



Frequently Asked Questions

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Halifax 2014

Why should Halifax be chosen to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Halifax is the ideal setting for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. A jewel of a city, perched on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean – we are the gateway to Canada and North America. Halifax is a historic port city that has blossomed into a forward-looking city of the future – a place where creativity, ambition and ingenuity thrive in the midst of a caring, welcoming community. The Commonwealth Games are a timeless event showcasing everything that is good and hopeful about humanity and the future and Halifax is the perfect host.

We are committed to creating an event that will serve and benefit all Commonwealth nations and fulfill the objectives of the Commonwealth Games. Halifax also has community support, the facilities, expertise and world-class hospitality to successfully open its arms to the people of the world and the athletes of the Commonwealth in 2014.

Halifax will create iconic, harbourside Commonwealth Park, the centrepiece for the 2014 Games – a purpose-built, athlete-centred home for the Games. It will be home to Commonwealth stadium, the aquatics centre, a multi-purpose field house, and the Athletes' Village. This means that all athletes will be within walking distance of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and half the athletes can walk to and from their competitions. Halifax's world-class facilities will be built in venue clusters that will allow the athletes to experience an "easy" Games, with no transportation or accommodation barriers. And Halifax will create and deliver an inclusive Games for Elite Athletes with a Disability (EAD).

And, when competitions are over, Halifax's vibrant nightlife, and the friendliest people in the world, will invite delegates, athletes and team officials to relax, have fun, and immerse themselves in the spirit of Halifax.

Halifax is the largest municipal region, both geographically and in population in Atlantic Canada, which covers the entire eastern portion of the country. Welcoming the world for over 250 years, we are also the most culturally diverse city in the region. This cultural diversity and respect will present itself in dramatic fashion during the spectacular cultural festival that will be staged in conjunction with the 2014 Games.

Halifax has a proven record of hosting major national and international sporting events, conferences and gatherings, including the G7 Summit of 1995, dubbed "The Friendly Summit" by then British Prime Minister John Major. It was the last such summit in which world leaders could walk the city streets in safety, welcomed by citizens.

The Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games bid has broad-based community support as well as strong, committed political and financial support at the municipal, provincial and national levels.

Halifax's warm summer temperatures will be moderated by Atlantic breezes, helping create ideal conditions for optimal athletic performance, in world-class facilities. The Games will be supported by a superb organization, a perfect integration of staff and highly-trained volunteers providing the technological and logistical support to create the perfect conditions for athletic greatness.

Halifax will help enhance and enrich the Commonwealth Games movement and will unite and inspire every corner of the Commonwealth.

Does the Halifax bid have the Government of Canada's support?

Yes. Canada's federal government has made this very clear on many occasions. Canada's Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, as well as Federal Minister for Sport, Michael Chong and Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay have repeatedly indicated their commitment to ensuring that Halifax has the resources it needs to stage a memorable Commonwealth games. The Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee will work with the federal government to define its financial commitment.

National Sport Minister Chong has placed Canada's bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games among his top priorities.

Does the Halifax bid have the political and financial support of the municipal and provincial governments?

Yes. Halifax Regional Municipal Council has voted on three separate steps in the development of the bid and each time voted unanimously in favour of supporting the bid, including financially. Provincially, members of the House of Assembly made history by passing, unanimously, an all-party resolution supporting the Halifax's bid for the 2014 Games in October 2005.

The municipal, provincial and federal governments, as well as funds raised through the sale of corporate sponsorship programs, ticket sales, licensing and merchandising sales, will cover the cost of delivering a world-class Commonwealth Games in Halifax in 2014.

Is Halifax ready to take on a big project like the Commonwealth Games?

Yes. Halifax has an enviable record of staging successful international sport and cultural events – and we have every reason to believe we are ready to take the next step. In fact, in December 2005, Commonwealth Games Canada representatives voted unanimously for Halifax to represent Canada, in part because they had full confidence in our ability to win the international bid and stage an enormously successful Games.

