

Potential Bid to Host the 2021 Special Olympics Alberta**Report Purpose**

To seek Council's approval to submit a bid to host the 2021 Special Olympics Alberta.

Recommendation

THAT submission of a proposal to host the 2021 Special Olympics Summer Games Alberta be approved.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: The games will build excitement and engage the community over the next four years in anticipation for the 2021 Special Olympics Alberta. Hosting a provincial event will provide an opportunity to showcase Strathcona County across Alberta, attract businesses large and small into the community, and create sport tourism initiatives that will provide a legacy that will live on in the community for many years to follow.

Governance: N/A

Social: The Special Olympics Alberta games are based on values of inclusion, accessibility and fairness. The games will encourage health, active living and build a stronger community through youth leadership, volunteerism and community engagement.

Culture: To create a cultural program that participants and the community can celebrate and that generates an economic and social benefit. Showcase local talent, our vibrant community and attract people to Strathcona County.

Environment: To host a green games through environmental stewardship initiatives by using the Special Olympics as a community classroom for education and awareness.

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: Economic, Development and Tourism, Transportation and Agricultural Services, Transit and Utilities.

Summary

Special Olympics Alberta mission is to enrich the lives of Albertans with an intellectual disability through sport. There are 3178 athletes, 469 coaches, and 1000 volunteers across 140 Alberta communities. Strathcona County, through the Robin Hood Association, has 220 athletes.

More than 1400 athletes will compete in eleven different sports including: swimming, track and field, bocce, soccer, basketball, golf, powerlifting, 5-pin and 10-pin bowling, rhythmic gymnastics, and softball.

Funding includes:

- Total Revenues
 - Special Olympics Alberta - \$100,000
 - Games registrations - \$100,500
 - Grants, sponsorship and host committee - \$200,000
- Total Expenditures - \$400,500
(2017 estimated costs)

Internal services are estimated at \$150,000 and include:

- Utilities recycling cost to host a green event
- Facility rental costs at Millennium Place and Strathcona Athletic Park
- Transit additional funding for athlete, coach and mission staff transportation loops
- Staff time to organize and execute the games
- Contingency

In reviewing the sports that are included in the Special Olympics, it appears that Strathcona County is in an excellent position to host all of the sports within Strathcona County, with the exception of 10-pin bowling. Our recent facility accessibility upgrades and retrofits could be showcased and lend well to hosting this potential event.

For the purpose of the bid, the Letter of Intent to Bid deadline is March 1, 2017.

Other timelines include:

- Host Proposal package deadline – April 21, 2017.
- Special Olympics Alberta review of submission – May 2017
- Strathcona County host Special Olympics Alberta on a facility tour – May 2017
- Final notification of host status – May 29, 2017

Strathcona County has hosted the 1987 Alberta Summer Games, 2000 Alberta Winter Games, 2007 Western Canada Summer Games and the 2014 Canada 55+ Games. The Special Olympics Alberta Games are unique and present a very dynamic opportunity to Strathcona County.

Enclosure

Encl 1 ppt Special Olympics Alberta 2021 Host Bid (Document: 9811650)