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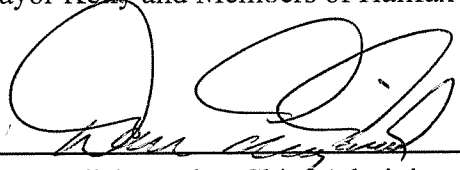


PO Box 1749  
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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**July 5, 2005**  
**Committee of the Whole**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan English, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** June 29, 2005

**SUBJECT:** 2014 Commonwealth Games Bid

**ORIGIN**

The June 23, 2005 announcement of the Commonwealth Games Canada's (CGC) decision to bid to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games.(attached).

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Request staff to prepare a Letter of Intent to the Commonwealth Games Canada, to be signed by the Mayor on behalf of Regional Council, expressing HRM's interest in hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games; and to pursue further discussions with the Province of Nova Scotia with a view to establishing a partnership to participate in submitting an Official Bid to host the Games.
2. Approve a withdrawal in the amount of up to \$5,000 from the Special Events Reserve (Q315) in support of the Letter of Intent to CGC.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC), the Canadian franchise holder for the Commonwealth Games, has made the decision to bid to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Letters of Intent to CGC must be submitted by July 22 2005. The Commonwealth Games Bid City Conference will be held in August; Bid Book Presentation in November; and the Candidate City will be announced in December.

During April 2006, the CGC and the successful Candidate City will work to develop and promote the bid. Deadline for submission of Canada's Bid to the International Commonwealth Games (ICG) committee is March 2007; site visit and presentation will be in the Fall of 2007; and the selection of the host city will be announced in November 2007.

## **DISCUSSION**

The 2014 Commonwealth Games will be 10 days of sport and cultural events. The Commonwealth Games is the third largest multi-sport event in the world. After consultation with the Federal Government and the International Commonwealth community, CGC determined that the conditions were very positive for Canada to successfully win the international bid.

### **Commonwealth Games**

- ▶ There will be 6,000 athletes and officials in 21 sports from every continent in the world.
- ▶ A television viewing audience in excess of 1 billion people.
- ▶ 10,00 volunteers will be drawn from Nova Scotia, as well as the Atlantic Region
- ▶ The event will attract over 625,000 spectators, including an additional 10,000 international visitors.
- ▶ Opening and closing ceremonies include the head of the British Royal Family and many Heads of States from the 72 Commonwealth countries.

### **Potential Benefits**

This 'once in a life time' opportunity will:

- ▶ Raise HRM's and Nova Scotia's recognition and prestige internationally.
- ▶ HRM would join Canadian cities such as Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Hamilton, Calgary, Montreal, and Winnipeg as Canadian host cities of major international games.
- ▶ Supply legacies pre and post- Games, including facilities and financial.
- ▶ Offer leadership and volunteer opportunities for thousands of Nova Scotians.
- ▶ Build and enhance sport, transportation, and housing infrastructure.
- ▶ Access pre-committed Federal funding for infrastructure development (over \$200 million of Federal funding was committed to the unsuccessful 2010 Hamilton Commonwealth Games bid).
- ▶ Help improve our sport, wellness and life-style through a culture of physical activity being promoted through the Games.
- ▶ Tourism impacts - international branding potential for Nova Scotia, as well as hundreds of hours of free international television and media coverage.
- ▶ Economic impacts - \$450 million total incremental activity in Nova Scotia, estimated 7,000 jobs (person years), new household income \$165 million, Federal Tax revenue \$40million to \$25 million, Provincial tax revenue \$15 million to \$20 million, and municipal about \$2.5 million.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Source: 2002 figures from Economics Research Associates Report July 2002

### **Bid Committee**

The success of an HRM bid effort will depend on partnerships with facilities, institutions, the sports community, the private sector, and the volunteer community. Once Council endorses the intent to bid, staff will work with Events Halifax to establish a Bid Committee.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Funding of up to \$5,000 is available in the Special Events Reserve Q315. The budget availability has been confirmed by Finance. Staff are awaiting official confirmation from the Province of Nova Scotia regarding its intention to join with HRM in submitting the Bid Proposal, in which case the funding for this part of the process would be reduced to \$2,500.

Staff will submit a report to Council for the meeting of August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005, outlining total budget requirements for the Official Bid.

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating and Capital budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation. If approved, this will increase the 2005/06 withdrawals from Reserves.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

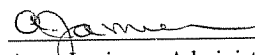
Council may choose not to endorse HRM's intention to submit a bid to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. This is not the recommended alternative.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Media Announcement from Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC)

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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Report Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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