Halifax is not as large as Melbourne, the home of the 2006 Commonwealth Games, however, when we look at the "footprint" made by the sport venues used for the Games in Melbourne, (the actual proximity of venues to each other and the space needed), it compares favourably with the areas we have identified as venues in Halifax. The Melbourne Games were staged very well in a fairly compact area, much the same way that Halifax will stage them.

Does Halifax have the capacity to host the tens of thousands of visitors who will come to the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Yes. In addition to its many high-quality hotels, Halifax has several new hotels in the planning stages for construction in the next several years. The Bid Committee will be working closely with hotel owners and operators to ensure that all of our visitors will be well looked after.

Halifax has successfully hosted tens of thousands of visitors to major national and international sport and cultural events, including the World Junior Hockey Championships, World Figure Skating Championships, World Women's Hockey Championships, Roar of the Rings Olympic Curling Trials, World Senior Sprint Canoe Championships, Canadian Women's Open LPGA Golf Tournament, Juno Awards, World Congress and Theatre Festival, G7 Summit and countless major conferences.

What sports will be presented at the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

The Commonwealth Games sports program consists of a minimum of ten sports, five of which are mandatory: athletics, aquatics/race swimming, lawn bowls, rugby 7s (men), and netball (women).

The host country selects other sports from an approved list of individual sports, which are archery, badminton, billiards and snooker, boxing, canoeing, cycling, diving (as part of aquatics), fencing, gymnastics, judo, rowing, shooting, squash, synchronized swimming (as part of aquatics), table tennis, tennis, ten pin bowling, triathlon, weightlifting, wrestling and sailing. Additional team sports can be added subject to the approval of the Commonwealth Games Federation through the General Assembly.

Halifax's bid will also include competition for elite athletes with a disability (EAD). EAD competition has become a unique and exciting feature of the Commonwealth Games and Halifax's bid will continue this recognition of these skilled athletes from throughout the Commonwealth.

The Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee will forward to the Commonwealth Games Federation the proposed sports as part of its bid, to be submitted by May 9, 2007.

Where will the sporting events take place?

Brand new world-class facilities will be built to create an athlete-focused Games, putting optimal athletic performance front-and-centre. The centrepiece will be Commonwealth Park. This will include:

- a new stadium;
- a state-of-the-art aquatics centre;
- a sparkling new field house; and,
- a superb Athletes' Village that will exceed the needs of the athletes.

Some existing facilities will be upgraded to world-class standards, while others will be constructed within existing permanent structures to serve on a temporary basis. Halifax's world-class facilities will be built in venue clusters that will allow the athletes to experience an "easy" games, with no transportation or accommodation barriers. At least half of the athletes will be able to walk to their competition venues. All athletes will be within walking distance to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Will Halifax's 2014 Commonwealth Games bid conflict with the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games?

Halifax 2014 and Commonwealth Games Canada strongly support the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Having the Commonwealth Games in Canada in the summer (Halifax) four years after hosting an Olympics in the winter will be a tremendous celebration of and support for our pride and our capabilities as a sporting nation, as an economic power, and as a people.

Halifax 2014 and Commonwealth Games Canada believe that the Commonwealth and Olympic Games complement each other perfectly in the context of the hosting policy being developed under Canada's National Sport Policy.

Can Canada afford to host both a Winter Olympics and a Commonwealth Games so close together?

Yes. They complement each other ideally. Two major events, one summer, one winter, four years apart, 4,500 kilometres apart (Canada *is* a big country), will allow for a sustained development of Canadian sport disciplines both summer and winter. They will focus Canadians' attention on the training and competitions undertaken by our athletes during the period in between the Games and they will contribute in a major way to the strategic objectives of Canada's National Sport Policy – building participation, excellence and capacity within the sport system at all levels.

In which month would the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games be held?

Halifax is proposing the Games be held in the month of July, the middle of the Canadian summer.

