



Panel to explore pursuit of major sporting events

December 15, 2016

After receiving direction from City Council, the City of Edmonton announced today that it will assemble a small group of Edmontonians to consider and recommend options for pursuing major sporting events.

Operating at arm's length to the City, this group will consist of up to 10 representatives who will examine the opportunities and challenges of pursuing large-scale single and multi-sport events, including the Commonwealth Games, providing recommendations on the best opportunities for Edmonton's participation.

"Bidding on and hosting large-scale sporting events are significant commitments. It's important the City captures the perspectives of Edmontonians and secures grassroots support before we move forward," said Linda Cochrane, City Manager. "The citizen panel will explore the pros and cons of a future Commonwealth Games bid, along with other large-scale sporting event opportunities, and will prepare a report for the City's consideration."

After the City of Edmonton transferred its intent to bid for the Commonwealth Games from 2022 to 2026, Commonwealth Games Canada gave the City right of first acceptance for Edmonton to be the Canadian bid city for 2026. While the original expiry date for that right of first acceptance is January 1, 2017, the City has requested an extension to July 31, 2017.

The group will be named in early 2017 and submit a report to the City Manager by June.

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