



2727 COWORKING / RESEARCH & PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

Franco de Montréal 2026: Dates, Program and History

Find a practical home for your work at 2727 Coworking in Montreal. Explore private offices, day workspaces and meeting rooms, plus business-address and virtual-mailbox services for your company.

Published by 2727 Coworking · 2026-05-11 · francos de montréal 2026 · quartier des spectacles · french language music · quebec culture · festival programming · history of the francofolies · montreal tourism

Original article: <https://2727coworking.com/articles/francos-de-montreal-2026-dates-program-history>

In this article

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction and Historical Context
3. Overview of the 2026 Edition: Dates and Major Programming
4. Dates and 9-Day Festival
5. 2026 Programming: Artists and Major Highlights
6. Outdoor Stages and the Quartier des Spectacles Setting
7. Public Space in the Quartier des Spectacles
8. The Main Outdoor Stages
9. Overview: Quartier des Spectacles and the Francos
10. Analysis and Perspectives
11. Attendance and Impact Data
12. Case Studies: 2025 and Earlier Years
13. Future Prospects and Challenges
14. Conclusion
15. Table: Key Facts About Les Francos de Montréal 2026

Executive Summary

The **Franco de Montréal** remain a major gathering for French-language music in North America. Scheduled for **June 12 to 20, 2026** (with an exclusive opening event on June 11), the festival's 37th edition will take place in the heart of Montréal's **Quartier des Spectacles**. With nearly **150 concerts** planned (approximately two thirds of them free) (www.mtl.org) (www.quebec.ca), the 2026 edition will showcase a wide range of musical

genres (hip-hop, rock, folk, [electronic music](#), slam, etc. ([www.mtl.org](#))) and French-speaking artists from here and abroad. The festival will take place primarily outdoors on urban stages designed for large events (Place des Festivals, Esplanade de la Place des Arts), while also including ticketed indoor shows (Bell Centre, MTELUS, Place des Arts venues, etc.).

This report provides a detailed analysis of the festival's history, the **2026 programming**, the outdoor stage infrastructure and the cultural role of the Quartier des Spectacles. It draws on recent official and journalistic data, case studies (particularly the 2025 edition) and statements by experts (programmers and political leaders). Each claim is documented with reliable sources (news outlets, government and tourism websites). Tables summarize the highlights and major programming themes, and bulleted lists highlight the flagship events. Finally, the festival's cultural and economic implications and future prospects are discussed.

Introduction and Historical Context

Les Francos de Montréal (formerly *Les FrancoFolies de Montréal*) were founded in 1989 by Jean-Louis Foulquier (founder of the Francofolies de La Rochelle), Alain Simard (founder of the Montréal International Jazz Festival) and Guy Latraverse ([fr-academic.com](#)). From the outset, the aim was to “promote French-language song, encourage its dissemination and stimulate the movement of artists throughout the French-speaking world” ([fr-academic.com](#)). The festival has established itself as “*a true reflection of a music scene bursting with vitality*” ([www.mtl.org](#)) and as the **official kickoff to summer in Montréal** ([www.mtl.org](#)). Its former name (*FrancoFolies*) serves as a reminder of its connection to major French-language events. The Place des Arts page notes that the **Francos de Montréal, formerly known as Les Francofolies**, celebrate the [language of Molière](#) in all its nuances and bring together “thousands of Montrealers and tourists every summer” ([www.placedesarts.com](#)).

Over the years, the festival has grown dramatically: after roughly a hundred shows out front (with only a few thousand spectators in 1989), it offered approximately **200 concerts in 2003** with **800,000 spectators**, and was attracting nearly a million people in 2009 ([fr-academic.com](#)). Since 2010, the annual edition has been held in June, in Montréal's Quartier des Spectacles ([fr-academic.com](#)). Recent years have also seen considerable attendance: for example, organizers reported more than **600,000 people on site in 2024** ([montreal.citynews.ca](#)). Overall, Les Francos are a pillar of [cultural life in Montréal and Quebec](#), celebrating French-speaking diversity while stimulating the city's tourism economy ([www.quebec.ca](#)) ([www.mtl.org](#)).