Who will Halifax 2014 consult with in preparing its bid?

The Halifax 2014 Bid Committee has been listening and will continue to listen carefully to the information it receives from all of the Commonwealth Games Associations. This input is critical to assembling a bid that serves the needs of athletes and sport federations throughout the Commonwealth.

The Halifax 2014 Bid Committee will also consult with local, national and international athlete and sports organizations as it assembles its bid. This consultation has been and will continue to be a key element in the design of Halifax's bid. Organizations include: Sport Nova Scotia, all provincial sport organizations, Sport Centre Atlantic, Atlantic Canadian university sport groups, national sport organizations, Commonwealth Games Canada and Sport Canada.

We value the experience and best practices of our colleagues across Canada, and as such, have developed strong relationships with the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics, and our own national Olympic committees, the Canadian Olympic Committee and the Canadian Paralympic Committee. As well, experts from various parts of the world who have successfully bid for and staged major international, multi-sport games will continue to be consulted to ensure the best bid and Games possible.

What economic impacts will be created by the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

An initial analysis during the domestic bid phase suggests a very positive economic impact, in the order of \$2 billion. As information continues to be gathered, further, more detailed economic analyses will be conducted by the funding partners to ensure they have all the facts they need before the bid is lodged with the Commonwealth Games Federation in May 2007. See the Benefits of the Games section for more information on economic impacts.

Who is leading the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games bid?

The Halifax 2014 Board of Directors comprises:

Chair:

Fred MacGillivray, CEO Trade Centre Limited

Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) representatives:

Claude Bennett, CGC President

Dr. Andrew Pipe, CGC President-Elect

Thomas Jones, CGC CEO

Suzanne Coffey, CGC Vice-President

Joan Duncan, Past President

Province of Nova Scotia representatives:

Howard Windsor, Deputy Minister, Premier's Office

Duff Montgomerie, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Promotion and Protection

Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) representatives:

Dan English, HRM CAO

Wayne Anstey, HRM Deputy CAO

Sport representatives:

Ken Bagnell, Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic

Jamie Ferguson, Sport Nova Scotia

Athletes' representative:

Trevino Betty

Ex-officios:

Scott Logan, Halifax 2014 CEO

Eric Savard, Commonwealth Games Canada Bid Director

First Nations representative:

TBD

Corporate representatives (2):

TBD by joint appointment of HRM and the Province of Nova Scotia

Who is on the Halifax 2014 Executive Committee?

Joan Duncan, Commonwealth Games Canada

Thomas Jones, Commonwealth Games Canada

Dan English, Halifax Regional Municipality

Howard Windsor, Province of Nova Scotia

Ken Bagnell, Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic

Fred MacGillivray, Trade Centre Limited

Scott Logan, ex-officio

Eric Savard, ex-officio

Who is on the Halifax 2014 Bid Committee Management Team?

As of May 2006, the Halifax 2014 Bid Committee Management Team comprises:

- Scott Logan, CEO
- Peter Spurway, Acting Director of Communications & Partner Relations
- Frank Garner, Director of Sport
- Dale MacLennan, Director of Finance, Administration and Government Relations

It is expected that the team will be fully in place by the end of June 2006.

How can I support the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games bid?

It's important that everyone register their support for Halifax 2014 online at www.2014halifax.com. You can also indicate if you wish to receive e-mail updates on the bid. We encourage you to get your friends, family and co-workers to register their support too!

How do I volunteer for the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Halifax 2014 will begin recruiting volunteers closer to the 2014 Commonwealth Games. At this point, we encourage you to register your support for the Games online at www.2014halifax.com.

How do I obtain Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games merchandise?

When licensed Halifax 2014 products are available for sale, they will be featured at www.2014halifax.com.

Can I use the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games bid logo?

You must submit your request to use the Halifax 2014 logo to the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games Candidate City Bid Committee at info@2014halifax.com.

