

## HAMILTON VELODROME DISCUSSION – MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2011

The Canadian Cycling Association was represented on the COC Board of Directors when the decision was made to support a Toronto and Golden Horseshoe bid for the 2015 Pan American Games. The primary reason that the COC waived the normal pan National competition and awarded the bid opportunity to Toronto/GH was that the high performance sport infrastructure in southern Ontario was at a level that was causing the country's most populated province to become less relevant in the national sport scene.

Beginning with the Calgary 1988 OWG there has been considerable emphasis on the legacy of the facilities built for major Games and the 2015 Pan Am Games are no exception with the three major legacy facilities being the swimming pools at UofT Scarboro, the track and field stadium at York University and the Velodrome. The implication is that the legacy fund being set up to assist the operation of these facilities will be contingent on the high performance use they receive beyond the 2015 Games. In other words, there is a partner to assist with long term operating costs.

So today the City of Hamilton has the opportunity to move forward on a Velodrome that will have significant capital investment from the federal government through the Pan Am Games capital funding and substantive operating support from a legacy fund put in place. Of course it takes the vision and partnership of this city's leaders to make this opportunity a reality.

The high performance cycling partners in this endeavor (CCA, OCA, NCCH) are all committed to making the optimal use of this facility to support training and competition at the international, national, provincial and local level. The cycling use beyond high performance will include development clubs, school and community use groups and cycling safety programs. The commitments of the HP partners was spelled out in a letter to then mayor Eisenberger in August of last year. We are fully committed to staffing the technical/coaching operations for cycling and to the rent profile provided by Sierra Planning within the initial business plan developed for the facility.

A few points for your additional consideration:

- Track cycling has become an indoor sport at the national team and international level as of 2007/08 with the season running Oct to March (World Champs.)
- Canada's NT currently trains in LA. Development athletes train indoors in London (138m) and Burnaby (200m) on tracks that are not 250m int. standard.
- The CCA is the largest recipient of single sport international hosting funds from Sport Canada. In 2010 we hosted two World Championships (MTB & Para Road) in addition to two World Tour races in QC and MTL – the top level of road racing. We are confident that we will be able to secure federal government support for hosting major track cycling events such as World Cup, Junior World

Championships, Para Track World Championships, Masters World Championships, Pan American Championships and possibly a World Championship at the elite level. Such events will further identify Hamilton as the cycling center of Canada and likely of NA.

- The President of the UCI, Pat McQuaid has noted Canada's interest in hosting high level track events and provided a letter outlining the UCI's support which included support for international coaching and development programs.
- Hamilton would become the National Track Cycling Training Centre and allow the CCA to move its coaching and technical staff to Hamilton to oversee the HP programs and assist with the development of the track clubs and programs at the development level.

The international legacy of Hamilton's very successful hosting of the 2003 Road World Championships is still present and will help cement Hamilton as an international cycling centre.

The CCA, OCA and NCCH have all been consulted and participated in the review of the possible sites and most recently in the analysis of the Mohawk College option. I can say without qualification that we are all in agreement that this location is fully supported by all cycling partners. The potential for reciprocal use of the significant planned Mohawk facilities furthers the value of this option.

On behalf of the CCA and the other HP partners we look forward to working with you to make Hamilton the cycling capital of Canada.