



Evolving State of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation
Official cancellation of the 2020 Canada Deaf Games

Edmonton, March 14, 2020 – In light of the evolving Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, Grant Underschultz, the Organizing Committee Chairperson of the 2020 Canada Deaf Games (2020 CDG), and Alain Turpin, Executive Director of the Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA), have been communicating regularly over the course of the past several days. In accordance with their discussion, all necessary measures are being taken in response to the developing COVID-19 situation. These measures also affect the 2020 Canada Deaf Games that were to be held in Edmonton, Alta. from May 12 to 16.

To cite an important recent announcement:

Alberta’s chief medical officer, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, has said that the “aggressive new measures” will prohibit sports competitions, concerts, and community events.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, Alberta has implemented new public health restrictions. The following mass gatherings should be cancelled:

- Events with more than 50 attendees that involve international participants, critical infrastructure staff, seniors, or other high-risk populations
- Large events with more than 250 attendees, including sporting events, conferences, and community events

Given this highly unusual situation that is beyond its control, the 2020 CDG Organizing Committee decided at its March 14 meeting in Edmonton, with the approval of the CDSA, to cancel the 2020 CDG that were to be held in May.

Please note that registration fees will be refunded in full within a month by the Alberta Deaf Sports Association to Provincial Deaf Sports Associations (BCDSF, MDSA, ODSA, and ASSQ) and to individual participants from the other provinces.

While this is certainly an unfortunate situation, we must comply with cautions issued by the government and public health authorities. We would like to extend our warmest thanks to 2020 CDG Organizing Committee for its contribution over the past two years plus, including attracting a record number of registrations for the 2020 CDG (a 75% increase over the previous edition of the event).

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