Benefits of the Games

How will other Commonwealth countries benefit from the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Canada has a special role to play in helping other Commonwealth countries expand their sport programs and their capabilities to host the Commonwealth Games in future years.

The Halifax 2014 Games planning includes the participation of future organizers and candidate cities in each phase of our preparations.

How will athletes from other Commonwealth countries benefit from the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

The Games will provide a beautiful and inclusive environment that will give participants and supporters the experience of a lifetime over 11 days in July 2014 – Canada’s summer.

Athletes from around the Commonwealth know they are coming to a safe, clean, welcoming environment, where conditions will be created for optimal athletic performance. They know they will be very well looked after, will have a chance to compete at a very high level, and will enjoy themselves, returning home from a very positive experience.

Halifax’s world-class facilities will be built in venue clusters that will allow the athletes to experience an “easy” Games, with no transportation or accommodation barriers. At least half of the athletes will be able to walk to their competition venues. One hundred per cent of the athletes will be within walking distance to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

How will Canadian athletes benefit from the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

The huge sport-training and competition legacy left by the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games – such as was left by the Calgary Olympics in 1988 – will serve athletes from across Canada and around the world for decades to come.

As well, leading up to and following the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Halifax, there will be a national high-performance training centre created to assist Canadian athletes to train in Halifax.

When a country hosts a Games, it creates a huge opportunity to showcase that country’s athletes. Competing on their national “home field” also gives Canadian athletes an opportunity to perform personal bests for the home crowd.

Canada’s national sport program is designed to advance high performance sport in Canada through development of coaching, sport sciences, sport medicine and facilities and services for high performance athletes.

The provincial and regional programs are designed to facilitate sport development at the grassroots level through coaching and officials’ programs as well as outreach programs for high school students.

The facility development and redevelopment, as well as the extensive training and leadership opportunities for administrators, coaches, sport scientists, medical staff and technical officials will enable Halifax and the region to host future regional, provincial, national and international competitions. That means sustaining high levels of training and competition at home both for high performance and developing athletes.

How will Nova Scotia and the Atlantic region benefit from the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games?

From a sport perspective, in the years leading up to the Games, training opportunities for visiting athletes can be tapped in communities throughout the region. As facilities are developed, shake down training and competitive events will be staged at which our athletes will have a chance to participate. International test events will be staged and they will provide opportunities for athletes, team officials and technical officials that currently don’t exist.

Atlantic Canadian athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers will have significantly more opportunities to gain experience and skill. All Nova Scotians will be able to use the facilities left as a sport legacy of the Games.

Canada is already seen as an attractive immigration destination. The Games will be an opportunity to showcase our province and region to potential immigrants.

Tourism opportunities will present themselves as Halifax, Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada draw more and more international attention as the Games approach.

The economic development opportunities will be numerous. In Melbourne, Business Club Australia, for example, invited and hosted dozens of international firms and their representatives, showing off Melbourne and exposing a large international business audience to the business advantages that Melbourne and the State of Victoria had to offer. The same can be done in Atlantic Canada.

The real opportunity for areas of Nova Scotia and the Atlantic provinces will be to optimize the possibilities that will present themselves around tourism, immigration and economic development. As well, the educational and cultural component of the Games will be seen in the schools and in the creation of special cultural events to ensure that Atlantic Canada is well presented to the world.

The Games can also bring a renaissance for sport, physical activity and wellness in the Atlantic region; opportunities for economic development and urban regeneration; global recognition, generating interest in immigration, tourism and economic development long after the event itself.

A surge in confidence throughout Atlantic Canada can also be expected. With the successful staging of the Games, new opportunities will present themselves to host other large, international events.

How will Halifax benefit from hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Properly planned and delivered, the 2014 Games can have a profound impact on Halifax and the Atlantic region of Canada.

