



The International Ornithologists' Union has chosen Vancouver, British Columbia, to stage the **27th International Ornithological Congress** in August 19-26, 2018. Considered the most prestigious of meetings for avian scientists, the Congress has occurred almost every four years since first held in Vienna, Austria, in 1884. Canada hosted only once previously (Ottawa in 1986), and Vancouver will be the first time the Congress has been held on the Pacific coast of the Americas.

The Vancouver proposal enjoys support from Tourism Vancouver and a wide array of organizations, including Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service, the City of Vancouver, Bird Studies Canada, the Pacific Wildlife Foundation and Ducks Unlimited Canada, plus local universities. Such broad engagement reflects the reality that effective conservation of wild birds in the 21st Century relies on governments working in concert with Aboriginal groups, academia, industry, non-government organizations and the public – on an international scale.

The 27th Congress is setting up to be the largest and most diverse bird meeting ever. The City of Vancouver in a show of support will be moving their annual Bird Week to the dates of the Congress. The prospect of over 2,000 scientists from ~100 countries flocking to Vancouver in combination with a wide array of public events and exhibitions in celebration of birds presents many exciting opportunities. The potential is further boosted by the spectacular venue (West Wing of the Vancouver Convention Centre overlooking the harbor), including the Olympic Cauldron from the 2010 Winter Games.

Congress Video and Theme Music:

<https://tourismvancouver.box.com/s/4zztsmkwk1pxhduv8cb>

The Congress is being hosted by the IOCongress2018 Organizing Society.

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