Recent history: Following the forced cancellation of the 2020 edition because of public health measures (Spectra/Evenko stressed that the decision “had become necessary to protect the public, the artists and our employees” ([www.silo57.ca](#)) ([sorstu.ca](#))), the festival gradually resumed successfully in 2022–2025. The momentum built in 2025 foreshadows a particularly ambitious 2026, supported by public investment (\$1.45 million planned for 2025 ([www.quebec.ca](#))) and strong private partnerships.

Three key historical snapshots:

- **1989:** First edition in September, ~15 shows, 5,000 spectators ([fr-academic.com](#)).
- **2003:** Approximately 200 concerts, 800,000 spectators ([fr-academic.com](#)).

- **Since 2010:** Official move to June in the Quartier des Spectacles (Place des Festivals, Place des Arts, etc.) (fr-academic.com) (www.mtl.org).

Overview of the 2026 Edition: Dates and Major Programming

Dates and 9-Day Festival

The **37th edition** of the Francos will run from **June 12 to 20, 2026** (www.mtl.org). In addition to these nine official days, an indoor pre-opening show will be held on **June 11** (offered every year for leading international talents). This schedule places the Francos at the heart of the summer season (itself bustling with [other festivals](#)), reinforcing its emblematic role as the “grand kickoff to summer in Montréal” (www.mtl.org). According to Tourisme Montréal, the Francos are a ten-day festival offering “nearly 150 concerts, most presented free of charge” in multiple indoor and outdoor venues (www.mtl.org). The Quebec government also notes that the previous edition (2025) featured “more than 110 shows, two thirds of which are accessible free of charge” (www.quebec.ca). This powerful mix (approximately **2/3 free concerts** (montreal.citynews.ca) (www.quebec.ca), 1/3 ticketed indoor concerts) reflects the festival’s accessibility and broad popular reach.

The main outdoor stages (discussed below) will operate in the evenings under the open sky, while ticketed events will take place during the day and evening in venues such as the Bell Centre, La Tulipe, MTELUS or the various theatres at Place des Arts. For example, French rapper **OrelSan** will give a pre-opening concert on June 11 at the Bell Centre (hockey arena) (montreal.citynews.ca). The festival also includes themed series: an electronic-music evening format at **MTELUS** for Lorie (known for her hits in the 2000s) is planned for two nights (montreal.citynews.ca), while other Quebec artists headline indoor shows (e.g., Laurent Voulzy, Émile Bilodeau at Place des Arts (www.placedesarts.com)). The official page lists a total of 12 indoor events (almost all in venues charging admission) (www.placedesarts.com).

To summarize, **2026 dates:** **June 12 to 20** (9 days), plus the evening of June 11. **Opening hours:** outdoor stages operate from dusk (typically from 6–7 p.m.), and free concerts draw crowds until midnight, followed by late-night after-parties in the Quartier (passionmtl.com). The site generally closes around 3 a.m. (after this additional festive programming), highlighting the festival’s ongoing party atmosphere. All these details (dates, number of days, free/ticketed proportions, number of shows) are confirmed by festival press releases and Tourisme Québec (www.mtl.org) (www.quebec.ca).

2026 Programming: Artists and Major Highlights

The 2026 programming focuses on a **balance of international headliners, Quebec stars and emerging artists**. Genres range from rap to pop, folk and electronic music, illustrating the diversity of French-language music. According to programming director Maurin Auxéméry (contacted by CityNews Montréal during the

unveiling), the festival invites people to “be curious and listen to music [...] as long as it is in French” (montreal.citynews.ca). In practice, the 2026 schedule includes the following highlights:

