

I repeat that commitment of the Canadian Government that every member of the Olympic family, without exception, will find no barriers to entering Canada. Access must be universal, because that is the Olympic mission. Beyond that, we are committed to sharing sports resources, expertise and opportunities between countries like our own and those which are less advantaged. The Olympic Games must be characterized not only by the right of universal access, but also by the tactical capacity to exercise that right.

The Olympic Movement thrives because it leads. It is a beacon to the world. The 1996 Olympic Games must be a springboard to a future, both for the Olympic Games and for the world that your Olympic Movement serves. On behalf of Canada, I offer you our commitment to share your vision of that future. I hope you will accept our invitation to gather in Toronto in 1996.

And now Carol Anne Letheren, the President of the Canadian Olympic Association, will tell you more about our plans.