



Media release

February 15, 2019

Peterborough to host the 2020 Ontario 55+ Summer Games

Peterborough, ON – The Peterborough area will host the 2020 Ontario 55+ Summer Games that is expected to draw up to 1,400 participants from across the province to the event that will run from August 11-13, 2020, organizing committee members announced on Friday, February 15, 2019.

This is an exciting opportunity for the Peterborough region to host the Games with participants, as well as their friends and families, from across the province, Mayor Diane Therrien said.

“We’ll be showcasing our region, our facilities, and our people,” Therrien said. “Historically, the Ontario 55+ Summer Games generate about \$2 million in positive economic impact for the host community.”

“We’re thrilled to be partnering with the County, Fleming College, Trent University, and our regional economic development agency to bring this all together.”

The provincial government selected Peterborough to host the Games in 2020. The City is hosting the event with support from the County of Peterborough, Fleming College, Trent University, and Peterborough and the Kawarthas Economic Development, who are all members of the Games organizing committee.

The Games include 19 diverse events ranging from cycling, lawn bowling, golf, pickleball, slo-pitch, swimming and tennis to bid euchre, contract bridge and cribbage. The venues for the events will be throughout the City and County.

Once again, Peterborough is demonstrating that it’s a leader in sport tourism in Ontario, Peterborough-Kawartha MPP Dave Smith said.

“Peterborough has consistently demonstrated the ability to host local, national, and international sporting events that other communities in similar stature have not been able to do,” Smith said. “The exceptional leadership shown by the volunteers in this community and their ability to rally behind a project and garner support is a testament to the continued service that puts community above all else.

“I’m pleased that the province of Ontario has recognized our community’s ability by rewarding this event to Peterborough. Congratulations Peterborough, you are leading the way.”

The provincial government, through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, is providing \$210,000 in funding to support the event. The City has committed \$135,000. And another \$309,000 will be raised through fundraising, sponsorship and fees.

“The selection of Peterborough to host the 2020 Ontario 55+ Summer Games is truly an exceptional opportunity for us to showcase Peterborough City and County,” Warden J. Murray Jones said. “These games celebrate seniors in sport and health and will have a significant impact on the local economy. They will attract visitors and create a lasting legacy in our communities.”

Fleming College President Maureen Adamson said: “We are very pleased that the 2020 Ontario 55+ Summer Games will be coming to our fabulous city. Together with our partners, we have the facilities, dedicated staff and volunteers, and organizational support to deliver an event of exceptional quality that the athletes and our communities so richly deserve. This is a great example of how partnerships work to strengthen and benefit not only sport tourism, but our economy and our community.”

Trent University is very honoured to be a key partner in hosting the Ontario 55+ Summer Games, said Deborah Bright-Brundle, director of Trent Athletics.

“Trent has a proud history of hosting successful provincial, national and international sporting events. Hosting these Games is an opportunity to highlight the importance of sport and physical activity for athletes of all ages and celebrate living in our community, region, and province. We recognize prestigious provincial events such as this shine a light on Trent as one of Canada’s top-ranked universities and on the greater Peterborough area.”

Tracie Bertrand, Director of Tourism and Communications with Peterborough and the Kawarthas Economic Development, said: “Tourism is big business and an important driver of our local economy. Of the approximately three million visitors who visit each year, over 230,000 – approximately eight percent – are coming to the region for sporting events. We are excited to showcase Peterborough & the Kawarthas as a destination outside of the ordinary with a strong and active community.”

A website for the event will be launched by this summer to share information as more details are available. There will be a call for volunteers to assist with the Games – and for the community to come out to enjoy the Games and encourage the participants.

This information is also on our City of Peterborough website at www.peterborough.ca.

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Partner organizations



Fleming College



For further information, members of the media are invited to contact the undersigned:

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