

THE SPORT LEGACIES

Rooted in the Games idea from the very beginning was the thought that the Games would be staged in the smaller cities and regions around the country, and leave behind a rich legacy of sports facilities, enhanced sport programming and trained human resources.

Athlete development

One of the key strategic directions of the Canada Games Council is to strengthen sport development in Canada. The Canada Games Council works in partnership with the national, provincial and territorial sport organizations as well as the provincial and territorial governments to ensure the Canada Games are a relevant and integral component of the developing athlete's pursuit of excellence in every sport on the Games' program. The list of alumni is impressive.

From five-time Commonwealth Games veteran **Denyse Julien** to World Cycling Champion **Roland Green**, Canada Games Alumni account for nearly 40% of Canada's Commonwealth and Olympic / Paralympic teams.

At the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games, Canada Games alumni contributed to 12 of the 25 medals (48%) medals Canada won. Notable alumni include Golden-Medal Goal scorer **Marie-Phillip Poulin**, snowboarder **Mark McMorris**, speedskaters **Charles Hamelin** and **Marianne St-Gelais** as well as Moguls freestyle skier **Chloé Dufour-Lapointe**.

At the Rio 2016 Olympic Summer Games, 40% of Canada's roster was consisted of Canada Games alumni. 64% of Canadian medals won involved athletes who had competed at the Canada Games. Notable alumni include **Andre De Grasse**, **Eugenie Bouchard**, **Adam Van Koeverden**, as well as **Ryan Cochrane**.

The NHL includes many notable Canada Games alumni such as **Sidney Crosby**, **Steven Stamkos**, **Alex Pietrangelo**, **Nathan Mackinnon**, **Max Domi**, **Jonathan Drouin**, **Jordan Eberle**, **Devan Dubnyk**, **Martin Jones**, among many more. Retired superstars **Chris Pronger** and **Paul Kariya** also utilized the Canada Games as a stepping stone to develop their careers.

In Women's Hockey, Canada Games alumni have always represented a large part of the National Canadian team. Notable alumni include **Hayley Wickenheiser, Cassie Campbell, Marie-Philip Poulin**, among many more.

Other Winter Sports icons that are Canada Games alumni are Olympic medalists **Catriona Le May Doan, Jennifer Heil, Charles Hamelin, Cindy Klassen** and **Chandra Crawford**,

In the NBA, Steve Nash is a Canada Games alumnus who has had a tremendous and illustrious career. Now, we see more and more Canadians achieve the NBA level.

Adam Loewen and **Jeff Francis** became the first two Canadians to ever be selected in the first round of the MLB draft. Both Loewen and Francis helped lead BC to a gold medal in baseball at the 2001 Canada Summer Games held in London, Ontario. Toronto Blue Jay Catcher **Russell Martin** also competed at the 2001 Canada Summer Games, wearing the blue and white of Team Quebec.

Coach Development

Another one of the Canada Games' contributions to the sport system is its investment in the development of coaches and officials. Coaches must be fully certified under the National Coaching Certification Program to at least Level 3 or Competency-based Education and Training equivalent. In addition, in order to ensure equitable participation and opportunities by both genders, a Women's Coaching Mentorship Program was piloted at the 2003 Canada Winter Games in Bathurst-Campbellton, New Brunswick.

Infrastructure Development

As part of all Canada Games, new venues are constructed while others are upgraded to national standards resulting in the availability of quality venues to host other provincial, national or international events.

In preparing a Canada Games bid, communities will often complete a feasibility study to determine if they have the infrastructure necessary to host a Games and if not, prepare a firm plan for facilities development. Some of the infrastructure is not a direct result of the Canada Games but the Games assist in moving the project ahead.

From Mount Blackstrap in Saskatoon (1971) to the Saint John Canada Games Aquatic Centre (1985) to the Kamloops Canada Games Rowing/ Canoeing Course and Boathouse (1993) to the Corner Brook Canada Games Centre and Annex (1999), a legacy of sports facilities has been built in over 16 communities across Canada.

The City of Whitehorse, Yukon has constructed a \$40 million sportsplex in preparation for its hosting of the 2007 Canada Winter Games.

Enhanced Sport Programming

The athletes, coaches and officials who attend the Canada Games are the product of provincial and territorial sport programming. In addition, hosting the Canada Games often leads to enhanced sport programs and training opportunities for the host athletes.

Equipment purchased for the Games are also an important legacy, providing clubs and schools with new bats and balls, mats, and goals. The Host Society of the 1997 Canada Summer Games in Brandon, Manitoba distributed over \$500,000 of equipment to clubs and organizations to use to develop their respective sports.

Canada Games financial surpluses are earmarked to benefit sport in the host province or territory. The 2005 Canada Summer Games recently closed their books with a \$3.2 million surplus. The financial legacy formed the *Building Dreams and Champions Legacy Program*, a program that infringes the human, capital, and asset legacies from the Games, also allows Canada Games Dreams and Champions branded programming to foster excellence in youth for the entire Province of Saskatchewan.