



Newsletter #2

Good progress has been made in preparing for our Festival. Our Organizing Committee has met regularly and been expanded to ensure all bases are covered so that they planned and executed on good time.

We have succeeded in reserving sufficient hotel room bookings to cover the anticipated number of dancers. We are actively working to find locations for RVs as these are in high demand and often booked well in advance. We shall share our information with you as soon as we can finalize it.

It is only 10 months to the event and over the next month most clubs in Canada and the USA shall be resuming regular dances. Now is the time to remind your members that registration is open. Registrations are expected to include not only dancers from Canada and the USA, but also from Australia, Germany and China. Our American friends have been very patient with us while we search out the best way to make it possible for you to pay for your registration. Please stay tuned.

Because we are providing for multiple levels of square and round dancing as well as clogging, dancers who shall have completed their first year of instruction (whether at introductory or more advanced levels) shall find themselves welcome. For dancers in their first year, this is an opportunity for them to be inducted into a new expanded, enjoyable celebration of their progress.

Our committee is planning events to engage youth and to give solo dancers a chance to meet before the dancing starts. So if you are partnered or solo, young or not-so-young, and a round, square, or clog dancer, the 2026 Canadian National Festival in Penticton is going to be peachy keen, just for you.

We wish to remind you of some critical dates.

Firstly, Early Bird Registration Fees are offered until December 31st, 2025, after that date the fees will increase by \$25 per registrant. Registration forms are on our website <http://squaredance.bc.ca>. Look for the Festival heading.

Secondly, there are differing expiry dates for each hotel with which we have agreements for reduced rates (which reflect 2024 not 2026 pricing). After the expiry date their pricing will be that in effect next year. All the hotels are within the 3 or 4 star level. Details for each can be found on the website. There are also many motels in Penticton, but we have no



arrangements with them. The region is a tourist summer mecca, so early booking is strongly recommended.

We are actively looking into other activities which may be of interest and which will fit into our programme. These include, for example, dancing in the lake or trail walking or visiting the radio astrophysical observatory. More information will become available as planning continues. Keep checking back onto the 2026 National website for the latest updates [Home - festival2026.squaredance.bc.ca](http://Home-festival2026.squaredance.bc.ca)

Be sure to have a look at the invitation written by long-time publicity talent, Jean Galbraith, attached with this newsletter. Jean's invitation would be a good one to share with your club and association contacts, to encourage your friends to register to join you in the fun of next summer's festivities.

Kind regards from 2026 National co-chairs,

Wendy Krueger and Dennis Sutton