

# Bachelor Canada's Chris Leroux

is a Mississauga Sweetheart

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photography Provided by W Network



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**M**ississauga has yet another thing to be proud of—Canada's most eligible bachelor, Chris Leroux from *The Bachelor Canada* and former *Major League Baseball* pitcher, grew up in Mississauga!

"My favourite memory of growing up in Mississauga is playing baseball with my friends at River Grove Park," says Chris Leroux. "That's where a lot of my memories were because we

were always on the field playing my favourite sport."

Chris was born in Montreal and moved to Mississauga with his parents and his brother when Chris was three years old. He grew up with strong family values and his sports-loving dad introduced Chris to baseball at a young age. Chris had his sights set on a career in the *MLB* and he fulfilled that dream, playing for the *New York Yankees*, *Florida Marlins* and the *Pittsburgh Pirates* throughout his career.



In 2002, at age 18, Chris was drafted as a pitcher by the *Tampa Bay Rays*, but decided instead to study business at college in South Carolina. Three years later he was drafted again and joined the *Florida Marlins*. He made his big league debut in 2009 and has played in both the minor and major leagues, including playing for the *New York Yankees* in 2014. Chris has represented Canada twice at the *Baseball World Cup*, in 2002 and 2007 and competed in the *World Baseball Classics* in 2009 and 2013. He played baseball in cities from Tokyo to Los Angeles before deciding to put down roots in the GTA. Having recently retired from pro ball, Chris says he was at a crossroads in his life when *The Bachelor Canada* opportunity came about.

When it comes to baseball puns, the former pro has certainly heard his share of them on *The Bachelor Canada*, — from playing the field to stepping up to the plate. He is quite a “catch” after all.

Thirty-three year old, six foot six Chris Leroux is tall, blonde and drop-dead gorgeous. He’s traded in his baseball

cap and uniform for a tux which needless to say, has the ladies swooning. Sure he’s had plenty of opportunity to date, but says he wasn’t ready to settle down. Until now.

“Seeing my brother so happy in his marriage and starting a family of his own changed my mentality and showed me that’s what I want now, to have what they have,” explains Chris.

Asked what inspired him to go on *Bachelor Canada* and what he hopes will come of the experience, Chris replies: “A good friend of mine called to say they were doing casting calls and I thought it was an interesting idea. I definitely didn’t think they would pick me. I was at a place in my life where I was ready to settle down, and thought this was a unique way to potentially find love.”

Chris’s parents are retired teachers who live in Streetsville and have been married for 41 years.

“My family has been very supportive and optimistic about this being a way for me to find love,” says Chris. “I did have to prepare my mom for what happens on the show.”

*The Bachelor Canada*  
airs Wednesdays at  
9 p.m. on W Network.

Following the hugely successful show *The Bachelorette Canada*, *The Bachelor Canada* follows the course of a Canadian bachelor searching for love as 20 women do whatever they can to win his heart. While vying for attention and affection via individual and group dates in local and exotic settings (like Costa Rica this season), the bachelor narrows the “playing field”—sorry, one more baseball pun, as drama and tensions sometimes arise.

How much of the drama on the show is staged and how much is real?

“The drama is definitely real – and not all of it surrounds me,” answers Chris. “I typically shy away from drama, but it was an intense experience for everyone.”

*The Bachelor Canada/W Network* website describe Chris as “a laidback guy with diverse interests that range from surfing to vintage cars to playing the piano, Chris is always ready to try something new. He is looking for someone with an adventurous spirit to share those passions with as he enters the next chapter of his life.”

Chris is thoroughly enjoying the experience of being Canada’s most eligible bachelor.

“Being able to have so many different relationships with so many different people was really exciting,” says Chris. “They are all great women and I enjoyed getting to know them. Whether I chose them or not is no indication about how I felt about them as a person.”

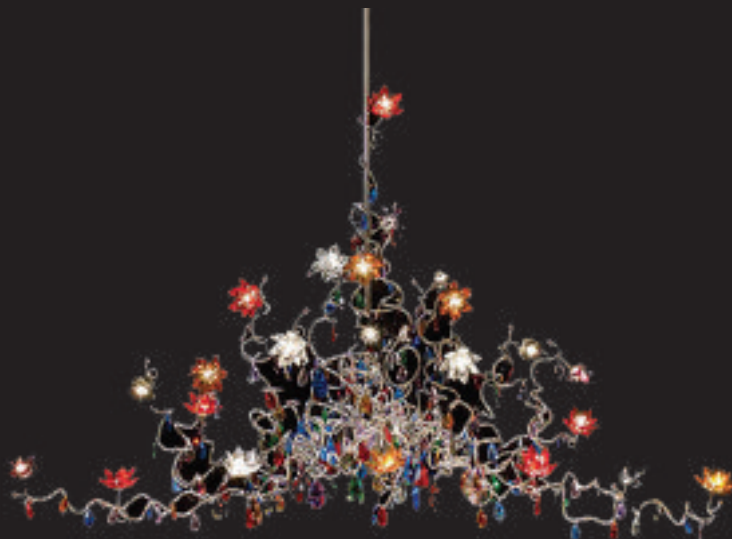
So who did Chris choose? He is bound by secrecy since the season is underway. We’ll just have to keep watching *The Bachelor Canada* to find out! Chris however reveals the traits he is looking for in a wife.

“Someone who is funny, kind, and has a big heart,” he smiles.

And where do you see yourself five years down the road? “Ideally, settled down with a family to come home to.”

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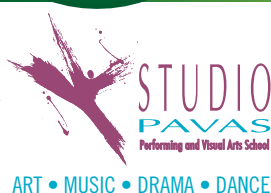
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