



23rd International Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry &
9th International Symposium on Fluorous Technologies



Dear ISFC Steering Committee Members,

November 4, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has raised serious concerns for the Organizing Committee of the 23rd International Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry, which is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the 9th International Symposium on Fluorous Technologies (**23rdISFC-ISoFT'21**) in Québec City, Canada on July 18-23, 2021. The health and well being of prospective participants, the host community, and conference staff are of paramount importance. In view of the looming uncertainties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, we have found it prudent to postpone the 23rd ISFC-ISoFT meeting and to move it to **July 23-28, 2023**.

The decision of the Organizing Committee was motivated by several factors, including, but not limited to:

- The rapidly expanding domestic and global trajectory of the COVID-19 virus, as monitored by the Johns Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering, the Federal Government of Canada, and the Provincial Government of Québec.
- Concern for our attendees and presenters, domestic and global, about travel safety, restrictions related to entry into Canada, and restriction of mass assemblies in Québec City.
- Whether or not an effective COVID-19 vaccine will be universally available to the general public in 2021 and beyond after frontline health workers, the elderly, and those who are at peril due to pre-existing conditions have been vaccinated is likely to remain an open question for some time to come.

Looking to the future, we will rely on the same criteria applied to the present postponement to assess the viability of the 23rdISFC-ISoFT'23 in 2023. At this point, we are assuming postponement to 2023 will provide sufficient time for the global pandemic to be brought under control. Please consult our meeting website (www.isfc2021.org) for the most up-to-date information.

We are deeply appreciative of your patience, understanding, and support as we look forward to interacting with you in the future and welcoming you to Québec City in July 2023.

Sincerely yours,

The **23rd ISFC-ISoFT'23** Organizing Committee:

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Trinity Western University

Michael Gerken
University of Lethbridge

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