



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

**A winner of a weekend for the  
24th annual Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier**  
*It's a wrap for the sold-out series of Je Cours Qc running events, a Gestev production*

**Quebec City, Monday, October 2, 2023** – It was a weekend to remember for the **thousands of runners and walkers** who came out to enjoy the glorious fall sunshine and the backdrop of Quebec City's most iconic sights at the **Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier**. This 24th annual event wrapped up the 2023 Je Cours Qc season with another full house of participants, drawing more than **10,000 people** to cross the start line for the 42.2K Beneva marathon, the 21.1K Montellier half-marathon presented by WKND 91.9, the Sports Experts 10K, the Beneva Health 5K and the 2K Kids Race.

As the cheers of all the supporters set the tone at Place Jean-Béliveau, participants gave it their all for the final push across the finish line before celebrating their accomplishment. "The Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier is a great running event, and it's also a great test of determination," said Marianne Pelchat, executive event producer for Gestev. "It's the culmination of weeks of training and preparation, and it's a personal victory for everyone. It's so heartwarming to see the pride on people's faces—not just the participants, but those cheering them on too, including our amazing team of smiling volunteers."

The organizing committee—made up of Quebec Running Events Corporation and event producer Gestev—and title partner Beneva were thrilled to see how smoothly the event ran. "This year's Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier was another big success. As title partner of the event, Beneva would like to highlight the achievement of all the participants who turned out in greater numbers than ever to lace up their running shoes and pound the pavement around our beautiful city," said Martin Robert, Executive Vice-President and Leader, Talent, Culture and Communication for Beneva. "Promoting healthy life habits is part of our role as an insurer that cares. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event happen."

The mayor of Quebec City, who was one of the pace bunnies for the Montellier 21.1K half-marathon presented by WKND 91.9, was thrilled to see the thousands of runners in action. "Quebec City has its sights set on becoming Canada's most active city," said Bruno Marchand. "So many people of all ages rose to the challenge in the different race distances this weekend. That's a sign we're on the right track, and our individual and collective health can only benefit. Congratulations to everyone who pushed their limits this weekend!"

**Performances of the day**

Simon LeBlanc of St-Prospier, Quebec, was crowned the winner of the 42.2K Beneva marathon in the men's event with a time of 2:27:57. He crossed the finish line of his second marathon in just a week to a cheering crowd. "The supporters in the crowd were unbelievable when I crossed the line this morning. They gave me wings!" said Simon LeBlanc, seconds after taking the top spot. After placing third in last year's marathon, Quebec City athlete Anthony Larouche took home second place this weekend. Hot on his heels was Guillaume Rioux, also of Quebec City—he's also the coach of Laval University's Rouge et Or football team. Montrealer Catherine Royer took the top spot in the women's marathon, with Édith Pépin from Lévis finishing second. And for the second year in a row, Catherine Papillon of Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures finished third.



**Results of the 24th annual Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier:**

**Beneva 42.2K Marathon / Men**

Place	Name	From	Time (hr:min:sec)
1	Simon LeBlanc	St-Prosper, QC	2:27:57
2	Anthony Larouche	Quebec City, QC	2:31:45
3	Guillaume Rioux	Quebec City, QC	2:39:59

**Beneva 42.2K Marathon / Women**

Place	Name	From	Time (hr:min:sec)
1	Catherine Royer	Montreal, QC	2:54:49
2	Édith Pépin	Lévis, QC	3:00:46
3	Catherine Papillon	St-Augustin-de-Desmaures, QC	3:01:55

**Montellier 21.1K Half-Marathon presented by WKND 91.9 / Men**

Place	Name	From	Time (hr:min:sec)
1	Abdelaziz Baghazza	Montreal, QC	1:08:14
2	Samuel Poher	Quebec City, QC	1:10:23
3	Felix Belhumeur	Quebec City, QC	1:14:25

**Montellier 21.1K Half-Marathon presented by WKND 91.9 / Women**

Place	Name	From	Time (hr:min:sec)
1	Caroline Pomerleau	Quebec City, QC	1:18:41
2	Karine Lefebvre	Lac-Beauport, QC	1:23:14
3	Penelope Goudreault	Rimouski, QC	1:25:27