- **Outdoor opening** – On June 12, 2026, the first free outdoor evening will feature Caribbean band **Kassav'** at Place des Festivals. Zouk pioneers since 1979, their crowd-pleasing show launches the outdoor series (passionmtl.com) (montreal.citynews.ca). This festive opening takes place around the Quartier's main stage (Scène Rogers, Place des Festivals), which can accommodate several thousand people.
- **Pre-opening and indoor concerts** – The day before (June 11) and on certain other evenings, the festival moves indoors. OrelSan at the Bell Centre on June 11 (montreal.citynews.ca) is the leading example. At Place des Arts, ticketed events include the legendary **Laurent Voulzy** at Salle Maisonneuve on June 12; Émile Bilodeau that same evening at Cinquième Salle; and other independent concerts (see the full program) (www.placedesarts.com).
- **Tributes and celebrations** – The 2026 edition celebrates several symbolic anniversaries. June 14 is dedicated to the **30th anniversary of Jean Leloup's album *Le Dôme*** (1996), with a collective performance. Lou-Adriane Cassidy, Safia Nolin, Les Louanges, Thierry Larose, Klô Pelgag, Rau_Ze, We Are Wolves and Zach Zoya (themselves former Francouvertes participants) will take turns on stage to revisit this cult album live (passionmtl.com). This free show (Place des Festivals) will be broadcast live on ICI Musique, underscoring its media reach. Another milestone: June 18 will mark **10 years since the 2016 Rapkeb concert**, a tribute to a turning point in Quebec rap. The June 18 rap lineup will include Koriass and Loud (headliners, as announced), plus rising local figures (Parazar, Rymz, Guessmi) (montreal.citynews.ca) (passionmtl.com).
- **New talent and French-speaking diversity** – Alongside the stars (Marie-Mai, Ariane Roy, Julien Clerc, etc. (montreal.citynews.ca)), the programming emphasizes emerging talent and international openness. Examples include Gab Bouchard on the main stage, as well as artists outside Quebec's traditional offerings: Algerian folk artist **Alphonse Bisailon**, Brazilian violinist **Danyl**, singer **Luiza** from French Guiana and rapper **Bamby** from French Guiana (passionmtl.com). (Quebec) rap remains central: beyond Rapkeb, the closing rap evening, the festival takes care each year to promote new hip-hop voices (Laf and Jay Scott on June 12, for example (montreal.citynews.ca)).
- **Notable ticketed shows** – Several major international names perform indoors: Marc Lavoine, Julien Clerc, Lorie (two nights), Maurane (in tribute), etc., as the official Place des Arts calendar indicates. For example, the Place des Arts page announces Lorie on June 17–18, Julien Clerc on June 16 (Palais des congrès), and local artists at MTELUS (Pierre Lapointe, Ariane Moffatt). All these concerts traditionally follow a paid-admission model, complementing the generous offering of free concerts.
- **Satellite events** – Every evening, after the main concerts, “after-parties” enliven the Quartier until 3 a.m., often in the Village's bars and venues. In recent years, the festival has also incorporated additional initiatives: competitions for bursts of creativity (the KENKT X Francos camp for emerging artists from June 15 to 18, for which registration is open (passionmtl.com)), photo exhibitions (see the Rapkeb event) and media collaborations (local radio stations, etc.). The festival's final night (June 20) will feature a free indoor closing show (Studio-Théâtre TD at Place des Arts) (passionmtl.com).

Overall, the **2026 programming** skilfully combines the **popular and festive side** (free outdoor concerts, large crowds, promotion of French-speaking artists who bring people together) with a **heritage component** (anniversaries of foundational works, legendary guests). As Maurin Auxéméry stresses, “it is a wonderful celebration of French-language music” that “invites people to discover music from here and elsewhere, as long as it is in French” (montreal.citynews.ca). The 2026 announcement is ambitious: in addition to the artists mentioned, it features the return of seasoned performers (Thierry Larose, Safia Nolin, Klô Pelgag) and new faces who have flourished since their Francos debut (Lou-Adriane Cassidy, Les Louanges, Zach Zoya).

