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his issue of Canada Reports is devoted to Toronto's candidature for the 1996 Olympic Games. In asking members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for the honour of hosting the Summer Olympics, Toronto is well aware of the responsibility that such a privilege will entail. But in view of the outstanding facilities and services that the city possesses and the skills and commitment of its Olympic supporters, Toronto is well equipped to take on the responsibility.

Toronto is the ideal model of the emerging global village. People from every part of the world have chosen Toronto as their home and have made it a city with a truly international urban culture, a city that openly rejoices in the diversity of its people. This spirit is what makes Toronto unique, and this is the heart and soul of what the city can offer as host of the Games of the XXVIth Olympiad — the first Games of the new Olympic century.

In staging the Games, Toronto's prime objective will be to bring honour to the Olympic movement, to demonstrate that its principles are still powerful and relevant, and to foster — not only in Toronto, but all over the world — an Olympic spirit and pride that all nations will cherish forever.

Toronto has all that it takes to make the 1996 Games a success: sound financial resources, public support, impressive facilities, organizational expertise and experience, excellent urban infrastructure, highly developed security, communications and transportation networks, and the ideal summer climate.

Hosting the 1996 Olympics in Toronto is viewed as an exceptional opportunity for Canadians to come together and welcome the world. It is a way for Canada to demonstrate its belief in sport as a symbol of human excellence and a means of bridging borders and overcoming differences.

In the pages that follow, the key elements of Toronto's bid to host the Games are discussed. Also highlighted are many of the city's qualities along with the many attractions the city has to offer both its residents and its visitors.

