



**For Immediate Release
September 29, 2018**

Richmond announced as host City for 2020 55+ BC Games

Richmond, BC – On behalf of the Minister of Tourism Arts and Culture, Lisa Beare, the BC Seniors Games Society is pleased to announce Richmond as the host location of the 2020 55+ BC Games.

Richmond will celebrate in Roaring 20s style with a memorable Games featuring superb sports facilities in a supportive, diverse community and exciting urban environment. The 2020 Games will be a compact event with all venues within 10 kilometres of the Games Village in historic Minoru Park and will feature iconic venues such as the new Minoru Centre for Active Living and the Richmond Olympic Oval.

The 55+ BC Games is an annual, multi-sport competition celebrating active and healthy seniors. With five days of competition and cultural events, the 55+ BC Games attract more than 3,000 athletes who participate in over 23 sports. Participants travel from across the province to experience the competition and camaraderie of the annual Games.

In 2017, an Economic Impact study found that the 55+ BC Games provide an impact of over \$3.3 million to the host community. In addition, Host communities will benefit from the development of capacity to host large multisport events through training volunteers and improved infrastructure through the Games Legacy program.

Quotes:

Cindy Simpson, President BC Seniors Games Society – “I am very happy to offer our congratulations on behalf our BCSGS Board and members to the City of Richmond for securing the bid to host the 2020 BC 55+ Games in Zone 4 Lower Mainland. As our Games are returning to Zone, 4 that has a history a strong contingent attending games, we will be anticipating strong participant numbers in the events and sports that will be run! Wishing you every success in hosting these Games!”

Malcolm Brodie Mayor of Richmond - “Richmond is very excited to be welcoming the 55+ BC Games in 2020. This event which will further build on our impressive community legacy for sport hosting including the highly successful 2009 BC Seniors Games, being a Venue City for the 2010 Olympic Games and hosting the upcoming 2020 CAHRA Hockey World Cup, known as the Olympics of adult recreational hockey. With outstanding sports facilities, experienced and enthusiastic community partners and volunteers and a broad selection of hotels, dining and attractions we will deliver an unforgettable experience for all the participants.”

For more information, please contact:

Ted Townsend
Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing, City of Richmond
Tel: 604-276-4399 Cell: 604-516-9585
Email: TTownsend@richmond.ca

Valerie Linton
Executive Director, BC Seniors Games Society
Cell: 604 992 4281
Email: valerie@55plusbcgames.org

About the 55+ BC Games and the BC Seniors Games Society

The 55+ BC Games is an annual, multi-sport competition celebrating active and healthy seniors. The Games are funded primarily by the BC Seniors Games Society and the Provincial Government. They are an important part of the Sport 4 Life, Long Term Athlete Development plan with many of the Provincial Sport Organizations providing support.

The BC Seniors Games Society is the parent organization that is responsible for the overall governance of the Games, the sport specific rules, and the liaison with the senior participants.

The Host Society is responsible for planning and delivering the Games, led by a volunteer Board of Directors. The very first host community was Vernon in 1988.

The mission of the BC Seniors Games Society is to improve the health, lifestyle and image of British Columbia's 55+ population. We do this by:

- Organizing the annual 55+ BC Games as an opportunity for the 55+ population of BC to participate in physical and social activities.
- Promoting community awareness of the contemporary image of the 55+ population as physically active and socially engaged.
- Encouraging year-round participation at the zone level.

The 2019 55+ BC Games will be held in Kelowna, September 10-14th.

Please visit www.55plusbcgames.org for more information.