

Canada Weekly

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
AFFAIRES EXTERIEURES
OTTAWA
NOV 26 1981
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Ottawa
Canada

Volume 9, No. 39
November 4, 1981

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Calgary is named the site of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games

The International Olympic Association has chosen Calgary as the site for the 1988 Winter Olympics at a recent meeting in Baden-Baden, West Germany.

Seventy-nine members of the International Olympic Committee participated in the vote in which Calgary won out over Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy and Falun, Sweden. Seoul, South Korea was chosen as the site for the 1988 Summer Olympic Games.

"It is great for Canada because it will do quite a considerable amount for national unity," said Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed about the IOC's selection. Mr. Lougheed was in Baden-Baden for the IOC announcement.

Calgary bid unsuccessfully for the 1964 and 1968 Winter Games.

The Canadian government is expected to provide 48 per cent of the games' budget, some \$200 million of the \$415 million total. The Alberta government would build most of the new sports facilities for long-term use by residents and fund-raising through the traditional Olympic method of television, coin and

stamp programs would provide the rest. A new Canadian sports betting pool recently announced by Gerald Regan, federal minister responsible for fitness and amateur sport, would be a major source of funding for the games.

Mr. Regan commended the Canadian Olympic Development Association for a "fantastic job" in preparing the bid for the games. The CODA presentation to the International Olympic Committee included a plan to subsidize travel for athletes over and above any expenses accrued by coming to Canada rather than a European site.

About the city

Calgary, Alberta, the second largest city in the province, is still known as the "cowtown" of western Canada and has grown to become the "oil and gas capital of Canada". The city is located 3,478 feet above sea level on the eastern edge of the foothills of the Rockies where some of the Olympic events will be held.

Calgary is a comparatively young city compared to other cities in Canada. It



A view of Calgary, the site of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games.



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Nov. 4/81