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Benoit wraps up the west with a win, regains second in MX2 points for the KTM Red Bull Royal Distributing Fox Racing Team

Benoit was the only Canadian on the podium in either class.

After suffering a crushing DNF just one week earlier in Calgary, Kaven Benoit finally had the good luck he's been chasing at Round 4 of the CMRC Motocross Nationals. After a solid first moto, where he stuck with series leader Austin Politelli to finish second, Benoit was able to grab the second moto win, handing him the overall win and bumping him back up to second in the series standings.

"It seemed like the luck was finally on my side today so it was fun … finally," laughed Benoit. "I am back into second now so I didn't waste too much time making up the points. I am still a little bit off of first, but it's racing and anything can happen, so we'll see. I am happy to finish off the west coast with a win; it feels good. I can leave with my head high and just focus on the east coast now."

Benoit pulled a huge holeshot in the first moto before he and series leader Austin Politelli pulled away from the pack. In the second moto, Benoit came out of the first turn in second, quickly making a pass for the lead and putting in some solid early laps to pull away from the back. Politelli went down and remounted in 11th place, struggling after the fall but pushing to finish 4th.

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“Kaven rode a smooth, calculated race,” said KTM National Race Marketing Manager Andy White. “He was really pumped and really happy that he leaves the west with a victory and gets back into second in the championship after a DNF in Calgary.”
“The track was super fast and dry,” said Benoit.

“It was not really physically demanding but mentally demanding. You had to focus hard not to make mistakes in the corners. It was easy to lose time but it was really hard to make time up if you did.”

Tyler Medaglia was not fan of Edmonton’s wide-open track.

Tyler Medaglia rode to a solid 4th place on the day with 4-5 motos on a track he was admittedly not a fan of. “The track was just not what I’m good at,” said Medaglia. “There were absolutely no lines on the track, no bumps, it was just a wide-open freeway. I had good starts but I just didn’t want to take any risks. I just wanted to leave the west in good shape and still good in points. Now it’s time to put the hammer down on the good tracks out east.”

There’s no doubt that the east is where both Benoit and Medaglia shine. Both riders excel at the eastern tracks and can leave the west behind with solid spots in the points’ standings. Benoit has 154 points for second in the MX2 series behind Politelli with 187 points. Medaglia sits third in MX1 just 4 points back from Bobby Kiniry.

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“I’m really happy with Kaven’s results today—getting a first overall going into the break,” said White. “We’ve got some homework to do to get on the gas for the East Coast and beat Politelli. We know he’s going to be just as fast in the east so we’ve got our work cut out for us. In the MX1 class, I know Tyler is going to be even stronger in the east and I know Dusty is going to be back shortly, so that’s a bonus too. The team is pumped about going home for a break and getting out of the west coast. We made it through four weekends with decent weather—unlike last year—so that was great too.”

The series resumes July 14th at Gopher Dunes in Courtland, Ontario.
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