



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES \$29 MILLION FOR 2021 CANADA SUMMER GAMES

Welland, ON - Niagara's municipalities will undergo significant infrastructure improvements for a commitment to host the 2021 Canada Summer Games. The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, made the announcement yesterday at the Welland International Flatwater Centre (WIFC). Other officials in attendance were Niagara Region Councillors, Niagara Mayors, municipal Councillors, Niagara MPs and MPPs and local athletes. The WIFC is a legacy facility that was created in partnership with the Toronto 2015 Pan-Am Games. The state-of-the-art venue has hosted many international elite competitions since its inaugural Pan-Am Games debut, including flat-water sports, open water swim, and triathlons.

The 2021 Canada Summer Games is the largest multi-sport event hosted in Canada. Athletes and coaches train for years to compete in a broad range of elite competitions. Welland will host the following disciplines during the 2021 Canada Summer Games:

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| Baseball | Canoe-Kayak |
| Soccer | Open Water Swim |
| Triathlon | Diving |

Welland will also host a Francophone evening at Merritt Park amphitheatre during the 2021 Canada Summer Games. Each of Niagara's municipalities will partner with a province to provide an evening of entertainment and hospitality. Quebec is partnered Welland because of its bilingual French-speaking community. The Francophone evening is scheduled for Friday, August 20, 2021. The event will bring hundreds of athletes, officials, and spectators to the city's downtown core.

"I would like to thank Minister Champagne for choosing our world-class Welland International Flatwater Centre for this very important and welcome funding announcement," said Mayor Frank Campion. "The funding will ensure a successful Canada 2021 Summer Games and will benefit athletes from across the country, stimulate economic development and job creation in Niagara, and build legacy facilities for Niagara's future generations to enjoy."

The Government of Canada's investment of \$29 million is made available through the Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Stream (CCRIS) of the *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan. Sport Canada is also providing an additional \$3 million towards the projects with the Government of Ontario. Niagara's municipalities and Brock University are providing the remaining funding.

The Canada Summer Games will take place in Niagara from Aug 6 - 21, 2021. For more information on the 2021 Canada Summer Games, visit niagara2021.ca, or for more information on City of Welland Facilities, visit welland.ca.



Photo Left to Right: Mayor Walter Sendzik, Brock University President Dr. Gervan Fearon, MP Chris Bittle, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities François-Philippe Champagne, Mayor Frank Campion, MP Vance Badaway, Regional Chair Jim Bradley,



Photo: Mayor Frank Campion at the podium

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