



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 6, 2021

## **Canada Games Council Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for the 2022 and 2023 Canada Games**

**Ottawa, Ont.** – Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Canada Games Council (CGC), with the endorsement of the 2022 Canada Games Host Society and the 2023 Canada Games Host Society, will implement a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for all accredited individuals at the 2022 Canada Summer Games in Niagara Region and the 2023 Canada Winter Games on Prince Edward Island.

All accredited athletes, coaches, managers, technical officials, participant assistants, venue pass holders, mission staff, guests and media must receive and provide proof of a complete and up-to-date series of a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days prior to their arrival at the 2022 or the 2023 Canada Games.

The health and safety of all Canada Games participants and the people who live, work and play in the communities hosting the Games is of the utmost importance. The CGC and the Host Societies firmly believe that vaccination is an appropriate mechanism to protect all members of the Canada Games family and the general public as we collectively strive to deliver safe and successful Games in 2022 and 2023.

The CGC, 2022 Canada Games Host Society and 2023 Canada Games Host Society will make accommodations for individuals who are either ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination, or have received an exemption on medical or religious grounds.

Eligible individuals who have not provided proof of vaccination or received an exemption will not be permitted to attend or participate in the 2022 or 2023 Canada Games.

Spectators of the 2022 and 2023 Canada Games will be subject to the current public health requirements of the respective host communities and the policies of the host venues.



The CGC COVID-19 vaccination policy is available at [canadagames.ca](http://canadagames.ca). Information pertaining to the implementation of the policy, including procedures regarding exemptions, will be made available no later than April 1, 2022.

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### **About the Canada Games Council**

The Canada Games Council, a private, non-profit organization, is the governing body for the Canada Games. Held once every two years, alternating between winter and summer, the Canada Games represent the highest level of national competition for up and coming Canadian athletes. The Games have been hosted in every province at least once since their inception in Quebec City during Canada's Centennial in 1967. The Games are proud of their contribution to Canada's sport development system, in addition to their lasting legacy of sport facilities, community pride and national unity. The organization of the Canada Games is made possible through the tireless dedication of local Host Societies and the contribution and support of the federal, provincial/territorial and host municipal governments.

The office is located in Ottawa, Ontario, on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishinabek People.

### **Media Contact**

Courtney Pollock  
Senior Advisor, Communications & Digital Media  
Canada Games Council  
[cpollock@canadagames.ca](mailto:cpollock@canadagames.ca)