



The Chess Federation of Canada  
La Fédération Canadienne des Échecs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CHRISTINA TAO BECOMES THE FIRST WOMAN ELECTED TO THE CFC BOARD**

**Toronto, ON, September 15, 2018.** – The Chess Federation of Canada (CFC) has announced the election of Christina Tao as their new Youth Coordinator and a member of the CFC Board. Christina assumed responsibilities after the Annual General Meeting, taking on the role August 27<sup>th</sup>.



This election marks the first time in the 150-year-history of the CFC that a woman has ascended to its Board. Chosen for her professionalism, a proven track record of success, and great people skills, Christina Tao will also make the CFC governing body more diverse and more in tune with its membership.

Christina succeeds Undriadi Benggawan who retired from the CFC Board at the end of his mandate (August 2018) to concentrate on his responsibilities as Director and Treasurer of the Mississauga Chess Club, the biggest chess club in Canada. Christina worked closely with Undriadi and her election is part of a rigorous and comprehensive nomination process that follows a succession plan developed by the CFC.

*“Christina is a proven leader. She is constantly thinking of ways to enhance the experience of members of youth teams.”*, says Vlad Drkulec, the President of the Chess Federation of Canada.

*“I will bring new candor to chess in Canada and will always put interests of players and families first”*, Ms. Tao added emphatically.

### **About Christina Tao**

Christina Tao has been a Head of Delegation for Canada at such world and continental events as the World Youth Chess Championships in Halkidiki, Greece (2015), Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia (2016), Montevideo, Uruguay (2017), the PanAmerican Youth Chess Festivals in Mexico City (2015) and Santiago, Chile (2018), the World U-16 Chess Olympiad in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, and many others. Christina worked extensively with the Ambassadors of Canada, FIDE officials, chess organizers from different countries to ensure the best experiences for Canadian junior chess players.

Christina Tao teaches an after-school math class that is associated with one of the chess programs at the Académie Ste-Cécile International School. She raised three chess-playing daughters who are prominent fixtures on the national and international stage (the eldest one earned a Women’s FIDE Master title) and resides in Windsor, Ontario.

## **About the Chess Federation of Canada**

The Chess Federation of Canada (CFC), founded in 1872, is a registered non-profit organization in Canada whose mandate is to promote and encourage the knowledge, study and play of the game of chess in Canada. The CFC is the governing body for chess in Canada. The CFC is affiliated with the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

The CFC organizes National Championships (Canadian Closed, Canadian Women's Closed, Canadian Junior and Canadian Youth Chess Championships), and raises funds for the winners to go on to the respective World Championships. In addition, the CFC has sent a team to FIDE's Chess Olympiad each time it has been held (every second year) since 1964.

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