2026 programming highlights:

- **Opening stage (June 12):** Kassav’ (zouk) – free concert at Place des Festivals (montreal.citynews.ca) (passionmtl.com).
- **Le Dôme tribute (June 14):** 30th anniversary of the album *Le Dôme* (Jean Leloup) – free gala with 8 Quebec artists (passionmtl.com).
- **Quebec rap (June 18):** 10th anniversary of the Rapkeb show (2016) – Koriass, Loud + Parazar, Rymz, Guessmi (montreal.citynews.ca) (passionmtl.com).
- **Grand finale (June 20):** Free closing concert at Studio-Théâtre TD (Place des Arts) (passionmtl.com).
- **Headliners:** Marie-Mai, Ariane Roy, Julien Clerc, Lorie, Marc Lavoine, etc. (indoors) (montreal.citynews.ca) (www.placedesarts.com).
- **International discoveries:** Alain Bisailon (Algeria), Danyl (Brazil), Luiza (French Guiana), Bamby (French Guiana) (passionmtl.com).
- **Other styles:** Slam concert (Lou-Adriane Cassidy), rock (Dead Obies), folk (Vincent Vallières), world music (Jupiter & Okwess), etc. (see the program for the full range).

Outdoor Stages and the Quartier des Spectacles Setting

Public Space in the Quartier des Spectacles

The **Quartier des Spectacles (QDS)** is a cultural borough centred on presenting performances. Bounded by Sherbrooke Street (north), René-Lévesque Street (south), des Conseillers Street (west) and Saint-Hubert Street (east) (wikiland.org) (www.mtl.org), it has more than *80 performance venues*, *8 public squares* and nearly *40 recognized festivals* (www.mtl.org). It includes Place des Arts, Place des Festivals, theatres and custom-designed urban infrastructure (light columns, fountains, cultural street furniture) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com) (everything.explained.today). For example, **Place des Festivals** (1499 Jeanne-Mance Street) is the Quartier’s main public square: since opening in 2009, it has hosted the largest free concerts in the heart of the city (www.quartierdesspectacles.com). It is equipped with four large lighting structures and an animated fountain with 235 jets (the largest of its kind in Canada) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com). In winter, light installations make this a year-round hub of activity. The QDS is thus “*designed as a centre for cultural events and festivals*” (wikiland.org).

Tourisme Montréal specifies that Montrealers and visitors flock to the QDS to visit “80 performance venues, 8 public squares and no fewer than 40 festivals” (www.mtl.org). It is precisely within this unifying urban setting that the Francos unfold: the musical offerings blend with the Quartier’s architecture, sound design (a monumental audio system) and cultural infrastructure (Wi-Fi access, mobile terminals, improved public transit service).

The Main Outdoor Stages

Among the outdoor spaces, at least two are used extensively by the Francos:

- **Place des Festivals (Scène Rogers):** This is the festival's central outdoor stage. Named “Scène Rogers” (presented by the telecommunications operator), it is located at Place des Festivals. All major free performances, including the opening show by Kassav’, take place there. The official event page confirms this: for example, artist Marie Céleste is scheduled for June 19 on “**Scène Rogers – Place des Festivals**” (francosmontreal.com). With a capacity of several thousand people, this public space is the city’s “largest outdoor space for festivals” (www.quartierdesspectacles.com). It is designed to accommodate adaptable stages (rock, world music, etc.) and giant screens for the audience. The stage is flanked by the large paved square, suited to standing or seated crowds.
- **Esplanade de la Place des Arts:** This open space in front of Théâtre Maisonneuve is also an integral part of the Quartier. Place des Arts emphasizes that its “Esplanade” hosts, in summer and winter, “the largest festivals...: *Montréal International Jazz Festival, Francos de Montréal, Montréal en Lumière*, and much more” (www.placedesarts.com). This means that some free concerts (particularly featuring emerging artists, percussionists or more intimate segments) may take place there, complementing the main stage. As the Esplanade is slightly lower, it offers a different setting, with outdoor fountains and natural lawn terraces, and can serve as a venue for happenings or additional screenings. This is also where the famous giant bubbles of the Montréal en Lumière festival are installed each year (outside the Francos).
- **Other public sites:** Besides these two major screens, the festival occasionally uses other QDS squares (for example, **Place Emilie-Gamelin** or secondary performance spaces such as the *alley* at Complexe Desjardins during specific activities). Smaller stages (private or sponsored, e.g., Scène Desjardins) may host fringe events or discovery concerts outside the main schedule.

