



Hamilton100 Commonwealth Bid Corporation

77 James Street North, Suite 300 Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8R 2K3
www.hamilton100.ca

May 13, 2022

Via Email - stephanie.paparella@hamilton.ca

The Mayor and Members of Council
c/o Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk
City of Hamilton

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

Re: 2030 Commonwealth Games

We are writing in advance of our attendance before you on May 18, 2022 to provide you with information we hope will be helpful in informing the City's consideration of its continued engagement in this transformative initiative and as the last touch point prior to our submission of a final hosting proposal to the provincial and federal governments for their review and consideration.

Summary of Recent Events

Prior to discussing the finalization of that hosting proposal, we feel a summary of activity to date would be beneficial. Our efforts over the last 12 months have included:

- Engagement with a significant cohort of private sector organizations, not-for-profit groups and educational institutions seeking their advice on how they would be best served by a Games' movement (rather than an event focus) centered on building 'prosperous, healthy and sustainable' communities more immediately;
- Consultation with a number of leading organizations around the world who specialize in the delivery of globally significant events such as the Olympics, World Cup, and Commonwealth Games to understand the state of the industry and evolving best practices;
- Participation in a multi-month concept planning exercise with representatives from the provincial and federal governments, First Nations, and Commonwealth Sport Canada focused on curating a new approach to the Games bid;
- Meetings with Premier Ford and Minister Macleod (and other provincial representatives) to discuss Hamilton2030 bid critical path, particularly as it relates to infrastructure delivery at private sector expense;



- A meeting with the new Commonwealth Games Federation President Katie Sadler and Commonwealth Games Partnerships CEO David Leather in London, England to socialize our vision and understand the CGF's future needs;
- The preparation and distribution of Request For Proposals to venue owners, municipalities and sport organizations inviting expressions of interest as to the inclusion of venues and aligned sport programs for the 2030 Bid in accordance with the Commonwealth Games' Federation Strategic Roadmap Overview (attached);
- The convening of an international committee of experts to review the proposals submitted and provide recommendations to the bid committee in support of its effort to finalize a hosting proposal including the sport and venue proposals submitted by the City of Hamilton;
- Meeting with municipal leaders from other centers, including presentations to and engagement with Burlington City Council, to discuss needs and opportunities that could be addressed in a regional approach to our international bid; and
- The drafting of a comprehensive hosting proposal which process is nearing completion.

Bidding Environment

Prior to speaking to the bid critical path, we wish to bring two significant developments as it relates to the national and international bidding environment for 2030 to your attention. First, the state/region of Victoria, Australia has agreed to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This has been met in Australia and internationally with considerable enthusiasm. Interestingly, the State of Victoria recently tabled its annual budget which included a four (4) year financial commitment to the Commonwealth Games of \$2.6 Billion (the Australia dollar is equivalent to the Canadian dollar). Beyond the confidence this demonstrates by the Australian government in the Commonwealth Games franchise, a careful review of their budget discloses that they see the hosting of the 2026 Commonwealth Games as allowing for investments in much needed new capital projects in the four (4) hosting municipalities and surrounding regions, particularly in areas of housing, transit and community sport/recreation infrastructure - undaunted by concerns over timing (for example, they are planning four (4) new Athlete Villages that be built and turned into housing after the Games). Ultimately, while a welcome development, Australia's hosting of these Games in 2026, following what looks to be a very successful Birmingham 2022 Games this summer, is expected to considerably heighten international interest in hosting the 2030 Games.

The second development of note involves the 2030 Vancouver Olympics bid effort. That effort is experiencing some challenges in the relationship between the Canadian Olympic Committee and the Vancouver bid organization. Although we don't see a 2030 Canadian Olympic bid in British Columbia creating an issue for us in Ontario, we are monitoring the situation closely.



Critical Path Going Forward

Key Bid Concepts

As it relates to the finalization of a winning hosting proposal – domestically and internationally – which work is nearing conclusion, these are our key strategies:

- Owing to the need to ensure greater provincial and federal engagement, to minimize risk, to make better use of existing infrastructure, and to enhance impact and legacy we have moved to a regional games delivery model with a carefully curated balance of existing and new infrastructure; and,
- For many of the same reasons as above, as well as our resolve to mitigate taxpayer responsibility for infrastructure, to accelerate impact and to enhance the commercial viability and resulting international competitiveness of a bid, we have sought out and prioritized private sector involvement in Games related infrastructure planning, particularly where that allows for immediate development activity. In that regard our two primary catalyst projects are in Burlington and Hamilton. <https://hamilton2030.ca/community-projects/> .

Next Steps

The critical path for the submission of an international bid requires that we submit the hosting proposal reflecting the key elements above to the Province of Ontario within the next month. It is important to note that although a comprehensive document, this is not a bid document. It will set out a proposed program, venue options, budgets, impacts and legacies and other key elements of a potential international bid which are intended to inform senior government stakeholders in their decision making around the initiation of a multi-party agreement negotiation aimed at concluding a Canadian bid for international submission to the Commonwealth Games Federation by the end of the first quarter of 2023. We are advised that the Commonwealth Games Federation is likely to make announcements with respect to the proposed 2030 host in November 2023.

Insofar as the City of Hamilton is concerned, and as it relates to the motion upcoming, we are eager to create a new framework for collaboration in advance of the commencement of a multi-party agreement negotiation that will ensure that the interests of Hamiltonians are considered and prioritized in a 2030 Commonwealth Games bid emanating from Ontario through the city's direct involvement at the negotiating table where the ultimate decisions regarding the nature and extent of Hamilton's involvement relative to the engagement of other municipalities can be assessed and determined.



Hamilton100 Commonwealth Bid Corporation
11 James Street North Suite 300 Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8K 2K3

We look forward to discussing the above and answering your questions when we appear next week.

Sincerely,

PJ Mercanti
President
HAMILTON100

Cc Louis Frapporti, Leader of Private Sector/Municipal Stakeholder Relations