

TORONTO HAS THE RIGHT STUFF



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Hosting of the 1996 Summer Games of the XXVth Olympiad will offer a superb opportunity to celebrate 100 years of Olympic glory and to herald the Games at the dawn of a new Olympic centenary. Toronto is seeking this honour.

A feasibility study on the bid put forward by the Toronto Ontario Olympic Council showed:

- a high standard of sports participation and sporting facilities;
- a high cultural and artistic participation;
- an ethnic variety that reflects the goal of international co-operation;
- plentiful hotel and accommodation facilities;
- international accessibility by road, rail, and air;
- international communications links;
- an award-winning public transportation system.

Ready to Go

Over the past three years, the Toronto Ontario Olympic Council has obtained enthusiastic support and commitments of assistance from the public and private sectors.

The City of Toronto, the Metropolitan Toronto region, the Province of Ontario, and the Government of Canada all fully support Toronto's candidature. Furthermore, the city's bid has received both corporate and government contributions in excess of \$14 million.

Equally important to a successful Olympiad, the council has the complete support of Toronto's cultural community — 150 groups active in the fields of theatre, music, dance, and fine arts.

In addition, the city's more than 70 active and flourishing ethnic communities, with their rich cultural heritages, have rallied enthusiastically to the cause.

Lasting Legacies

Of prime importance in the bid is the plan to use existing venues which will be upgraded to Olympic standards. Sites for new facilities have been chosen to give some 30 municipalities as well as amateur sport both immediate and long-term benefits. And the plan achieves the Olympic aim of featuring sporting and cultural events.

Two key locations will be Toronto's SkyDome, a 60 000-seat indoor/outdoor stadium with a unique retractable roof, and a new Olympic 80 000-seat stadium to be built should Toronto be awarded the Games.

Toronto's plans for the Olympic Village include a central lake-side site which will be turned into an "Island of Peace," complete with waterways, courtyards and gardens. The site will provide generous space for exercise and solitude, yet still convey an intimate neighbourhood feeling.

Toronto's Assets

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario, Toronto has a pleasant normal daytime temperature for August (the month proposed for the Games) of 25°C. Accommodation facilities are already superb, as there are 80 000 first-class hotel beds within 30 minutes' drive of the city. And with their number doubling every eight years, there will be even more tourist accommodation by 1996.

Toronto is well-served by expressways and major highways all linked to the North American continental highway

system, and three international airports are located within a 55-km radius. With convenient access by highway and by air to people living in Buffalo, Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, Montreal, New York, Ottawa, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Washington, Toronto is within a day's drive, or an hour's flight, of 150 million people.

As for travel within the city, Toronto's public transportation system is acknowledged the finest in North America. Moreover, the Toronto Transit Commission has prepared a report showing how the transportation requirements of the Games can be successfully handled.

With a population of three million and an economy that is among the fastest-growing in the world, Toronto is ready and able to provide the technological and human skills needed to conduct a modern Olympic Games.

Finally, one of Toronto's best attractions is its people. Dedicated to the peaceful ideal and spirit of the Olympic Games, and familiar with many different cultures, Torontonians will give visitors to the Games a warm and hearty welcome.