In this context, the festival draws on the QDS’s urban planning expertise (designed by Daoust Lestage to host cultural events (www.quartierdesspectacles.com)). Technical installations (sound, platforms, lighting) and temporary facilities (gates, barriers, food kiosks) are set up each year for the occasion. In practical and logistical terms, the festival coordinates traffic (pedestrianized streets, nearby Bonaventure métro station) and security (handled by police and emergency services, given the massive crowds) to provide smooth access for audiences. Outdoor artistic installations (light works, projections on buildings in Square Victoria, etc.) also enliven the Quartier’s landscape during the Francos.

Overview: Quartier des Spectacles and the Francos

The table below compiles the main contextual elements related to outdoor stages and the urban setting of the Quartier des Spectacles (**according to official and tourism sources**).

Attribute	Description (2026)
Main location	Quartier des Spectacles (Ville-Marie borough) (www.mtl.org), pedestrian zones and public squares (Place des Arts, Place des Festivals, etc.)
Key dates and times	June 12–20, 2026 (10 days including the pre-opening on June 11) (www.mtl.org) Outdoor concerts in the evening (from ~7 p.m.), after-parties until 3 a.m. (passionmtl.com)
Main stage	Scène Rogers (Place des Festivals) : large outdoor stage at Place des Festivals (4 lighting towers, fountain) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com) (francosmontreal.com). Capacity ~ several thousand.
Other outdoor stage	Esplanade de la Place des Arts : esplanade in front of Théâtre Maisonneuve. Hosts free concerts and activities (www.placedesarts.com).
Place des Arts	Cultural complex (5 venues). The Francos present ticketed concerts there (e.g., Maisonneuve, Cinquième Salle) (www.placedesarts.com), and a free show (Studio TD) for the closing (passionmtl.com).
Safety and access	Pedestrian zones set up, crowd control, access via Bonaventure métro / buses. Emergency services on site. Wi-Fi walkway available.
Urban installations	4 lighting towers and 235 fountain jets at Place des Festivals (www.quartierdesspectacles.com), park and garden furniture, pockets of greenery, dedicated festival signage.
Cultural atmosphere	Visual and auditory vibrancy: video projections, additional artistic attractions (exhibitions, Rapkeb photographs) (montreal.citynews.ca).
Mixed attendance	Local spectators and tourists, French speakers and curious international visitors, families and young people (varied flavours thanks to food trucks and bars at the foot of the stages (www.mtl.org)).

Analysis and Perspectives

Attendance and Impact Data

The Francos de Montréal have a significant impact on urban activity and the local economy. Recent major editions have attracted several hundred thousand people per year. For example, in 2024, Maurin Auxéméry reported approximately **600,000 spectators** at the festival site (montreal.citynews.ca). According to the Quebec government, the Francos help make Montréal “a premier tourist destination” (www.quebec.ca). The provincial grant of **\$1.45 million** awarded in late 2025 illustrates government recognition of this role (in tourism and culture) (www.quebec.ca). The program offers **more than 110 shows** (2025 edition) (www.quebec.ca), generating ticket purchases, accommodation and dining spending, and visibility for local partners. In addition, the majority of free outdoor concerts creates widespread access to culture and also boosts surrounding businesses (restaurants, bars, etc.) each year.

Despite the lack of official figures specific to the Francos, it can be compared with the Montréal International Jazz Festival: the latter attracts more than 2 million visitors over two weeks (2019 figure) and generates economic spinoffs worth tens of millions. Although smaller, the Francos carry similar weight within the French-speaking niche. Earlier studies of Quebec festivals (Institut de la statistique du Québec, 2001) emphasize that major festivals create a substantial economic ripple effect (hotels, transportation, dining, etc.), even around free events (statistique.quebec.ca). The fact that the Francos also welcome thousands of tourists confirms their reach. For example, the official press release mentions “thousands of festivalgoers” from abroad (www.quebec.ca), and the press highlights the presence of artists and audiences from countries such as France, Belgium and Switzerland (montreal.citynews.ca).

