



• *Edmonton International Baseball Foundation*

Established under the laws of the Province of Alberta to organize International Baseball Events and to Promote the Sport
Box 33006, Glenwood P.O., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5P 4V8 • Telephone and Fax: 780-487-9999

April 05, 2006

Mr. Al Maurer, City Manager
City of Edmonton,
City Hall,
Edmonton, AB. T5J 2R7

Dear Mr. Maurer;

As you are aware, Edmonton last year was awarded the **2008 World Junior AAA Baseball Championships**, featuring players from 12 countries, including Canada.

The bid, which included letters of support from Premier Ralph Klein, Mayor Mandel, Baseball Canada and Baseball Alberta, was described by the International Baseball Federation (IBAF) as "outstanding" and approved unanimously. **For the first time in our 27-year history of bidding for international events, we were not requested to make a formal in person presentation to the IBAF!**

This is a tribute to this city's phenomenal record of successfully hosting international sporting events, dating back to the 1975 Commonwealth Games. Of course, we are proud of the part we've played in establishing this record. **The E.I.B.F. will be setting a record of its own with this event. No other city in North America has been granted as many international baseball championships.**

This will be the seventh international competition organized by the E.I.B.F. dating back to the 1981 and 1985 Intercontinental Cup, and including the 1990 World Men's Championships, the 1995 Olympic Qualification Tournament for the Americas, the 2000 Junior AAA Championships and the first-ever World Cup of Women's Baseball in 2004. The IBAF knew we could, and would, do the job.

We've survived major setbacks, such as the miserable weather in 1995, and the severely depleted schedule in 2004 due to circumstances beyond our control, without tarnishing our positive image **and without coming back to governments to bail us out.**

Organizers of:

- 1981 Intercontinental Cup
- 1985 Intercontinental Cup
- 1990 World Championships
- 1995 Olympic Qualification Tournament for the Americas
- 2000 World Junior AAA Championships
- 2004 IBAF World Cup of Women's Baseball

Page 2...World Junior

And, when an event has been financially successful, the E.I.B.F. puts its profits back into the baseball community.

Over the years, the E.I.B.F. has contributed nearly \$500,000 toward development and upgrading of Rundle Park and Spartan Park; travel assistance to Edmonton amateur players travelling to national and international competitions, and financial contributions to the minor baseball programs, both male and female, of Baseball Alberta and Baseball Canada,

It also awards four **\$2,000.00** scholarships annually to outstanding baseball players pursuing post-secondary education, two for male players and two for female competitors. The E.I.B.F. also maintains and manages the top individual award in baseball in the province, **The Bill Chmiliar Award of Merit.**

And all this is done by a 15-member Board of Governors, all unpaid volunteers. A list of the Governors is enclosed.

These events, through newspaper, television and radio coverage, have brought Edmonton to sports fans all over the world and bolstered our reputation for putting on international events and doing them well.

The 2008 World Championships, utilizing Telus Field and John Fry Park, will be held **July 25 thru August 4, 2008.**

The World Junior event is a stepping stone for many players into major league baseball or to significant college scholarships, and that's why it will attract approximately 60 professional and college scouts. More than 30 players who competed in the 2000 event here are currently in major league or Triple AAA baseball. Based on past experience, the Championships will receive significant radio and television coverage.

We believe we are up to the task. We have the expertise, the experience and a proven track record.

First of all, though, we need access to the facilities.

We ask the City to declare the 2008 World Junior AAA Championships as a **"Special Event"** under the agreement with the Edmonton Cracker-Cats so that Telus Field is available to the organizing committee for the duration of the tournament. This legal formality is required as quickly as possible.

Page 3...World Junior

We also require the City's permission to use John Fry Park as the second playing venue, as well as the use of several practice fields, with rental fees waived in accordance with our previous events. Brad Badger, Director of Booking and Information with Community Services, has been made aware of these requirements. We would be happy to meet with your officials to further discuss these needs. We are prepared to enter into appropriate agreements with the City/Cracker-Cats, similar to those in place for past events we've organized, regarding field maintenance, operation of concessions, etc..

One of our tasks will be raising approximately **\$996,000** to meet our budget projections. Unlike many organizing committees, we have never expected governments to provide the bulk of the required funds.

Our philosophy has been, and continues to be, that we have the responsibility for raising the lion's share of the money required through corporate sponsorships and our own fund-raising endeavours. We have looked to the three orders of government to provide "seed money" and some services.

The City of Edmonton has enthusiastically accepted this philosophy in the past, and our relationship has always been positive. In 2004, the City provided a cash grant of **\$75,000.00**, which included joint sponsorship of a barbecue at Fort Edmonton Park. It also assisted us, through the Parks and Recreation Department, the Law Department and the City Manager's Office, in gaining access to Telus Field, John Fry Park and practice facilities. This, of course, was only an eight-country tournament.

This time around, we are seeking a cash contribution of **\$120,000** from the City, which represents less than **13 per cent** of the budget. The Province of Alberta and the Government of Canada are being asked to provide a similar amount. For budgeting purposes, the grant could be provided in two instalments...one in 2006 or 2007 and the other in 2007 or 2008.

The City of Edmonton will be identified as a Keynote Sponsor and granted full privileges in accordance with the city's Sponsorship Program.

For your information, I enclose a copy of the proposed budget for the event, which was submitted to Baseball Canada and the IBAF.

Page 4....World Junior

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at **487-9999 or 484-3173**. We are prepared to meet with City Council/Council Committee/departmental officials to provide any additional information required.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Hayter". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "R" and a cursive "Hayter".

RON HAYTER, Chairman,
Board of Governors