



OFFICE of the MAYOR
CITY of BURLINGTON

The Honourable Neil Lumsden
Minister of Sport
777 Bay Street, Suite 240
Toronto, ON
M5G 2E5

March 21, 2025

Dear Minister Lumsden,

I am writing today to express the City of Burlington's ongoing support, in principle, of participating in a provincially endorsed bid for Canada and Ontario to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, led by Commonwealth Games Association of Canada.

In [January 2023](#), the Burlington City Council endorsed a motion to formally join one of eight Ontario municipalities in a joint bid under the Hamilton 2030 Commonwealth Games banner. That proposal was projected to boost regional GDP by an estimated \$1.2B, create over 16,000 local jobs, and generate more than \$400M in contracts for local businesses. The 2030 Commonwealth Games represent a unique opportunity to strengthen our community, stimulate economic growth, attract private sector investments, and deliver lasting infrastructure improvements while reinforcing Ontario's commitment to sporting excellence.

Although the initial proposal was not successful, the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada has continued to develop a new pan-Canadian bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the City of Burlington remains engaged as a supportive municipality. Canada now has a final opportunity to bid, and it is crucial that Ontario plays an active role. This revised bid, smaller in scale and designed to be hosted across multiple provinces and cities utilizing existing community assets, promises the same economic and social benefits for each community involved. There is no financial request from the city for the games bid, nor does adding the City of Burlington's name to a request for provincial funding entail any financial commitment on the part of the City of Burlington for these games.

The federal Minister of Sport has made it clear that provincial support is vital to the success of any bid, and has indicated its interest in participating in the Expression of Interest for the 2030 Commonwealth Games. We therefore urge the province to commit to preliminary discussions and to submit an expression of interest alongside other provincial jurisdictions in evaluating a pan-Canadian bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

It is important to clarify that any provincial engagement at this stage does not commit Ontario to a full-scale international bid. The only commitment for an Expression of Interest is to propose sports and venues Ontario would like to host and a letter stating a willingness to engage with Commonwealth Games Association of Canada and Commonwealth Games Federation in the Dialog and Feasibility Phase of the bid process. The decision to endorse a bid will depend on a formal submission that aligns with the *Federal Policy for Hosting International Sport Events*, national priorities, and financial considerations.

Alongside our partner stakeholders, we request your prompt attention to this matter as the deadline to submit an Expression of Interest is March 31, 2025.

The City of Burlington is dedicated to ongoing collaboration and transparent information sharing as we explore participation in the 2030 Commonwealth Games bid. We respectfully request that your Ministry join us in these discussions to seize this outstanding opportunity to showcase Canadian talent and enhance our communities.

We look forward to advancing this dialogue with the Ontario Provincial Government.

Sincerely,



Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
City of Burlington



Cc: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Canadian Culture and Identity, Parks Canada and Quebec Lieutenant
Karina Gould, M.P. Burlington
Pam Damoff, M.P. Oakville-North Burlington
Adam van Koeverden, M.P. Milton
Hon. Zee Hamid, Associate Solicitor General for Auto Theft and Bail Reform
Natalie Pierre, M.P.P. Burlington
Effie Triantafilopoulos, M.P.P. Oakville-North Burlington