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For Immediate Release

York Region takes important step in bid to win 2014 Commonwealth Games

Commonwealth Bid Specialists tour venues today

NEWMARKET – York Region’s Bid Committee for the 2014 Commonwealth Games is today welcoming a team of technical specialists advising Canada’s Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF).

The Commonwealth Bid Specialists are in town to hear a presentation from York Region’s Bid Committee, review York’s plan for the Games and tour the venues that will be used if York succeeds in its efforts to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Three other cities are also competing to become Canada’s official Bid City, and the CGF will announce the winner on December 15th. Canada’s Bid City will then compete against other international cities, with the final Host City announced in Sri Lanka in October 2007.

“York Region has what it takes to bring the Commonwealth Games to Canada,” said Bill Fisch, Regional Chair and CEO. “We are proud to host the technical team in order to showcase our world class facilities, our modern infrastructure and our forward-looking plan.”

York 2014’s presentation was made by a group of former and current Commonwealth and Olympic athletes. They included:

- York Region National Bid Committee Chair Bill Crothers, Canada’s first middle-distance running hero, who participated in two Commonwealth Games
- Molly Killingbeck, two-time Commonwealth Games gold medalist in athletics
- George Karrys, curling silver medalist at the 1998 Olympic Games
- Jeff Adams, two-time Commonwealth Games competitor in athletics and a former world record holder

“Dozens of Commonwealth and Olympic athletes are supporting the York Bid because they believe that York Region is the best place to advance sports and athletics in Canada today,” said Molly Killingbeck.

The Bid is a collaborative effort of York Region and its nine municipalities encompassing the best that the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) has to offer. The City of Toronto and the Regions of Peel and Durham will play a pivotal role in the success of the Games.

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The York 2014 Bid is built around three clusters of activity in close proximity in distinct parts of York Region and the GTA. The Northern Cluster is located in the centre of York Region. The Central Cluster incorporates the Southern part of York Region and York University. The Southern Cluster is located in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Many of the Games venues – the Rogers Centre, Air Canada Centre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre and York University’s residences and tennis centre – already exist and have been successfully used in numerous international events.

However, two of the greatest legacies of the Games will be a new National Sports Institute – a multi-sport training and competition facility in the Town of Markham – and a new National Soccer Stadium in the City of Vaughan.

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, the services we offer and links to our nine area municipalities, please visit our Web site at: www.york.ca

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