

# Potential Bid to Host the 2021 Special Olympics Alberta

February 21, 2017

# Special Olympics Alberta

- 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 involved in over 140 communities across Alberta.
- Strathcona County, through the Robin Hood Association, has over 220 athletes.
- An estimated 1,400 competitors and 2,500 family members from across Alberta will visit Strathcona County over a three-day period in the first week of July 2021, generating an estimated economic impact of \$950,000. The event also creates a tremendous community building opportunity that is priceless.

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- These games will paint a picture, 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.
- Partnerships will grow through hosting and tie the community, region, and province together to create a common vision.

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

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- 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