Economic Benefits:

- Years of design and construction jobs for facilities and infrastructure;
- Revenues from athletes and teams training in the Atlantic region prior to and after the Games;
- Millions of dollars spent by athletes, team officials, technical officials, media, visitors and by VIPs including heads of government, royalty and corporate sponsors on hospitality, accommodations, food and shopping;
- Revenues from pre-Games test events held in our area by the international federation;
- Business networking associated with the Games;
- Huge international exposure through TV coverage for Halifax, Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada, and Canada; and
- Increased tourism, immigration, business opportunities and outside investment.

Facilities & Infrastructure Legacy:

- An accelerated construction program of already-planned infrastructure, (e.g., Fast Ferries);
- Transportation upgrades (roads and public transit);
- New sports facilities that will open up further hosting opportunities (stadium, aquatic centre, field house, etc.) as well as spur commercial development in the region;
- Upgrades to existing facilities; and
- The Athletes' Village will provide post-Games housing, including 100 assisted living units, 200 affordable housing units, and more than 900 open market units.

Human Development:

- Elite athletes with a disability will have a major stage on which to demonstrate their skills and talents;
- First Nations people of Atlantic Canada will have an opportunity to showcase their cultures to the world; and
- Thousands of volunteers will receive training in new skills (e.g., apprenticeships for students in tourism, construction, public relations, sports management, etc.);
- A shift towards healthy living for residents who will use the new sports facilities; and
- Improved cross-cultural understanding through education programs for children – sports play a positive role in helping children develop positive behaviours and values.

If one of the other Candidate Cities wins the international bid competition, what will Halifax have to show for its efforts?

Halifax is in a high-stakes international competition and there are numerous benefits to the bidding process. Throughout 2006 and 2007 Halifax will receive significant exposure internationally. Halifax will be promoted in 70 Commonwealth nations and territories – and representatives from most of those places will visit our city to help them in their bid decision. Some of the bid budget will be spent locally, contributing to the Nova Scotia economy.

Halifax is also gaining tremendous expertise going through the bidding process. Those involved in the bid will gain knowledge from international experts, which will allow us to more effectively bid on future international events. Relationships are being strengthened as Halifax Regional Municipality, the Province of Nova Scotia, the Government of Canada and the bid's corporate partners all work toward a common goal. Community pride and a shift in our culture towards healthy living are also benefits of bidding.

Why not give the Commonwealth Games money directly to sport?

The bid is the engine that drives fundraising from private and public contributors. The money that is raised for a bid is driven by the concept of the bid itself. Experience has shown that without the focus of the bid to attract interest and contributions, the fundraising just doesn't happen.

Financing the Games

Bid Costs

How much will it cost Canada to bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

The budget for the bid has been developed and discussions with the three primary funding partners – the municipal, provincial and federal governments are underway right now. This budget will be made public once all three governmental funding partners have approved it. This could take a few weeks or a few months.

Who is financing Canada's bid?

The primary funding partners are the Government of Canada, the Province of Nova Scotia and Halifax Regional Municipality. The bid is also receiving generous support from the private sector. Additional private sector sponsorships will continue to be solicited.

Games Costs

How much will it cost to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Halifax?

The current best estimate to stage the 2014 Commonwealth Games is \$785 million. This estimate is based on a detailed analysis of the Commonwealth Games Canada required components of the Halifax domestic bid – the bid that won Halifax the right to represent Canada internationally – made in December 2005.

The Halifax 2014 Games' budget will be contained in Halifax's bid document that must be submitted to the Commonwealth Games Federation, the Games' governing body, by May 9, 2007. Extensive work will be done over the next several months to gather the necessary information to finalize the Games' budget.

Who will finance the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games and what percentage will each funding partner contribute?

The cost of hosting the Games will be shared among the federal, provincial and municipal governments and the private sector. The primary funders, the three levels of government, have all declared their support for Halifax's bid.

In July, the Halifax bid team will participate in the Commonwealth Games Federation's (CGF) Candidate City seminar in Melbourne, Australia. At those meetings, the CGF will provide the final bid requirements for the 2014 Games. With that information, the Halifax bid team will construct the budget that will reflect the cost of hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Halifax. This work will take several months. Once that Games hosting budget is complete, the three government funding partners will be asked to approve the budget and their respective contributions to it.

