

Preliminary Rationale for Hosting

Hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (OPWG) in Calgary 2026 represents an opportunity for Calgary, Alberta and Canada to accelerate the achievement of our shared civic, provincial and national goals within five key pillars:

- 1. Economic Opportunity:** Purposeful Diversification, Job Creation and Building Reputation
- 2. Community Development:** Building Community Together
- 3. Cultural Enrichment:** Celebrating Our Heritage and Embracing Diversity
- 4. Social Development:** Community Pride and Social Advancement
- 5. Sport Development:** Enhancing Our Legacy and Sport Leadership

The City of Calgary's Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) has clearly established the following long-term priorities for hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games to enhance Calgary's hosting legacies throughout the bid process regardless of the outcome of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (OPWG) bid.

- Calgary's Winter Sport City status and sport infrastructure is maintained
- Economic sustainability
- Value of Calgary's brand is increased
- Opportunities for civic participation for all are created

The overall goal throughout the OPWG bid process is to pro-actively advance these priorities and establish meaningful legacies during each phase of advancement that enhance our well-earned reputation as a winter sport city, generate on-going economic impact, bolster Calgary's brand internationally and create sport, cultural, Indigenous, volunteer and participation opportunities for all Calgarians.

The following is a summary of the preliminary rationale for hosting for the OPWG 2026.

1: Economic Opportunity – Purposeful Diversification and Job Creation

Hosting the OPWG could potentially provide Calgary and Alberta with an opportunity to reinforce its global reputation, attract new investment to the region resulting in long term jobs, retain and develop creative talent, and promote long-term tourism growth while purposefully diversifying its economy for years to come.

#2: Community Development – Building Community Together

Hosting the OPWG could potentially accelerate the development of both city and regional infrastructure that improves citizens' quality of life such as affordable housing and accessible sport facilities.

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#3: Cultural Enrichment – Celebrating Our Heritage and Embracing Diversity

Hosting the OPWG could potentially celebrate Calgary and Alberta's heritage and the diversity of ethnic backgrounds, religions and lifestyles within Calgary and Alberta while creating meaningful opportunities to partner with and highlight the uniqueness of our indigenous cultures. As new Calgarians are welcomed to the city, and our population grows more diverse, we see sport serving as a meaningful way to foster inclusivity and build relationships that establish lasting roots in a new community.

#4: Social Development – Community Pride and Social Advancement

Hosting the OPWG could potentially increase the sense of belonging in the community through widespread participation opportunities as volunteers, suppliers, employees, contractors and spectators offering all Albertans a shared experience that will define our future, together.

#5: Sport Development – Enhancing Our Legacy and Sport Leadership

Hosting the OPWG could potentially re-affirm Calgary and Alberta's commitment to build capacity within both the amateur and high-performance sport systems, and to continue to enhance Alberta's reputation as one of the great sport discovery, development and excellence training centres in the world.