

## WinSport Announces Groundbreaking Ceremony for the New Day Lodge – A Future-Forward Approach to Sport and Community

**(Calgary, Alberta – June 24, 2024)** WinSport is proud to announce the groundbreaking and design reveal of the new Day Lodge at WinSport, a transformative renovation that revitalizes a legacy and sets a new standard for community engagement, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship.

Originally constructed for the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics, the almost 40-year-old facility is poised to begin a new chapter as a modern hub of activity for over 1.2 million annual visitors. Designed with a keen focus on accessibility, inclusion, and net zero carbon design, the Day Lodge renovation will feature barrier-free access and an optimized layout to significantly enhance the visitor experience.

"We are thrilled to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new and improved WinSport Day Lodge, allowing it to continue being a hub for all guests taking part in activities at Canada Olympic Park," said George Chahal, Member of Parliament for Calgary Skyview, on behalf of the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. "Calgarians and visitors from around the world will benefit from the newly renovated Lodge that will enhance accessibility and guest experiences for many years to come."

Barry Heck, President and CEO of WinSport, commented on the project's alignment with broader environmental and social goals: "As we break ground on the new Day Lodge, we're not just constructing a building – we're laying the foundation for a future where every visitor can pursue their sporting dreams in a facility that reflects our commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship."

The new Day Lodge will stand as a testament to WinSport's dedication to providing comprehensive services for all. From beginners to elite athletes, every individual will find a space designed for their needs.

Joseph Schow, Alberta's Minister of Tourism and Sport said: "Sport and recreation facilities are the heart of many communities across Alberta. For over 35 years, the Day Lodge has been a gathering place for the winter sport community and for the public that visit this site. Alberta's support of \$17.5 million will ensure this piece of history is preserved for future generations, while enhancing accessibility so that all athletes and guests can have the best experience we can offer."

The groundbreaking ceremony is a milestone not only for WinSport but also for the Calgary community. It reinforces the economic and social impact of the facility, supporting local jobs, contributing to economic growth, and fostering social inclusion.

Funding has been provided by the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta. The new Day Lodge is designed to be a net-zero carbon building, and one that improves accessibility to sport for all.

Join us as we celebrate this momentous occasion and embark on a journey towards a healthier, more inclusive, and environmentally responsible future.

Groundbreaking Ceremony: June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 1 p.m.-2 p.m. at WinSport Day Lodge

For more information on the Day Lodge project and the groundbreaking ceremony, please contact:

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- 30 -

## About WinSport

The Calgary Olympic Development Association, which operates as WinSport, is a not-forprofit community-based organization that owns and operates Canada Olympic Park. Our vision is to be a world-leading centre for athletic development. We inspire human potential through the spirit of sport by introducing people to winter and mountain sports, helping them develop their skills and thereby igniting a passion for sport and lifelong learning. WinSport does not receive any direct government funding for our operations and we support our purpose by building on the legacy of the 1988 Winter Olympic Games and by delivering exceptional value and experiences to our guests. For more information on WinSport please visit <u>www.winsport.ca</u>.