

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 19, 2023

## 100 DAYS AWAY FROM WELCOMING THE WORLD TO WINNIPEG

**Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Treaty 1** – Today marks 100 days away from the 2023 World Police & Fire Games (WPFG or the "Games"). This means that in exactly 100 days, between July 28 – August 6, 2023, we will see more than 8,500 athletes march into Canada Life Centre for the opening ceremonies of the Games to kick off the 10-day competition of 63 sports.

The Games will be the largest sporting event ever hosted in Manitoba seeing athletes from all over the world meet in Winnipeg to compete. Prior to the Opening Ceremonies, many athletes will arrive with other fellow athletes and their families through the Winnipeg Richardson International Airport (WAA) arrivals area.

"In less than 100 days from now thousands of athletes along with their families and friends will arrive right here at the WAA to compete in the largest sporting event in Manitoba's history. We would like to thank the WAA for their support to ensure athletes have a fantastic first impression when they arrive in Winnipeg," said Mike Edwards, Chief Operating Officer.

"I know firsthand how amazing sports fans are in Manitoba, and how excited we are to show off our province for the world in 100 days," said Obby Khan, Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage, Government of Manitoba. "The athletes who come to Winnipeg to compete at the games will experience the best Manitoba has to offer, as Manitobans celebrate their dedication and service to communities they represent and protect."

"Winnipeg is excited to host the 2023 World Police and Fire Games and welcome visitors from around the world," said Mayor Scott Gillingham, City of Winnipeg. "There are a lot of opportunities this summer for Winnipeggers to participate, by either



attending competitions to cheer on athletes or signing up as a volunteer to help ensure the Games are a success."

"As someone who has participated in the Games in the past, it is impressive to see how much work goes into hosting the Games. I know the incredible feeling athletes have as they arrive at the baggage claim and see the signage around them. It will be a very warm welcome here in Winnipeg," said Chad Swayze, chair of the board.

"Winnipeg Richardson International Airport serves as the front door to the region – a role each and every member of our team here at Winnipeg Airports Authority is proud to play," said Nick Hays, President and CEO of WAA. "We're excited to connect thousands of athletes, supporters, and fans from across the world to our community and to help welcome them, a unique, Games-themed look will be added to our iconic Arrivals Hall. Good luck to all the competitors in their bold journey to the podium."

"The World Police & Fire Games is a landmark event for our city. With more than 40 venues supporting the Games, this 10-day event is larger than our 1999 Pan Am Games — and the energy and excitement are palpable," said Dayna Spiring, President & CEO, Economic Development Winnipeg.

"The EDW team is excited to welcome athletes and their families from far and wide to our city, and to showcase everything we have for you to see and do. In between sporting events, we invite you to discover Winnipeg, from our world-class attractions and vibrant culinary scene, to stunning nearby natural landscapes, and more. We are thrilled to be hosting you for this very special event during a spectacular summer in our city!"

With this many athletes descending on Winnipeg in 100 days, we are also revealing the official volunteer uniform of the Games. Athletes will see 3000 volunteers in and around Winnipeg assisting to make the Games an enjoyable and successful event. All volunteers will be provided with a hat, water bottle, cinch bag, t-shirt, and jacket and be easily recognizable and ready to lend a helping hand to all athletes.



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## About the 2023 World Police & Fire Games

As the largest sporting event ever hosted in Manitoba, the 2023 World Police and Fire Games will be an exciting and rewarding community-wide sports and cultural event that will take place from July 28 – August 6, 2023.

Held biennially, the World Police & Fire Games are an Olympic-style competition with more than 8,500+ athletes representing law enforcement, firefighters, and first responders from 60+ countries across the world competing in 63 sports.

For more information about the Games, visit our website <u>wpfg2023.com</u>.

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 1 land and the traditional home of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.