

Accessibility Guide  
PODIUM 2024

Hotel & Meeting Rooms

Welcome to PODIUM 2024, Canada's national bilingual choral Conference and Festival, the top meeting place for Canada's choral and group singing arts sector and community.

Presented by Choral Canada and Alliance chorale du Québec, this multi-day celebration will take place from May 16 to 19, 2024 in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal, on the unceded traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka, as well as online through our conference app. PODIUM 2024 will bring together hundreds of delegates and thousands of singers and audience members from across the country and beyond who are passionate about group singing.

This guide allows people with disabilities or reduced mobility to know more about the accessibility of the hotel and the various meeting rooms of the conference.

If you have any additional questions about the information provided by this guide, please do not hesitate to contact us at [podium@choralcanada.org](mailto:podium@choralcanada.org).

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# 1. General considerations about the city of Montreal

The conference will be held at the Delta Hotel Montreal, located at 475 President-Kennedy Ave.

## 1.1. Traffic in the streets

The streets of the city of Montreal are very often sloping. If you are a user of mobility aids such as a manual wheelchair or walker, you may need assistance or consider options other than walking. Travel times and options are given as a guide.



*Illustration 1 - Some streets have very steep slopes*



*Illustration 2 - Sidewalk accesses are sometimes in poor condition*

## 1.2. Public transport

### 1.2.1. Bus

Montreal's buses are equipped with ramps at the front and dedicated spaces for users of mobility aids. The following link offers tips for passengers with disabilities on bus networks:

[https://www.stm.info/en/info/universal-accessibility/universal-access#id\\_troisieme](https://www.stm.info/en/info/universal-accessibility/universal-access#id_troisieme)



*Illustration 3 - Front of a bus at a stop*

### 1.2.2. Subway

Montreal has a subway/metro (see map below). The accessibility pictogram representing a wheelchair is not used, only the logo representing an elevator is used on the network. The map shows the stations equipped with an elevator. Using the subway can be difficult for people in wheelchairs, walkers, or crutches.

The following link offers advice for passengers with disabilities on metro networks:

[https://www.stm.info/en/info/universal-accessibility/universal-access#id\\_quatrieme](https://www.stm.info/en/info/universal-accessibility/universal-access#id_quatrieme)

The following link provides a list of stations equipped with an elevator that is accessible to wheelchairs and other mobility aids:

<https://www.stm.info/en/info/universal-accessibility/elevator-access-metro>

The following link shows the operating status of the elevators and escalators:

<https://www.stm.info/en/info/service-updates/elevators>



Illustration 4 - Montreal metro map

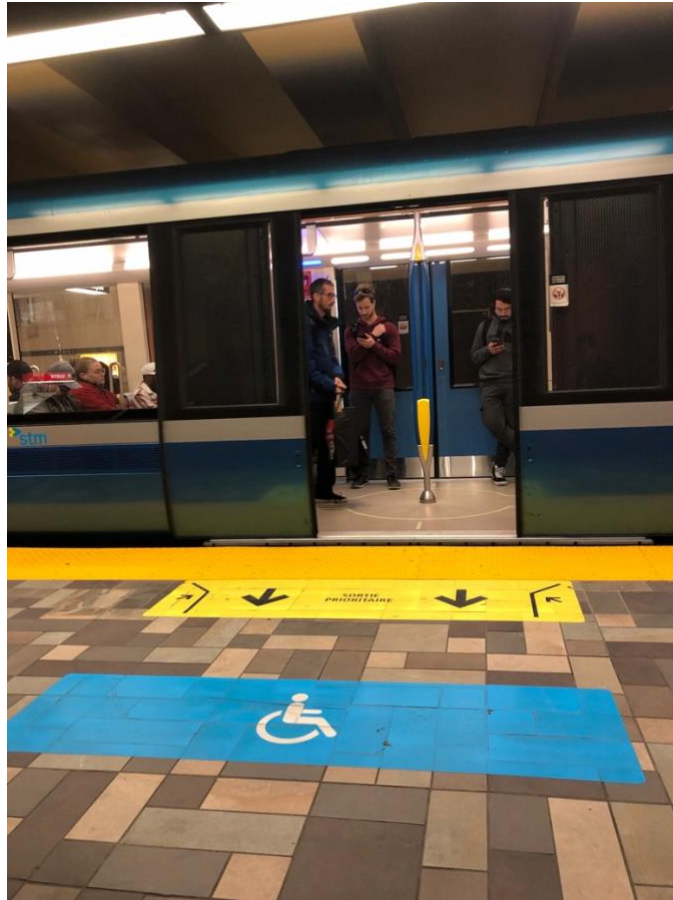




*Illustration 5 - Metro doors, with wheelchair indication*



*Illustration 6 - Boarding indication, disabled access*



*Illustration 7 - Disabled access to the front of the metro*



*Illustration 8 - Disabled access gate*



## 2. Delta Hotel, Hotel & Convention Center

### 2.1. Directions to the Delta Hotel

If you arrive by train, your train will arrive at Central Station.

There are several choices available to you: on foot, by public transport and by car.

Station address: Central Station, 895 Rue De la Gauchetière O

Hotel address: Delta Hotels Montreal, 475 President-Kennedy Ave.

#### 2.1.1. Walking distance from the train station

If you can, the easiest way is to make the journey on foot. The journey is 14 minutes from the train station to the hotel. The following link allows you to view the route on Google Maps.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/hzjPtmUrL8g8VgpU6>

#### 2.1.2. Journey by public transport: bus ride from the train station

The most direct route by public transport is via one of the following two buses: 61 or 168. Exited the station and headed towards Robert-Bourassa Boulevard. The bus stop is located at the corner of Rue de la Gauchetière and Boulevard Robert-Bourassa, and is called Robert-Bourassa / De La Gauchetière (52666)

Take bus 61 Wellington EST (EAST) or bus 168 Cité-du-Havre NORD (NORTH) to the terminus: McGill Station (R.-Bourassa / Président-Kennedy) (52412)

The hotel is a three-minute walk along Union Avenue and right onto President-Kennedy Avenue. The hotel will be on your left.

#### 2.1.3. Journey by public transport: Metro ride from the train station

There is no direct journey between the train station and the hotel. For reference, the hotel is located between two metro stations on line 1 (green): McGill (3-minute walk) and Place des Arts (3-minute walk). Both stations are equipped with an elevator.

The station near the station is line 2 (orange): Bonaventure. The metro ride requires walking from the train station to the station, then making a change at the BERRI-UQAM station to take line 1. The station is equipped with a lift.

#### 2.1.4. Drive to the hotel

If you arrive by car, the hotel's address is: Delta Hotels Montreal, 475 Av. du Président-Kennedy.

The on-site parking area is accessible to people with reduced mobility. There are two handicapped parking spots.

On-site parking is available. There are two pricing packages available:

- Per hour: \$12.00
- Per day: \$29.50

You must make the necessary arrangements at the hotel reception to access the parking packages.

Charging stations for electric cars are available.



*Illustration 9 - Hotel parking*

Payment can be made in the lobby, the machine is located in front of the elevator and is accessible.



*Illustration 10 - Payment terminal in the hotel car park*

## 2.2. Hotel Accessibility

### 2.2.1. Main Entrance

The entrance to the lobby is on Avenue du Président-Kennedy.

The design on the ground in front of the entrance provides a good contrast to the grey of the street asphalt, so people with reduced vision will not have difficulty detecting the entrance. Large flower pots also delineate the area.

The two doors to the street and to the interior lobby are automatic.



*Illustration 11 - Main entrance of the hotel*

The carpet in the entrance is not too thick. The indication of the check-in counter is clear.



*Illustration 12 - Hotel lobby*

In the entrance, a staircase leads to the mezzanine, where the restaurant is located. Access can also be via elevators. There are several types of seating to sit in the lobby.

There is no lowered counter at check-in but the staff is very welcoming and will help you complete the check-in steps.

The buttons on the elevators that go up to the rooms and the convention center have raised characters and Braille, and are illuminated. You must present your room card on the reader inside the elevator to activate the floor selection. The floors are announced verbally.



*Illustration 13 - Elevator buttons*

Note that the elevators that go up to the room floors and the convention center are different from the one that goes down to the parking lot. To get to the car park from the lobby you have to go one corridor further, and the lift to get to the car park is on the right. The buttons have raised characters and Braille in the elevator but are not illuminated. There is no indication of the level outside the elevator.

