

## MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Council

From: Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: January 18, 2023

Re: 2030 Commonwealth Games

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On January 12, 2023, Council received an intention that a notice of motion regarding bidding to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games would be brought forward to Council. This memo and attachment provide information on the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the bid selection process.

### **Commonwealth Games is an international multi-sport event among athletes from the Commonwealth of Nations**

The Commonwealth of Nations, simply referred to as the Commonwealth, is a political association of countries and member states, the vast majority of which are former territories of the British Empire. The 2030 Commonwealth Games, officially known as the XXIV Commonwealth Games will mark the centenary of the Games, first held as the British Empire Games, and hosted by the City of Hamilton in 1930.

The Commonwealth Games are overseen by the [Commonwealth Games Federation](#) (CGF), an international body which controls the sporting program and selects the host city from among a select few international bidders that have been chosen by a country's overseeing sporting body.

[Commonwealth Sport Canada](#) is the Canadian sporting body that selects which municipality (or group of municipalities) would best represent Canada to host the Commonwealth Games. Canadian municipalities looking to bid on hosting the Commonwealth Games would first send a bid into Commonwealth Sport Canada, which would in turn chose the best municipality to represent Canada in a larger international bid to the Commonwealth Games Federation. It is anticipated the host city for the 2030 Commonwealth Games will be chosen by the Commonwealth Games Federation in November 2023.

## **Victoria, Australia has allocated \$2.6 billion to deliver 2026 Commonwealth Games**

In January 2022 the Victorian State Government announced it was giving consideration to a late request from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) to host the Games. On February 16, 2022, the Premier of Victoria Daniel Andrews confirmed the state was in exclusive negotiations with the CGF to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. It was stated that if successful in hosting the Games this second time, Victoria would aim to use the state's regional centres and existing infrastructure to control costs. This bid was confirmed as successful by the CGF on April 12, 2022.

In May 2022 the Victorian State Government allocated \$2.6 billion to deliver the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This money is being used to build housing, infrastructure, and athlete hubs in each of four regional sites, as well as provide for enhanced security and transportation needs that will result from an event of this size.

## **Hamilton has been selected by Commonwealth Sport Canada as Canada's candidate host city for the 2030 Commonwealth Games contingent on receiving support from the three levels of governments**

Commonwealth Sport Canada's (CSC) process to select Canada's 2030 Commonwealth Games candidate host city took place in 2020 with two cities, the City of Calgary, and the City of Hamilton both entering a bid at that time. The City of Hamilton's bid includes partnerships with adjacent municipalities in Halton, Waterloo and Niagara Regions as well as endorsements from the City of Mississauga, the City of Toronto, and indigenous communities of the Six Nations of the Grand River and the Mississaugas of the New Credit.

This 2030 bid coincides with the 100th anniversary of the first Commonwealth Games held in Hamilton in 1930; then known as the British Empire Games. More information about Hamilton's 2030 Commonwealth Games intentions can be found at [Hamilton100 | Commonwealth Games Bid Corporation \(hamilton2030.ca\)](https://hamilton100.com/commonwealth-games-bid-corporation)

On June 17, 2020, CSC confirmed to those leading Hamilton's bid (Hamilton 100Bid Corporation) that Hamilton has been selected as Canada's candidate for the 2030 Commonwealth Games (Attachment 1). This selection is contingent upon Hamilton100 receiving support from the three levels of governments. CSC has committed to assisting with securing this support from all levels of government. There have been commitments from both the federal government and the City of Hamilton in support of advancing this bid to the international level, contingent upon a similar commitment of support from the Province of Ontario.

At the time of this memo, the Province of Ontario has not committed to supporting this bid. CSC has set a January 31, 2023, deadline for confirmation of commitment from the Province of Ontario. Should the Province not provide confirmation of commitment by January 31, CSC has indicated they would be open to alternative bids that would most likely favour cities outside of Ontario.

## **York Region's domestic bid to potentially host the 2014 Commonwealth Games was estimated to cost \$800,000**

In 2005 York Region submitted a letter of interest to the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada (CGC) to be considered as the Canadian candidate to potentially host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. On September 22, 2005, Regional Council endorsed a [2014 Commonwealth Games Bid](#).

The report indicated the Commonwealth Games could have an estimated economic impact of over \$3.0 billion to the Region in the form of buildings and transportation infrastructure, along with subsequent business investment and visitor spending. The report also indicated the first phase of bidding to determine the Canadian candidate city ("Domestic" phase) would cost an estimated \$800,000. If successful at the domestic phase, the subsequent bid phase to select the ultimate host municipality from all international candidates ("International" phase) was estimated to cost another \$3.0 million.

York Region undertook development of a domestic bid and submitted this bid to the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada (CGC) by the required November 1, 2005, deadline. Only York Region, Halifax, Ottawa, and Hamilton submitted domestic bid proposals to be Canada's candidate to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Presentations from each bid municipality to the CGC were held on December 13, 2005, and two days later Halifax had been chosen by the CGC to be Canada's candidate city to potentially host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Halifax subsequently withdrew from the next phase that involved international bidding, and on November 9, 2007, the 2014 Commonwealth Games was awarded to Glasgow, Scotland by the Commonwealth Games Federation General Assembly.

### **Conclusion**

Given that the City of Hamilton has already been previously endorsed by Commonwealth Sport Canada as Canada's 2030 Commonwealth Games candidate host city (conditional on the still outstanding Province of Ontario commitment), it is unclear whether the opportunity to enter a bid still exists at this time.

For more information on this report, please contact Bruce Macgregor, Chief Administrative Officer at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71200. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.



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Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

eDocs #14566752

Attachment 1 Memo from Commonwealth Sport Canada to Hamilton 100Bid Corporation