



EXCITEMENT BUILDING FOR THE 2011 GAMES IN EARLY 2010

We need you, and all of your friends, in just one short year to help put on the largest multi-sport event that Halifax has ever hosted. Over 5,000 volunteers will be needed from February 11-27, 2011 and we're recruiting now!

Please drop in on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 between 11:30am and 1:30pm as we kick-off our volunteer recruitment drive. Our staff and current volunteers will be in Room 100 of the World Trade & Convention Centre (1800 Argyle Street, Halifax) to provide information about opportunities and to answer any questions you may have about volunteering with the Games.

Enjoy light refreshments, guest speakers, and our mascots as you ponder: What will you bring?

One Year to Go...

The one year countdown to the Halifax 2011 Canada Games is cause for celebration. And what better way for families and schools to celebrate together than by getting active? The 2011 Games One Year Out Celebration begins February 11, exactly one year to the Opening Ceremonies of the Games, and runs until February 16, Nova Scotia Day at the 2010 Olympics. In honour of the countdown, Games venues will open their doors to the community, offering the chance to get active while enjoying the facilities that will host Canada's future champions. Participants can enjoy free skating, swimming, skiing, curling, and admission to sporting events. Meanwhile, sport and cultural demonstrations and interactive games will pop-up at unexpected places around the Halifax Regional Municipality, encouraging passers-by to stop, watch, and take part in the fun and excitement.

We are also inviting elementary schools across the province to catch the spirit of the Canada Games by hosting a Canada Games Day on Feb. 16th. This program offers young people between the ages of four and fourteen an exciting sport and educational experience that mirrors the Canada Games experience enjoyed by Canada's best young athletes.

Anni and Sammi, our official 2011 Games mascots, will no doubt be appearing at many of the festivities. The complete schedule of events for the 2011 Games 1 Year Out Celebration will be posted on our website, canadagames2011.ca, this month.

The 2011 Games @ the Waterfront Winterfest

The 2011 Canada Games are thrilled to be participating in the first ever Waterfront Winterfest from February 26- 28, 2010. The Halifax Waterfront will be the host of this exciting event that will allow Haligonians to get out and enjoy winter. With various fun activities set up along the waterfront, the event will be a big draw for all ages. The 2011 Canada Games will have an area set up to showcase the Games and engage the local community. Come out for a chance to meet Anni and Sammi and to join in the fun!

A FALL FULL OF MILESTONES FOR THE 2011 GAMES

Changes to School Calendar Support Canada Winter Games

Schools in Halifax Regional Municipality will close for two weeks in February 2011 in support of the Halifax 2011 Canada Winter Games.

The province of Nova Scotia announced changes to the 2010-11 public school calendar that will have the spring break move to February, followed by a one week Canada Games break for students and staff in Halifax Regional School Board and the metro-area schools of the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP).

Schools will close from Feb. 14 to Feb. 25, inclusive.

Moving the spring break to February and closing schools for an additional week follows the practice for previous winter games. The last three provinces and territories to host the games -- New Brunswick in 2003, Yukon in 2007 and Newfoundland and Labrador in 1999 -- moved March break and closed schools in the host region to accommodate the games.

The Halifax Canada Games Society will use two Halifax schools as venues -- Citadel High and Sackville High -- and relying on volunteer support from more than 1,000 students, who will act as minor officials throughout the Games.



Games Mascots Unveiled

They're cool, they're sporty, and they'll be getting kids excited about the Canada Winter Games. Anni and Sammi, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, were unveiled in November as official mascots of the Halifax 2011 Canada Games.

Anni and Sammi will make their way across the province, attending events and celebrations, entertaining people young and old, getting kids active, and building spirit and support for the Games.

Kids can find a list of Anni and Sammi's "play dates" by visiting annisammi2011.ca, where they will also learn about Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the Canada Games. Kids can also become card-carrying members of Anni and Sammi's kennel club, and play online games such as snowboarding and snowball fight.



Official 2011 Clothing Now on Sale

The 2011 Canada Games Host Society along with Event Max Merchandising & Promotions Ltd. announced in October 2009 that official 2011 Canada Games clothing was now available.

Top-quality adult and youth clothing is now available at two Zellers locations at Mic Mac Mall in Dartmouth NS, and Bayers Lake in Halifax. This initial release features various items including polos, golf shirts, and jackets bearing the 2011 Canada Games logo.

In the weeks and months ahead, Canada Games supporters will be excited to see additional merchandise, an online e-store and the launch of the Gameswear Fridays program. www.cgmerch.com

Chief Medical Officer and Chief Therapist Announced

In September, Jean-Paul Deveau, 2011 Games chair, announced that Dr. Sonja McVeigh had been named chief medical officer and Dr. Jim MacLeod will be chief therapist for the Games.

Under the leadership of Dr. Brian Seaman, the medical services division chair, Dr. McVeigh and Dr. MacLeod will be on call 24 hours a day during the Games to handle everything from possible illnesses to doping control.

The medical services division will oversee the care of 2,700 young athletes coming from across Canada to Halifax to compete in 20 sports at the 2011 Canada Winter Games from Feb. 11-27, 2011.