



Commonwealth Games Canada turns down City of Edmonton request for an extension to bid on the 2026 Games

January 20, 2017

The City of Edmonton has been advised that Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) has not approved the City's request to extend the First Right of Acceptance deadline to be Canada's Candidate City for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Edmonton had originally considered a bid to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games. After many months of work and careful consideration of our economic environment, the City decided to not submit a bid for 2022, but to look instead at potentially hosting the 2026 Games. CGC, considered the strength of Edmonton's ability to host the games and provided a Right of Acceptance to be Canada's 2026 candidate city. The original deadline from Commonwealth Games Canada was December 31, 2016. In mid-December, the City requested an extension to July 31, 2017.

"We understood there was a risk of refusal from CGC and their position is understandable," said City Manager Linda Cochrane. "We can still pursue becoming Canada's Candidate City for 2026, but we may potentially be in competition with other Canadian cities. Given the financial commitments needed to host a major sporting event, we believe it's prudent to take time for full study and consideration before making decisions about proceeding."

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