

**Ministry of Heritage,  
Sport, Tourism and  
Culture Industries**

Minister

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**Ministère des Industries du  
patrimoine, du sport, du  
tourisme et de la culture**

Ministre

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Her Worship Diane Therrien  
Mayor  
City of Peterborough  
500 George Street  
Peterborough, ON K9H 2H3

Dear Mayor Therrien:

The health and safety of all Ontarians remains our government's number one priority.

We acknowledge the immediate impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on Ontario's heritage, sport sector and on the long-term sustainable operations of sports organizations. We understand that these are unprecedented times, and that the operations of many organizations in the sector have been disrupted.

The government is moving forward to the first stage of reopening the province, with key public health measures in place. As of May 19, 2020, the government moved forward with the first stage of reopening the province, including permitting the opening of facilities used by some amateur and professional sport organizations for training and competition. Most importantly, we have been closely monitoring the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Ontario Games events as the situation has progressed.

As we prepare for the safe return of sport, we will be moving the Games to 2021 – a major year for Ontario as we emerge from COVID-19. As a result, I would also formally request that the City of Peterborough host the 2021 Ontario 55+ Summer Games.

I would like to thank you, the City and the Games Organizing Committee for their patience as the government determined the best way forward for the Ontario 55+ Summer Games during this time. I would especially like to thank all the volunteers who have supported the 2020 Ontario 55+ Summer Games to this point.

I hope the City of Peterborough will consider hosting the 2021 Ontario 55+ Summer Games. The government recognizes the importance of the Games and the contributions it will make to your City and Ontario's recovery in 2021.

Ministry staff will work with the City for a public announcement of the postponement and provide support as plans transition to 2021 if the City is interested. Regardless of the City's

decision on 2021, Ontario looks forward to working with the City of Peterborough on future Games and hosting opportunities whenever they may be.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa".

Lisa MacLeod  
Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

c: MPP Dave Smith, Peterborough-Kawartha  
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services, City of Peterborough  
Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister  
Steve Harlow, Assistant Deputy Minister, Sport, Recreation and Community Programs  
Division  
Patricia Vena, Director, Sport, Recreation and Community Programs Branch