set up for hybrid programme items and we have ideas of how to further incorporate virtual members.
- Your members vote for Hugo Finalists who are then excited and wish to play a full part in the convention programme. How do you plan to facilitate the Finalists input as recognised by your community?
 - From the start, we will attempt to familiarise potential Hugo Finalists with the Worldcon community and encourage their input as early as possible.