### 2.2.2. Accommodation

The hotel includes a number of accessible rooms with adaptations for different types of disabilities. If you have specific hotel room inquiries or questions about



hotel accessibility, the dedicated phone number is +1 514-286-1986. Service animals for people with disabilities are welcome.

If you have booked an accessible room in the hotel, it is best to give them details about your needs before you arrive. The bathrooms have different types of equipment (bathtub or shower, with or without transfer seat), some beds can be raised, some rooms have audio loops for people using hearing aids.



*Illustration 14 - Adapted shower in an accessible room*

### 2.2.3. Restaurant, breakfast room

In the breakfast room, access to the buffet is via a few steps. There is a ramp allowing access to this level, however the ramp is hidden, you must ask the staff to open the door for you. You can request a table at the buffet level, however all the dishes are placed high, you will need help to serve yourself if you use a wheelchair.



*Illustration 15 - Breakfast buffet, everything is elevated*

The same room is also a restaurant (Milton). The main room is directly accessible and does not require you to change levels.

## 2.3. Conference Spaces

### 2.3.1. Meeting Rooms

The meeting rooms are on two floors, M (Mezzanine) and P (Plaza), levels served by elevators.

All rooms are accessible. The map below shows you the layout of the rooms.

MEZZANINE



Illustration 16 - Floor plan of the rooms on level M (Mezzanine)

PLAZA LEVEL

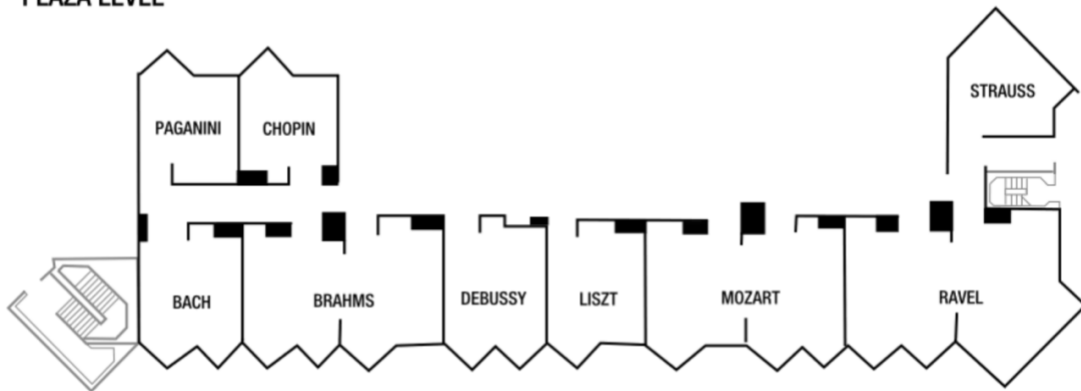


Illustration 17 - Floor plan of the P level (Plaza)



*Illustration 18 - Great Hall Opus 1*



*Illustration 19 - Small Vivaldi room with conference room*

There are electrical outlets in all rooms. All seats are removable and can be rearranged/removed as needed.

Coffee or snacks are served at height levels accessible to all.

### 2.3.2. Toilet

The accessible washrooms are located on level M (Mezzanine). There are no accessible toilets on Level P (Plaza).

Toilets are indicated in the corridor and in front of the doors by means of an accessible logo and the text "HOMMES" (MEN) and "FEMMES" (WOMEN) in raised characters and Braille.



*Illustration 20 - Men's accessible washrooms*

There is an automatic door opening button in front of each entrance. Each toilet contains several toilet stalls, one of which is accessible.



*Illustration 21 - Toilets with several cubicles*



There are transfer bars. The door contains a manual latch and a closing handle. There is a coat rack inside the accessible washroom.



*Illustration 22 - Accessible washroom interior*

The sinks and hand dryers are accessible and usable by all.

Note that the urinals of men's restrooms contain a blue contrast liquid for people with vision problems.

If you have any additional questions about the information in this guide, please do not hesitate to contact us at [podium@choralcanada.org](mailto:podium@choralcanada.org).

Guide by Diane Kolin, ArtsAby, <https://www.artsably.com/>.