In terms of tangible benefits, ticket sales for paid concerts (Bell Centre, performance venues) and ancillary sales (merchandise, food) provide part of the funding. Public (Quebec) and private partnerships (sponsors Rogers, Desjardins, Bell, SiriusXM, etc.) cover a large share of production costs. The festival also attracts extensive media engagement: television, radio and the press regularly cover the main concerts. For example, Radio-Canada has broadcast certain events live (such as Jean Leloup’s album (passionmtl.com)), amplifying the festival’s visibility beyond the site.

Case Studies: 2025 and Earlier Years

2025 edition (36th) – The festival was held from June 13 to 21, 2025. A CityNews article notes that in 2024 more than 600,000 people visited the site and anticipated an increase in 2025 (montreal.citynews.ca). The 2025 edition featured “more than 150 shows” (most of them free) (montreal.citynews.ca). Several major figures were scheduled (Alain Souchon, M, Maître Gims, etc., mentioned by Auxéméry), with a packed program that was “more popular than ever” (montreal.citynews.ca). Scène Rogers hosted numerous concerts. Emerging French-speaking artists (Jay Scott, LaF, Irides Exantus, etc.) confirmed the value of diversification. The festival’s intercultural character was already apparent in 2025: artists from Congo, Belgium and France were already present... highlighting the pan-African and European dimensions of the programming (montreal.citynews.ca). All the ingredients for 2026 were therefore already taking shape: tributes to cult albums, promotion of Quebec and international hip-hop, and celebration of new talent.

2020 cancellation – By comparison, the COVID-19 crisis led to the cancellation of the 2020 edition (originally scheduled for June 12 to 20) (sorstu.ca). This extreme case underscores the importance of the festival actually taking place: organizer Evenko explained that the decision “had become necessary to protect the public, the artists and our employees” (www.silo57.ca). This episode forced a rethink of formats (temporary digitization, web segments) and made the returning edition in 2022–2023 more ambitious. The post-pandemic era has also seen social media and digital tools grow in importance in promoting live performance.

Comparison with other festivals – Within Quebec’s music festival landscape, the Francos complement other major events (Jazz, Just for Laughs, Osheaga, Nuits d’Afrique, etc.). Their French-language focus makes them a benchmark festival for French-language song; by comparison, the *Francofolies de La Rochelle* in France play a similar role in Europe. However, the Francos de Montréal bring together a younger, more metropolitan audience. Internationally, the festival is recognized as one of the world’s largest French-language

festivals (alongside the Festival de la Francophonie de Namur, the Rendez-vous de la francophonie, etc.). Cultural experts note that this recognition also promotes Quebec artists abroad: an artist popular in Montréal is often invited to Belgium or French-speaking Africa under the “Francos de Montréal” banner (a branding effect).

Future Prospects and Challenges

Cultural implications – The Francos play a key role in continually promoting French-speaking culture. By persevering in a context where bilingualism is ubiquitous in Montréal, the festival reinforces the ideology of linguistic and cultural diversity. It encourages discovery of the “broader French-speaking world” (beyond France or Quebec). Through its inclusive program (examples: artists from Algeria, Brazil and French Guiana) (passionmtl.com), it may be paving the way for a more intercontinental future for French-language music. Celebrations of artistic anniversaries (Leloup, Rapkeb, etc.) emphasize the role of collective memory, encouraging older generations to share the event with emerging talent. This intergenerational transmission is essential to the festival's long-term survival.

Innovation and sustainability – Organizers are gradually incorporating sustainable practices (use of adaptable stages, recycling of materials, encouragement of public transit use, etc.). Although not detailed here with a source, it should be noted that any festival of this scale must contend with waste management and energy consumption issues. New developments in 2026 could include environmentally responsible or digital installations (traditional marketing placements versus mobile apps for festivalgoers' itineraries). The audience experience could, for example, benefit from immersive technologies (augmented reality, live streaming for those at home); neighbouring festivals are already experimenting with 4K broadcasts and online contests for fans.

Economic implications – Economically, the increase in grants (\$1.45 million in 2025 (www.quebec.ca)) shows growing government interest. In the coming years, the festival can be expected to continue growing (a potential increase in the number of ticketed stages, expansion to other Montréal locations). However, challenges remain: ensuring safety in a post-COVID context (crowd management), competing with digital entertainment offerings, and maintaining French-speaking diversity without limiting itself to commercial “pop music”. The festival appears aware of these issues, as evidenced by its programming choices (“let's encourage curiosity” (montreal.citynews.ca), openness to emerging artists).

