

MEDIA RELEASE

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Bidding Begins for 2017 as Canada Games Flag Visits Brandon 2011 Canada Games to be held in Halifax, NS

WINNIPEG, MB – The Canada Games flag will tour through Manitoba January 8-11, with a stop in Brandon, MB while en route to Halifax, NS for the 2011 Canada Winter Games. The tour is part of a Canada Games Council past-host community engagement initiative. This year also marks the opening of preparation activities for the return of the Canada Games to Manitoba in 2017.

“The Canada Games is an extraordinary event that brings together committed athletes from across the country,” said Sport Manitoba President & CEO Jeff Hnatiuk. “Team Manitoba is well prepared for the 2011 Games and is sending a group of talented athletes from our province. On behalf of Sport Manitoba, I wish all the best to our Team TOBA coaches and athletes who will be competing in Halifax this February.”

The official Canada Games flag will visit each past-host community for a total of three days before being sent to the next while en route to the 2011 Canada Winter Games held February 11-27 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Each community has been asked to celebrate the flag’s visit in their own special way.

This year will also see the commencement of the bidding process to choose a host for the 2017 Canada Games. Sport Manitoba and the Canada Games Council want to notify Manitoba communities about the upcoming opportunity to prepare bids for the 2017 Canada Summer Games.

“Manitoba has been a successful host of past Canada Games in 1979 and 1997,” said Sue Hylland, Canada Games Council President & CEO. “The Canada Games Council is pleased to be returning to Manitoba again in 2017.”

Throughout the upcoming year, Sport Manitoba and the Canada Games Council will begin the process of sharing and distributing information on how Manitoba communities can bid to be considered as hosts for the 2017 Games. This summer, interested communities will be welcomed to participate in information sessions that will outline the requirements of a successful Games bid.

“Sport Manitoba looks forward to working with communities across our province as they prepare creative proposals to host a successful Canada Summer Games,” said Hnatiuk.

Later this year the Canada Games Council will officially launch the bid process. At that time they will release the 2017 Bid Procedures and Hosting Standards document to guide communities through the process.

The final community selection recommendation will be made in 2013 by the Canada Games Council in cooperation with its Bid Evaluation Committee and submitted to the Minister of Sport for final approval.

Information session dates will be released later this year.

About the Canada Games:

Since the first Canada Games was held in 1967, over 100,000 athletes have competed in the Games while another 100,000 coaches, officials, and volunteers have contributed to the planning and staging activities. Every year, countless more join in supporting this wonderful celebration of youth, sport, culture, and community. 2017 will mark the Canada Games' 50th Anniversary as Canada's premier celebration of amateur sport.

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