### Sports Experts 10K / Men

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	Christopher Busset	Quebec City, QC	32:37
2	Olivier Moizan	Shawinigan, QC	32:51
3	Alexis Quenette	Quebec City, QC	32:55

### Sports Experts 10K / Women

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	Marie-Michèle Gagné	St-Augustin-de-Desmaures, QC	43:11
2	Marie-Claude Cyr	Quebec City, QC	43:34
3	Ann-Sophie Chalifoux	Laval	43:48

### Beneva Health 5K / Men

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	William Brouard	Lévis, QC	15:31
2	Yohann Foucaud	Quebec City, QC	17:02
3	Charles-Elliott Gagnon	Quebec City, QC	17:16

### Beneva Health 5K / Women

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	Caroline Longchamp	St-Gabriel-de-Valcartier, QC	19:43
2	Marie-Claude Cyr	Quebec City, QC	20:19
3	Julie Huard	Quebec City, QC	20:36

## 2K Kids Race / Boys

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	Sébastien Larochelle	Quebec City, QC	07:28
2	Iker Azpiazu	Quebec City, QC	07:43
3	Hubert Dion-Marquis	Laterrière, QC	07:45

## 2K Kids Race / Girls

Place	Name	From	Time (min:sec)
1	Delphine Levasseur	Lévis, QC	08:40
2	Claire Gartner	Quebec City, QC	08:41
3	Jeanne Dion-Marquis	Laterrière, QC	08:51

*\* For a complete list of results from the Beneva Quebec City Marathon presented by Montellier, visit [www.sportstats.ca/](http://www.sportstats.ca/).*

## Entertainment galore

There was plenty of entertainment on offer and smiles in the crowd at ExpoCité with a range of activities by event partners and exhibitors at Place Jean-Béliveau. Plus, with around twenty music performances along the course, there was a big party atmosphere out there to give runners a boost and keep supporters cheering.

## Super early-bird registration now open for 2024

No need to wait to sign up for next year's event! Runners can sign up right now for the special 25th anniversary edition coming in 2024. Super early-bird registration is now open [online](#), but only until 11:59 p.m. this Tuesday, October 3.

## About Quebec Running Events Corporation

Quebec Running Events Corporation exists to promote the sport of running in and around Quebec City. It presents the Je Cours Qc amateur event series, which draws thousands of runners and walkers to the region from near and far. As well as delivering running events for the general public, Quebec Running Events Corporation works tirelessly to further the development of the sport and encourage runners of all ages to pursue healthy life choices.



### About GesteV

Founded in 1992, GesteV is a dynamic event management company specializing in happenings that make their mark locally as well as on the world stage. GesteV leads the way for producing, broadcasting and promoting sporting and cultural events to showcase homegrown and international talent throughout the market it serves. As a subsidiary of Québecor Sports and Entertainment, it stands alongside the Vidéotron Centre, the Baie de Beauport, the Capitole Theatre, the Théâtre du Casino Lac-Leamy, Musicor and the Cabaret du Casino de Montréal. GesteV goes above and beyond to deliver quality events with extensive opportunities for convergence driven by the strength of the Québecor Group. Red Bull Crashed Ice, Vélirium, the UCI Mountain Bike World Championships, the Je Cours Qc running events, the Cigale experience, Igloofest Québec and the FIS Cross-Country Skiing World Cup events are just some of the major happenings organized by GesteV, which also manages its own experiential marketing agency in Quebec City and Montreal.

### About Beneva

Created by the coming together of La Capitale and SSQ Insurance, Beneva is the largest insurance mutual in Canada with more than 3.5 million members and customers. Beneva employs over 5,000 dedicated employees: people looking out for people. Its human approach is rooted in mutualist values that are shared by its employees. With \$25.1 billion in assets, Beneva positions itself as a major player in the insurance and financial services industry. Its head office is located in Quebec City. For more information, visit [beneva.ca](http://beneva.ca).

*Policyholders of contracts issued by an insurance company of Beneva Group Inc. are members of SSQ Mutual and La Capitale Civil Service Mutual.*

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### Information:

Noémie Laliberté

Communications Project Manager

[nlaliberte@gestev.com](mailto:nlaliberte@gestev.com)

418 334-4165