



request of Heads of Government to review the role of sport in strengthening the Commonwealth. The future of Commonwealth sport, including the Games, was a key element of the working party's deliberations. The importance of the Games was recognized by Heads of Government at their meeting in 1991, where they endorsed the working party's report. Sport, taken in its broadest sense, was seen as a vehicle for promoting Commonwealth values and as an instrument of social development, especially among Commonwealth youth.

In the nearly 64 years of Commonwealth Games history, it is evident that the Games have remained an integral part of the Commonwealth. The government of Canada and Canadians remain committed to the Games within this new era of Commonwealth sport. The XV Games in Victoria will mark the participation of athletes with disabilities, who will be integrated with able-bodied athletes for the first time in a major international sports event. It is estimated that these Games will be enjoyed by a television audience of 300 million worldwide, more than that of any previous Commonwealth Games.