



**CANADIAN  
TRANSPLANT GAMES  
JEUX CANADIENS  
DES GREFFÉS**

Toronto + Ontario  
August /Août 8 - 13 2016



The Canadian Transplant Games (CTG) is getting closer to becoming a reality. In less than five months, Toronto will welcome hundreds of participants and supporters from across Canada, as well as our International friends to the 8<sup>th</sup> Canadian Transplant Games. For one exciting week of competition, camaraderie and celebration from August 8 – 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate our gifts and honor our donors and ***"Compete with the Strength of our Gift"***

Since 2000, the CTG have been a showcase for transplant recipient athletes from across the country to enjoy the competition and camaraderie while celebrating a second chance at life. Previous games have been held in Sherbrooke, St. John's, Edmonton, Windsor, Quebec City, Calgary and Moncton in 2014. These national games are Canada's largest organ donation awareness event and the purpose of the games is to:

- ✓ Increase organ & tissue donation in Canada and beyond
- ✓ Demonstrate the active and healthy lifestyle that may be achieved following transplantation
- ✓ Promote the success of organ donation and transplantation
- ✓ Offer hope to the thousands of Canadians on transplant wait lists
- ✓ Provide an opportunity to thank donors and donor family for their precious gift of life
- ✓ Raise awareness and educate, and encourage the public to consider organ & tissue donation
- ✓ Create a Games environment that is built on the contributions, skills and collaboration of community volunteers, corporate sponsors and all levels of government
- ✓ Leave a legacy of volunteerism, community spirit and organizational development that will have a lasting value to all involved

The games are competitive but inclusive of all levels of abilities for organ transplant recipients aged 4 – 80+ years. Entry is open to recipients of life supporting allografts and hematopoietic cell transplants from other individuals or species which require, or have required, the use of immunosuppressive drug therapies. (Organs transplanted include kidney, heart, liver, lungs, and bone marrow) Competitors must have been transplanted for at least 1 year, with stable graft function, be medically fit and have trained at the events in which they have entered. If a potential competitor has been transplanted for at least 6 months, with stable graft function, has been training and has permission from his own doctor, his entry may be considered by the CTA medical committee and be allowed.

These Olympic style games will be 6 nights/7 days, in length, and include: Opening Ceremonies, Family and Cultural events throughout the week, an event recognizing Donors and Donor Families, Olympic style sport events, Closing Ceremonies followed by a Gala dinner and dance. The registration fee includes the athlete's village, (accommodations and most meals), local transportation, athletic event participation, and social events, including the Gala on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Sporting events will include Swimming, Track & Field, Race Walks, Road Races, Cycling, Table Tennis, Lawn Bowling, Badminton, Tennis, Bowling, Pickle Ball, Golf and an East/West Challenge.

These games are going to be the best ever, the committee has arranged sporting events at venues all across this great city of ours in an effort to showcase the exciting and multicultural city that Toronto is. There will be events at Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto Island, and other unique locations culminating with Track and field on Saturday at Varsity Stadium.

We are hoping to make Torontonians more aware of the benefits of Organ and Tissue Donation and encourage them to register their consent to give hope to those waiting for a transplant, as well as increase the current registration rate, which is below the Provincial average.

If you are willing to register, volunteer, donate or require additional information, please visit our games website [www.games.canadiantransplant.com](http://www.games.canadiantransplant.com) . To participate in these games, you must be a member of the CTA, membership is \$50.00/for two years and \$300/Lifetime membership and is tax deductible, recipients in their first year of transplant are free.

Please also review the Canadian Transplant Association website [www.canadiantransplant.com](http://www.canadiantransplant.com) and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/torontogames2016> for updates as they become available. You may also follow up on Twitter @ctagames2016 an Instagram @ctagames2016