

April 7, 2003

LET THE 2005 CANADA GAMES BEGIN!

2005 Canada Games Partners Sign Multi-Party Agreement

Regina, Saskatchewan - Today Bob Ellard, President of the 2005 Canada Games Host Society and Ms. Sue Hylland, President and CEO of the Canada Games Council took part in the ceremonial signing of the Multi-Party Agreement. The Multi-Party Agreement was signed by three levels of Government, the Canada Games Council and the 2005 Canada Games Host Society. Joining Ellard and Hylland at this historical event were the Honourable Paul DeVillers, Secretary of State (Amateur Sport), the Honourable Joanne Crofford, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation and Regina Mayor Pat Fiacco.

The Multi-Party Agreement provides a framework for each partner that outlines their responsibility of financial and organizational support to the Host Society. The details of the agreement, which are negotiated by representatives of each partner, will enable the Host Society to manage and implement the 2005 Canada Summer Games.

The signing of the Multi-Party Agreement is a significant landmark for the Host Society. The commitment of \$10.7 million from the key government partners builds a strong foundation for the Games. The overall budget for the 2005 Canada Games is projected to be \$23.4 million.

"The investments made with our Canada Games partners will benefit generations to come, and I assure you of my collaboration to make these Games a great success," said Secretary of State (Amateur Sport) Paul DeVillers. "The Canada Games play an important role in the development of our athletes. More than thirty percent of former Canada Games athletes have gone on to compete in the Olympics or Paralympics."

"The 2005 Canada Summer Games will create social, cultural and economic benefits to the citizens of Regina and Saskatchewan. The community pride generated by the many volunteers that become involved in the staging of the games is yet another example of the richness that Canada Games bring to a host region," said Minister of Public Works and Government Services Ralph Goodale.



Canada



Government of
Saskatchewan

Regina
CITY OF REGINA



Suite 205-438 Victoria Avenue East
438, avenue Victoria Est, bureau 205
Regina, Saskatchewan S4N 0N7

(306) 586-2005 (306) 780-9328 www.2005jeuxducadagames.ca

"The Canada Games will be one of the highlights of Saskatchewan's 2005 Centennial celebrations," said Culture, Youth and Recreation Minister Joanne Crofford. "It will show Canadians the spirit of our athletes as well as the pride and enthusiasm of our volunteer hosts and organizers."

Regina Mayor Pat Fiocco remarked, "Regina is proud to be the host city for the 2005 Canada Summer Games. The Games are an opportunity to showcase Regina, and to create a legacy of exceptional facilities and community leaders for generations to come. We will wear our city's pride well in August 2005 as we join our community partners in welcoming the nation."

Bob Ellard, President of the 2005 Host Society stated, "The signing of the Multi Party Agreement is a significant landmark for our Host Society as we prepare for the 2005 Canada Summer Games. The Games are an important event in Canada's sport and cultural calendar, and the support of all three levels of government is critical to their continued success."

The 2005 Canada Games, which also feature events for athletes with physical and developmental disabilities, will mark the 20th time in history the Games have been held. As well, the 2005 Canada Games will play a special part of Saskatchewan's 100th anniversary.

During this action-filled two-week period beginning August 6, 2005 over 3,400 athletes ranging in age from 12 to 23 will compete against each other in 16 sports for the right to claim the Canada Games Flag as their own.




For further information contact:

John Lee
General Manager and CEO
2005 Canada Games
Phone: (306) 780-9305
Fax: (306) 780-9328
E-mail: jlee2005csg@sasktel.net

Sue Hylland
President and CEO
Canada Games Council
(613) 526-2320
(613) 526-4068
shylland@canadagames.ca

-30-

Suite 205-438 Victoria Avenue East
438, avenue Victoria Est, bureau 205
Regina, Saskatchewan S4N 0N7

 (306) 586-2005  (306) 780-9328  www.2005jeuxducanadagames.ca