With the approval of the three government funding partners, the Halifax 2014 bid will be lodged by May 9, 2007.

Halifax's bid, including its budget, will be made public in May 2007.

Funds will also be raised through the sale of corporate sponsorship programs, ticket sales, licensing and merchandising sales.

If the Games cost more than the allocated budget, who will pay?

One of the key guiding principles of the Halifax 2014 bid is fiscal responsibility. This includes realistic financial planning, stringent monitoring and tight financial controls. Funding partners will negotiate deficit coverage and responsibility in advance of filing Halifax's initial bid in May of 2007.

Will taxes go up to pay for the Games?

There is no intention or necessity for this to happen. At the same time, it is impossible to predict what will happen to tax rates over the next eight years.

The Halifax 2014 Bid Committee continues to prepare and revise its comprehensive budget that details the costs associated with staging the Games and the specific revenue sources that will pay for them, and positive impacts on our region due to the Games. Although no financial forecasts can be written in stone, fiscal responsibility is a cornerstone of the bid and its realistic and responsible estimates.

The Bid Process

What is the bid process?

There are two stages in the bid process:

Stage One – Domestic Bid: In 2005, Halifax competed against Hamilton, York Regional Municipality and Ottawa in the domestic phase. On December 15, 2005 Halifax was chosen by Commonwealth Games Canada to represent Canada in the international competition to stage the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Stage Two – International Bid: In this phase, Canada (represented by Halifax) is competing against Scotland (represented by Glasgow) and Nigeria (represented by Abuja). On November 9, 2007, the 71 Commonwealth nations and territories will vote on the host city for the 2014 Commonwealth Games at a meeting of the Commonwealth Games Federation’s General Assembly in Sri Lanka.

Canadian Domestic Bid

Which Canadian cities bid at the domestic level?

Halifax, Nova Scotia
Ottawa, Ontario
Regional Municipality of York, Ontario
Hamilton, Ontario

How and when was the successful Canadian Candidate City chosen?

Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) conducted a comprehensive, demanding process that allowed each domestic candidate city to put its best foot forward. A Bid Review Committee of respected Canadian experts was struck to assess the various bids. Halifax was the unanimous choice of CGC and was announced as the Canadian Candidate City on December 15, 2005 in Toronto, Ontario.

International Bid

What is the selection process for the 2014 Commonwealth Games host city?

The major steps are as follows:

February 24, 2006	Deadline for Candidate Cities to notify the Commonwealth Games Federation of intention to bid.
July 10 to 12, 2006	Halifax, Abuja and Glasgow participate in a Candidate City seminar in Melbourne, Australia.
July 2006 to May 2007	Detailed Bid Book prepared and Games budget finalized. Government funding partners approve contributions.
May 9, 2007	Deadline for submission of bids by Candidate Cities to the Commonwealth Games Federation.
May 2007	Release of the Halifax 2014 Commonwealth Games bid.
Summer 2007	The Commonwealth Games Federation's Bid Evaluation Commission conducts site visits of each candidate city.
September 9, 2007	Latest date by which the Commonwealth Games Federation publishes its <i>Evaluation Commission Report</i> on each Candidate City.
October 9, 2007	Deadline for submission of additional information by Candidate Cities to the Commonwealth Games Federation.
November 9, 2007	Candidate Cities make final presentations to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation in Sri Lanka. Vote is held and 2014 Commonwealth Games Host City chosen.

What other cities are bidding for the XXth Commonwealth Games in 2014?

Glasgow, Scotland
Abuja, Nigeria

How is the host city for the Commonwealth Games selected and by whom?

