

Niagara 2021
Canada Summer Games



Jeux d'été du Canada
Niagara 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

NIAGARA REGION TO HOST 2020 U14 & U16 BOYS CANADIAN FAST PITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR THE FIRST TIME

No municipality in the region has ever hosted the U14 or U16 Boys Canadian Fast Pitch Championships

February 26, 2020 (Niagara, ON) – The Niagara 2021 Canada Summer Games Host Society, in partnership with Softball Canada, is excited to announce that the U14 and U16 Boys Canadian Fast Pitch Championships will take place August 5th to 9th, 2020 at Southward Park in Grimsby, Ont., and at Jordan Lions Park in Lincoln, Ont.

These tournaments typically feature 8 to 14 teams from across the country vying to be crowned national champions – a distinction that teams from the Niagara Region have earned eight times across the 10 Canadian Championships presented annually by Softball Canada.

“We are excited to work with the Niagara 2021 Host Society to hold the 2020 U14 and U16 Boys Canadian Fast Pitch Championships in the Niagara Region,” said the President of Softball Canada, Scott Neiles. “Both of those age categories were recently added to our Canadian Championship lineup and have led to an increased interest in minor Male Fast Pitch across Canada.”

These two Canadian Fast Pitch Championships will serve as yet another test event for next summer’s Canada Games. “Niagara 2021 will include both Men’s (U21) and Women’s (U18) Softball competitions,” added Neiles. “Hosting this year’s Canadian Championships will give the Niagara 2021 Host Society a unique opportunity to involve the communities, prepare the facilities, train local volunteers and build interest in our sport.”

With the competition taking place a week before the Lacrosse Festival in St. Catharines from August 15-22, the Niagara Region is set to become a hub for some of the top young athletes in the country.

“It’s going to be an exciting couple of weeks,” said Doug Hamilton, Board Chair of the Niagara 2021 Canada Summer Games Host Society. “Adding these two Canadian Fast Pitch Championships to an already busy lineup will only further ignite our community’s passion for sport ahead of next summer’s main event.”

This is the ninth time the Niagara Region has ever hosted a Canadian Fast Pitch Championship. The most recent took place in 2009, when St. Catharines held the U21 Junior Women’s Fast Pitch event. No municipality in the region, however, has ever hosted the U14 or U16 Boys’ competition.

“Lincoln is a community with deep roots in softball,” said Lincoln’s Mayor Sandra Easton. “We are thrilled to play a role in supporting this caliber of sport in our community and encourage players, coaches and spectators to take in all that Lincoln has to offer.”

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"It is exciting to see Southward Park, one of the 2021 Games venues, as one of the hosts for the National Championships coming this August," added Councillor Randy Vaine of Grimsby. "We look forward to welcoming the athletes to our community."

The field for both tournaments will be finalized in early June.

About the Niagara 2021 Canada Summer Games

At the peak of Niagara's boldest summer yet, more than 5,000 young athletes and their coaches will gather to compete for the podium in Canada's largest multi-sport event. On its road to glory, this shining generation of hopefuls will leave its mark on our community and on the country – transforming, inspiring, and unifying us all through the power of sport.

As ambassadors of Niagara's unrivaled warmth and compassion, thousands of volunteers will play host to the nation. The Niagara 2021 Canada Summer Games will celebrate the wonder of sport alongside arts and culture. The Games will honour our indigenous communities, and showcase a remarkable heritage of hard work and innovation in one of the world's most awe-inspiring destinations.

With world-renowned hospitality, the people of Niagara will welcome visitors from across the country. Spirited events, spectacular entertainment, and the theatre of elite competition will spark new energy in the region as our streets, skies, and waterways shimmer with ceremony and celebration that is befitting of Canada's best young athletes.

From August 6th to 21st, 2021, Niagara will surge stronger than ever on the national stage. The Games will give rise to a new legacy of ambition, confidence, and compassion that will inspire generations to come. For further information, visit us at niagara2021.ca or follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram (@2021canadagames).

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