

Opportunities, Benefits and Legacies for Calgary and Calgarians

This Attachment further responds to the question “**What are the potential opportunities, benefits and legacies for Calgary and Calgarians that might result from an investment in hosting the 2026 OPWG?**” The chart below outlines key benefits as identified by the City Secretariat.

No.	Categories	Opportunities/Benefits/Legacies
1	Economic Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the Calgary 2026 Draft Hosting Plan Concept, various economic benefits can be derived from increased infrastructure spending, technology or business interests. • The Calgary 2026 Draft Hosting Plan Concept calls for investments in the BMO Centre and Big 4 Centre providing enhancements to hosting capacity and general upgrades to Stampede Park. • Acceleration of Calgary’s ability to host international, national and major sports events with investments in current infrastructure and the building of two new facilities. • According to the Organizing Committee for the Olympics’ final report on the 1988 Games, “the Olympic Games contributed approximately \$1.4 billion to Canada during the 1980s through capital projects and improvements (\$506 million), operations and planning (\$310 million), visitor expenditures (\$150 million) and induced economic benefits (\$424 million). The Games’ host province, Alberta, benefitted from 70 per cent of the economic effects, including 27,400 person-years of employment”. • Upon receipt of Calgary 2026’s Draft Hosting Plan Concept, the Secretariat retained Ernst & Young to develop a complete cost benefit analysis report.
2	Sport Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Calgary 2026 Draft Hosting Plan Concept includes investments in sport facilities: Olympic Oval, McMahon Stadium, WinSport (sliding track and ski hill), Saddledome, BMO Centre, Canmore Nordic Centre and Nakiska, as well as the construction of two new sport facilities, the Multi-sport Facility Complex (Fieldhouse) and a Community Arena. • A new Multi-Sport Facility (Fieldhouse) has been identified as a top priority in several City strategic plans, including the <i>10-Year Strategic Plan for Sport Facility Development and Enhancement (2008)</i> and the <i>Culture, Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Investment Plan (CPRiIP 2013-2022)</i>. The Multi-Sport Facility (Fieldhouse) would be used for figure skating and short track speed skating during the 2026 OPWG

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		<p>but, post-Games, would become a building that houses an indoor track as well as facilities for turf and court sports, like basketball, soccer and badminton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed Community Arena would be a mid-sized arena with two ice sheets and seating for approximately 5,000 people. The facility would have the amenities to host regional, provincial and national competitions. The facility would be used by both high-level performance athletes, along with the community at large, providing Calgary with legacy benefits. • Increases the supply of event-ready infrastructure in Calgary and region, closing the gap on lost opportunities for Calgary, both in terms of economic impact and sport participation, as a result of Calgary’s deficit of event ready infrastructure.
3	Social Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 2018 Citizen Satisfaction Spring Pulse Survey, Calgarians identified affordable housing as their top priority for investment. 95 per cent of Calgarians indicated that affordable housing for low income families and individuals was important. • The Calgary 2026 affordable housing proposal advances the following five of the six key objectives included in Calgary’s Corporate Affordable Housing Strategy (Foundations for Home): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get the Calgary community building; • Leverage City land; • Design and build new City units; • Refurbish City-owned properties, and; • Strengthen intergovernmental relationships. • These new units provide an opportunity to lower the operating costs of The City-owned social housing portfolio through additional revenue and mixed-market housing which, in turn, supports providing housing for deeper-needs Calgarians while strengthening vibrant and inclusive communities.
4	Cultural Enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support of Calgary’s Arts Development strategy: Living a Creative Life, by providing a global showcase for arts and culture. • The Olympic Games could provide cultural opportunities like youth programs; sharing of cultures, Indigenous peoples’ programs, and the Torch relay stops across Canada. • A 2026 OPWG could provide opportunities to share indigenous peoples’ culture, tradition and history with a worldwide audience. This opportunity would also engage people in conversations around reconciliation.

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5	Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhanced accessibility is built into the Draft Hosting Plan Concept through venue design. The 2026 Games provide the opportunity for all Calgarians to have barrier-free access to additional community facilities.• Volunteers are at the heart of a potential bid for the 2026 OPWG. Hosting the Games would offer opportunities to enhance community building and would provide Calgarians with another opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to volunteerism.
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