The Commonwealth Games are awarded by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), the international governing body of the Commonwealth Games. Games hosts are chosen by the CGF in a General Assembly seven years in advance. Each of the 71 Commonwealth nations and territories has one vote. The first Candidate City to receive a majority of the votes is the winner. Candidate Cities are evaluated based on their proposals, as well as through onsite visits by Federation members.

The host city for the 2014 Commonwealth Games will be selected at the Commonwealth Games Federation's General Assembly in Sri Lanka on November 9, 2007.

The Commonwealth Games

What are the Commonwealth Games?

The Commonwealth Games are an international sport and cultural event held every four years in which athletes from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories compete. Dubbed *The Friendly Games*, it is an event that celebrates and strengthens the ties that bind the Commonwealth family.

When and where will the 2010 Commonwealth Games be held?

The XIX Commonwealth Games will be held in New Delhi, India from October 3 – 14, 2010.

When has Canada hosted the Commonwealth Games in the past?

1930 – Hamilton, Ontario
1954 – Vancouver, British Columbia
1978 – Edmonton, Alberta
1994 – Victoria, British Columbia

2006 Commonwealth Games – Melbourne, Australia

How many delegates from the Halifax 2014 Bid Committee attended the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne and what did they do there?

There were 24 delegates from the 2014 Halifax Bid Committee in Melbourne.

They had three primary objectives:

- to launch Canada's international bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Halifax;
- to introduce Halifax to as many Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) and Commonwealth Games Association (CGA) delegates as possible; and
- to learn as much as possible through the Melbourne 2006 Observers' Program.

Each of these objectives was met.

There was a steady growth in the awareness of Halifax's 2014 bid. Halifax was very well represented at dozens of formal and informal meetings and gatherings before and during the Games. Huge amounts of information were provided about Halifax, Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada and Canada.

The delegation made formal presentations to both the Commonwealth Games Federation Executive Board and to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs). The CGA delegates are the voting delegates from the 71 nations and territories that comprise the Commonwealth.

Delegates met with dozens of Commonwealth Games Association representatives, the Commonwealth Games Federation officials, officials from numerous national and international sport organizations from throughout the Commonwealth, as well as team officials and athletes – all with the same purpose in mind – to introduce them to Halifax and to outline the positive aspects of Halifax's bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Halifax delegates also participated in the Melbourne 2006 Observers' Program. They attended sessions on a wide variety of topics, covering every aspect of planning and delivering international, multi-sport games – from the technicalities of the sport facilities, to media services, transportation, ceremonies, broadcasting, educational programs, catering, and even waste management.

The Halifax delegates gathered a great deal of relevant, useful information that will help Halifax 2014 put forward the very best bid possible.

Did the staging of the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne raise the bar beyond what smaller cities can manage?

The Melbourne 2006 Organizing Committee, the Victorian Government and Australian federal government did a terrific job of hosting the XVIII Commonwealth Games in Melbourne from March 15 – 26, 2006.

Although it's true that there are not many cities as large and wealthy as Melbourne in the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth Games have always been *The Friendly Games* and the Commonwealth Games Federation has established a goal of making the Games sustainable and affordable in the long run and ensuring that the Games appeal to a broad range of Candidate Cities.

Although Melbourne is larger geographically than most cities within the Commonwealth, Halifax can match the world-class quality of their Games. The Melbourne Games were fairly compact, with venues relatively close to each other, as will be the case here in Halifax. This a great advantage for us. In Halifax, 100 per cent of the athletes will be within walking distance of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. And, 50 per cent of the athletes will be able to walk to and from their competition venues at Commonwealth Park.

How many athletes and staff from Nova Scotia and the Atlantic region were present in Melbourne for the 2006 Commonwealth Games?

The Canadian Team had:

- Four athletes from Nova Scotia: Christal Gilmore and David Kukuchi (Artistic Gymnastics), Chelsea Gottell (paralympic athlete – swimming) and Morgan William (Rugby);
- Three mission staff: Lindsay Hugenholtz, Jo-Ann Alberstat on the communications team and Jim Wright on the technology team;
- Eight athletes from the Atlantic region.