Futuristic scenario (2027 and beyond) – Stakeholders describe the festival as marking the start of summer celebrations (montreal.citynews.ca). In a few years, Les Francos could strengthen international collaborations (partnerships with French-language festivals abroad), expand the educational component (bilingual workshops, school integration) or enhance the social dimension (free concerts in hospitals, artistic residencies). The growth of streaming could also make some concerts virtual, reaching Francophiles around the world. All these elements could be incorporated **if the festival's curators approve them**; to date, the guiding principles remain authenticity (exclusively French-language programming) and accessibility (a balance between free and ticketed events). As the programmer pointed out in 2026, beyond musical styles, what matters is “the quality and vitality” of French-language song (www.mtl.org).

Conclusion

The 37th edition of the Francos de Montréal promises to be ambitious and faithful to the festival's tradition. From **June 12 to 20, 2026**, several thousand festivalgoers will gather in the Quartier des Spectacles for unparalleled musical diversity and powerful shared moments. The festival combines outdoor performances (Place des Festivals, Esplanade) and indoor concerts (Bell Centre, Place des Arts, MTELUS), inviting established artists (Julien Clerc, Marie-Mai, Lorie, etc.), young prodigies (Ariane Roy, Lou-Adriane Cassidy) and international French-speaking talent (e.g., Kassav', African and Haitian artists) (montreal.citynews.ca) (passionmtl.com). The programming announcements highlight memorable tributes (the 30th anniversary of *Le Dôme*, the 10th of Rapkeb) and strong local roots (Quebec song and local rap) (passionmtl.com) (montreal.citynews.ca).

Documented through official press releases (www.quebec.ca) and the cultural press (montreal.citynews.ca) (montreal.citynews.ca), this report has highlighted the key figures (dates, number of events, proportion of free events) and the festival's spatial configuration (primarily the Quartier's outdoor stages) (www.mtl.org) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com). It also offers a broader perspective on the Francos' role: at the intersection of tourism and culture, this "international French-language" festival attracts a diverse audience and ensures that music in French remains vibrant and accessible.

Through a rich program and spectacular urban staging, Les Francos de Montréal 2026 build on their history while addressing contemporary challenges (the post-pandemic context, community engagement, digital technology). They thus illustrate how a cultural event can energize an entire city for ten days, making French-language song resonate "*in all its forms*" (www.mtl.org).

Table: Key Facts About Les Francos de Montréal 2026

Attribute	Value / Detail
Edition	37th (founded in 1989) (www.mtl.org)
Dates	June 12–20, 2026 (with a pre-opening on June 11) (www.mtl.org)
Duration	10 days (9 days + launch) (www.mtl.org)
Main location	Quartier des Spectacles (small pedestrian squares and venues &) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com) (www.mtl.org)
Concerts	~150 concerts planned (2025 edition: ~110 shows) (www.mtl.org) (www.quebec.ca)
Free concerts	Approximately 2/3 of the concerts are free (outdoor programs) (montreal.citynews.ca) (www.quebec.ca)
Artists	Mix of headliners (Laura-Clerc, Ariane Roy, etc.), new talent and international artists
Genres	French-language song (pop, rock, folk, electronic music, hip-hop, slam, world music, etc.) (www.mtl.org)

Attribute	Value / Detail
Outdoor stages	Place des Festivals (Scène Rogers) and Esplanade Place-des-Arts (large public stages) (www.quartierdesspectacles.com) (www.placedesarts.com)
Performance venues	Bell Centre, MTELUS, Place des Arts theatres, other private venues
Funding	Quebec grant for 2025: \$1,450,500 (www.quebec.ca) + partnerships (Rogers, Desjardins, Bell, etc.)
Attendance (est.)	~600,000 people in 2024 (montreal.citynews.ca) (upward trend)
Artistic director	Maurin Auxéméry (montreal.citynews.ca)

Every figure and detail is corroborated by the cited sources. The issues addressed (programming, infrastructure, economic spinoffs) demonstrate the central place of the Francos de Montréal in Quebec's cultural landscape (www.mtl.org) (www.quebec.ca).

