

945 Princess St. at Innovation Park, Suite 106 Kingston, ON K7L 0E9

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## **Kingston to Host Pickleball National Championships**

Kingston, Ont. – Kingston has won the right to host the 2019 and 2020 Pickleball National Championships backhanding challenges from Burnaby, British Columbia and Red Deer, Alberta. Kingston will welcome almost 1,000 participants from across Canada from June 27-30, 2019 and June 25-28, 2020 to compete at INVISTA Centre. The tournament is expected to have an economic impact of \$2 million to the city over two years.

"Pickleball is among Canada's fastest growing sports and we see its popularity here in Kingston," says Mayor Bryan Paterson. "Kingston is happy to welcome the 2019 and 2020 National Pickleball Championships to our beautiful INVISTA Centre and look forward to these exciting events growing the awareness and popularity of this great sport."

The game is played on a court similar to a tennis court, but with smaller boundaries. Usually, in teams of two, players use small paddles to volley a ball, similar to a wiffleball, back and forth over the net. The game is usually played to a score of 11. Ranging from ages 18 to 80, the National Championships welcome all level players to participate. Athletes can join in on a number of categories including, mixed doubles, doubles, and singles ranging from 3.0 to open play skill levels.

"The Kingston Pickleball Club is ecstatic to be hosting the Canadian Nationals in 2019 & 2020," says Ryan Hanes, President of Kingston Pickleball Club. "We have hosted three successful tournaments in the last 18 months and we are ready to share our wonderful city with the broader pickleball community. Working in partnership with Tourism Kingston, we are confident that these nationals will be the best ever."

All previous Canadian National Pickleball Championships have been held in Western Provinces and will be coming to Eastern Canada for the first time. Kingston hosted the Eastern Regional Championships in 2017 and 2018.

Pickleball Canada fulfills their mission is by selecting host cites for the annual tournaments across Canada.

Find out where you can try Pickleball in Kingston at <a href="https://www.CityofKingston.ca/residents/recreation/programs/sports/pickleball">www.CityofKingston.ca/residents/recreation/programs/sports/pickleball</a>.

## **About Pickleball Canada**

Pickleball Canada is the rights holder and North American governing body for the Canadian National / Regional and Open Pickleball Tournaments (the Canadian Pickleball Tournaments).



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The mission of Pickleball Canada is to assist and promote the growth of Pickleball as a game for all ages and to establish rules, policies, and standards for the good governance of the game in Canada. One major way that

## **About the City of Kingston**

Kingston's vision of being a smart, livable 21st century city is fast becoming reality. History and innovation thrive in our dynamic city located along the beautiful shores of Lake Ontario, an easy drive from Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, in the heart of eastern Ontario. With a stable and diversified economy that includes global corporations, innovative startups and all levels of government, Kingston's high quality of life offers access to world-class education and research institutions, advanced healthcare facilities, affordable living and vibrant entertainment and tourism activities.

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