Commonwealth Games' Governance

What is the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)? Who are its voting members?

The Commonwealth Games Federation is the international governing body of the Commonwealth Games. Its General Assembly, which votes on the selection of a host city, is composed of one voting representative for each of the 71 Commonwealth Games Associations from member nations and territories of the Commonwealth. For a complete list of CGF members by region, visit the Commonwealth Games Federation website at www.thecgf.com.

The role of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) stretches beyond facilitation of the Commonwealth Games – indeed, the continuing success of the Games has helped to influence the outreach of the Commonwealth and to strengthen its bonds. As a means of improving society and the general well being of the people of member nations, the Federation also encourages and assists education via sport development and physical recreation throughout the Commonwealth.

Underlying every decision made by the CGF are three core values: *humanity, equality* and *destiny*. These values help to inspire and unite millions of people and they symbolize the broad mandate of the CGF within the Commonwealth.

What is Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC)?

Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) is a not-for-profit multi-sport organization that is the franchise holder for the Commonwealth Games in Canada. CGC is therefore responsible for presenting a single Candidate City to the Commonwealth Games Federation when Canada decides to bid to host the Commonwealth Games. CGC is also responsible for presenting a Canadian team for competition in the Commonwealth Games every four years. Commonwealth Games Canada’s website is at www.commonwealthgames.ca.

Who are the members of the Commonwealth Games Canada Board of Directors?

There are ten members of the CGC Board of Directors. They are:

President:	Claude Bennett
President Elect	Dr. Andrew Pipe
Past President:	Joan Duncan
Treasurer:	Ivan Chittenden
Vice Presidents	Margie Schuett Sue Boreskie Donald Dion Suzanne Coffey Rob Toller
Athlete Rep.	Trevino Betty
CEO (<i>ex off.</i>)	Thomas Jones

Why did Commonwealth Games Canada propose a Candidate City (Halifax) for the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

Commonwealth Games Canada decided to pursue the XX Commonwealth Games in 2014 because hosting the Games will strengthen Canadian sport by making it a priority, will provide achievement opportunities for summer athletes, and will leave a lasting legacy.

Strengthening Canadian Sport

A successful bid will provide:

- direct support to the National Sport Policy's aim of strengthening development through optimizing opportunities to host major international events;
- opportunities to enhance Canada's domestic sport capacity through the development of coaches, officials, volunteers, and facilities, according to an eight-year 2014 game plan to be developed for the Games;
- an enhanced public profile of amateur sport in Canada;
- the opportunity for Canadian athletes to compete and win at home;
- positioning for the Commonwealth Games as an integral part of the cycle of international and domestic sport development; and
- an Endowment Fund to support future Canadian Commonwealth Games Teams.

Providing Achievement Opportunities for Summer Athletes

A successful bid will provide:

- a competitive opportunity for Canadian summer athletes – learning to win at home;
- a strengthened public and media focus on our athletes, from now through 2014;
- new role models for young Canadians; and
- new role models for health, sport and physical recreation, which supports initiatives around health promotion and physical activity promoted by municipal, provincial and federal governments.

Furnishing a Lasting Legacy

A successful bid will provide:

- new and/or upgraded facilities built to international standards available for world-class athlete training (the legacies of the Calgary Olympics and Victoria Commonwealth Games are wonderful examples of this);
- a potential site for the establishment or relocation of the Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic;
- enhanced volunteer capacity and expertise in host city and region; and
- a positive economic impact for the host city – economic benefits include job creation, particularly in the small and medium-sized business sector, increased immigration, regional development, increased tourism, increased exports, enhanced infrastructure and increased tax revenue.

When did Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) decide to bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games?

The formal decision to bid for the 2014 Games was announced on June 22, 2005. Before that date, several Canadian cities had shown strong interest in bidding. The matter had been under consideration in principle in the CGC Board for almost two years.

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For more information, check out our website at www.2014halifax.com.