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NEWS RELEASE

2012 Ontario Summer Games Name Organizing Committee Chair

Rahul K. Bhardwaj, President and CEO of the Toronto Community Foundation has been appointed Chair of the 2012 Ontario Summer Games Organizing Committee.

"I am confident that Toronto will be a wonderful host to athletes from across the province. The Ontario Summer Games are an excellent opportunity for Ontario's amateur athletes to showcase their passion and commitment to sport. These athletes are certainly an inspiration to all Ontarians to get active." - Margarett Best, Minister of Health Promotion and Sport

Mayor Rob Ford said, "The City of Toronto is pleased to host amateur athletes from across the province at the 2012 Ontario Summer Games. This event is an opportunity for the athletes to fine tune their skills in preparation for the Pan/Parapan American Games being held in our city in 2015. "

Bhardwaj said," I am honoured to be named Chair of the 2012 Ontario Summer Games and promise my full commitment to work with our partners and volunteers in making the event a success. These games are a tremendous opportunity for the City of Toronto to host Ontario's best amateur athletes, the legacy of volunteerism and sport development will have a lasting impact on the City."

Mr. Bhardwaj brings a long history of community service to this position. He is a former corporate lawyer with a leading Canadian law firm and served as Vice President of the Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid committee.

The Ontario Games began in 1970 as a showcase for amateur sport; they have now become Ontario's largest multi-sport event, involving over 3,000 athletes, coaches, managers, and officials from across the province who participate in both team and individual sports. The Games take place every two years and are awarded through a formal bidding process. The Ontario Games are a program of the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport and are delivered by the Sport Alliance of Ontario. The 2012 Ontario Summer Games are a partnership of the City of Toronto, The Toronto Sports Council and Tourism Toronto.

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