

Alberta welcomes Canada's young athletes

February 14, 2019 [Media inquiries](#)

Albertans will be able to see Canada's top young athletes compete at home when the 2019 Canada Winter Games kick off in Red Deer on Feb. 15.



Minister Miranda carries the 2019 Canada Winter Games torch through Calgary as it makes its way to Red Deer.

About 340 athletes, coaches, managers and mission staff will represent the province at the Games. In total, about 3,600 athletes and support staff from across Canada will participate in 19 events, including curling, alpine skiing, table tennis and wheelchair basketball.

“We are thrilled that for the first time in 24 years, we will once again host the Canada Winter Games. Our athletes, coaches, staff and volunteers have been training hard

for this moment, and we are so proud of their efforts. I hope all our visitors enjoy the competition and hospitality that Alberta is known for.”

Rachel Notley, Premier

“Sport is a way of life in Alberta. It’s part of our cultural fabric. We look forward to welcoming visitors from across Canada, and I know we will give them an unforgettable experience. To the athletes representing our province, we are already so proud of you, and cannot wait to cheer you and your teammates on. Go, Team Alberta!”

Ricardo Miranda, Minister of Culture and Tourism, responsible for sport

More than 20,000 visitors are expected to travel to Red Deer for the Games, which is anticipated to bring more than \$130 million in economic activity to the region. The Alberta government, through the Alberta Sport Connection, contributed \$11 million to the Games.

The province also contributed \$80 million to improve the interchange at Gaetz Avenue and the QEII, including new on and off ramps and construction of five new bridges. Red Deer College received \$72 million, including \$52 million through the Alberta Capital Finance Authority, to construct the Gary W. Harris Centre, which will be used extensively for the Games.

"We are grateful for the province of Alberta's work on the Highway 2 / Gaetz Avenue Interchange Improvement Project in advance of Red Deer welcoming the nation for the 2019 Canada Winter Games. These upgrades enhance the safety for local traffic and provide a welcoming entrance to our city."

Lyn Radford, board chair, 2019 Canada Winter Games

The Canada Games is the nation’s largest multi-sport and culture event for amateur athletes. It is held every two years, alternating between winter and summer events. Alberta hosted the Games in Grande Prairie in 1995, and in Lethbridge in 1975.

The Canada Winter Games run from Feb. 15 to March 3.

Related information

- [Canada Winter Games](#)
- [Alberta Sport Connection](#)

Media inquiries

Government of Alberta

780-422-4905

[View this announcement online](#)
[Government of Alberta newsroom](#)
[Contact government](#)
[Unsubscribe](#)