Source links

Links cited in this article, in order of first appearance. Full addresses are provided for readers using extracted text.

1. <https://www.mtl.org/en/what-to-do/festivals-and-events/francos-de-montreal>
2. <https://www.quebec.ca/nouvelles/actualites/details/festivals-et-evenements-de-la-saison-printaniere-2025-plus-de-1-450-000-accordes-aux-francos-de-montreal-63635>
3. <https://2727coworking.com/articles/mutek-montreal-2026-electronic-music-guide>
4. <https://www.mtl.org/fr/quoi-faire/festivals-et-evenements/francos-de-montreal/>
5. <https://fr-academic.com/dic.nsf/frwiki/651348/>
6. <https://2727coworking.com/articles/quebec-language-laws-bilingualism-montreal-guide>
7. <https://www.placedesarts.com/festival/francos-de-montreal>
8. <https://montreal.citynews.ca/2025/06/13/thousands-gather-downtown-for-the-36th-edition-of-les-francos-de-montreal/>
9. <https://2727coworking.com/articles/saint-jean-baptiste-2026-montreal-program-guide>
10. <https://www.silo57.ca/2020/04/03/ledition-2020-des-francos-de-montreal-naura-pas-lieu>
11. <https://sorstu.ca/les-francos-et-le-festival-de-jazz-de-montreal-confirment-lannulation-de-ledition-2020/>
12. <https://www.mtl.org/fr/quoi-faire/patrimoine-et-architecture/quartier-des-spectacles/>
13. <https://2727coworking.com/articles/montreal-festivals-2026-go-bike-piknic-terrasses>
14. <https://montreal.citynews.ca/2026/04/28/francos-de-montreal-37th-edition-june/>
15. <https://passionmtl.com/francos-de-montreal-2026-la-programmation-complete-est-devoilee/amp/>
16. https://wikiland.org/fr/Quartier_des_spectacles
17. <https://www.quartierdesspectacles.com/en/place/place-des-festivals>
18. https://everything.explained.today/Quartier_des_spectacles/
19. <https://francosmontreal.com/en/program/marie-celeste-e008086>
20. <https://www.placedesarts.com/salle/esplanade-de-la-place-des-arts>

21. <https://statistique.quebec.ca/fr/document/rapport-denquete-sur-32-festivals-et-evenements-culturels-du-quebec-2000-2001>

THE PUBLISHER

About 2727 Coworking

2727 Coworking is a Montreal workspace and business-address provider. We serve people who need a place to focus, meet, run a small business or establish a professional mailing presence. Our website offers English and French information about workspace options and services, alongside educational resources for operating a business in Canada.

A workspace that fits the day

Our workspace options include private offices, day passes and desks, and a conference room. These formats help individuals and teams compare a dedicated office with more flexible ways to work or hold a meeting. Prospective members can explore the virtual tour, review current pricing and book a visit before choosing a workspace.

Business addresses and mail

2727 Coworking provides business-address and virtual-mailbox services. Our resources explain the documents and practical questions involved, including guidance for people outside Canada. Service eligibility, included features, availability and access arrangements should be confirmed on the applicable service page or with our team.

Resources for Canadian small businesses

We publish guides, research and planning tools about workspace decisions, business addresses and starting a business in Canada. Our incorporation research includes information for people inside Canada and abroad, with jurisdiction-specific material to help readers identify the next questions to investigate. These educational resources complement our workspace and address services; they are not individualized legal, tax or immigration advice.

Visit or contact 2727 Coworking

Explore [private offices](#), [day passes and desks](#), [the conference room](#), [business addresses](#) and [virtual mailboxes](#). [Book a visit](#) or [contact the team](#) to discuss your needs.

A business address alone does not establish tax residence, immigration status, banking approval or eligibility for a government program.

Website: <https://2727coworking.com>

This article is educational. Verify consequential medical, legal, financial, regulatory and technical decisions with appropriate professionals and the cited primary sources. Company services are described separately from the article's research findings.