



City Wraps Up Hosting of IIHF World Junior Hockey Championship

Date: Friday January 4, 2019

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The City of Victoria wishes to thank everyone involved in hosting the IIHF World Junior Hockey Tournament Championship this holiday season, in particular the hundreds of volunteers who helped make the tournament a great success.

The tournament coming to Victoria was set in motion by a Council resolution in 2017 in support of the bid and allocating \$50,000 in support to help make the tournament happen. Destination Greater Victoria invested \$150,000, as the other primary local partner and the Downtown Victoria Business Association contributed \$10,000 towards the bid.

“People often reflect on the 1994 Commonwealth Games as a touchstone for Victoria as a sport hosting community,” said Mayor Helps, who took in four games during the tournament. “Hosting the World Juniors is a new touchstone and puts us in good stead to successfully bid on and host large international events going forward.”

Victoria and Vancouver took a collaborative approach in the bid that included not only the two primary host municipalities, but many others including, Destination Greater Victoria, Tourism Vancouver, Sport Hosting Vancouver, BC Hockey, Province of BC, Government of Canada, the arena operators, and numerous private organizations.

“Major international sporting events like the 2019 IIHF World Junior Championship require extensive support from organizations to effectively plan and host,” said Thomas Soulliere Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities and staff lead for the tournament. “It was our pleasure to collaborate with so many partners to assist Hockey Canada in hosting a successful tournament.”

The hosting partners each received various benefits, including recognition in all local, national and international event communications, logo placement throughout venues used, recognition at all pre-event activities, and access to a hospitality box.

The City’s hospitality box provided an opportunity for volunteers, community members, partners, and key stakeholders to view the games and to connect with Mayor, Council and City staff on future opportunities.

The estimated local economic impact of hosting the tournament is between \$8 and \$10 million. A full assessment will be undertaken by Hockey Canada in the months ahead. In the meantime, we wish the teams still competing in Vancouver all the best.

For More Information:

Thomas Soulliere
Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities
City of Victoria
778.533.2728

Victoria Mayor Helps
City of Victoria
250.661.2708