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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
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Date: 8/13/2019 12:42:51 PM
Subject: Update – 2019 Vancouver Showcase NCAA Basketball Event

Good Afternoon Mayor and Council,

Please see the below update from the Sport Hosting team:

Update – 2019 Vancouver Showcase NCAA Basketball Event

Following the inaugural launch of the Vancouver Showcase NCAA basketball event in 2018, the 2019 edition will not be taking place this November. Our event partners were not able to secure a field of teams on the scheduled event dates that matched our criteria and limited our ability to meet our goals of delivering another top event in Vancouver.

Sport Hosting Vancouver remains committed to working with partners to attract and support basketball event opportunities that generate incremental business, create jobs and boost the economy whilst delivering impacts and legacy that benefit all of Vancouver and enhance our city's international profile.

Background

Sport Hosting Vancouver works to strategically attract, support and grow a diverse portfolio of international sport events that generate incremental business, create jobs and boost the economy whilst delivering impacts and legacy that benefit all of Vancouver and enhance our city's international profile. From the IIHF World Juniors to the annual Canada Sevens (World Rugby Sevens Series) to the FIFA Women's World Cup 2015; our track record of supporting leading sports events has driven incremental tourism during targeted need periods in the tourism calendar.

With respect to the Vancouver Showcase (NCAA Basketball event which commenced in 2018), the event promoter, bd Global, was not able to secure a field of teams that matched our criteria and afforded us the ability to meet our goals of delivering another top event in Vancouver. The dynamics of securing a competitive field of eight men's NCAA teams for our scheduled event dates were particularly challenging, both for last year's event, and for the upcoming event scheduled for this November 2019.

As we are unable to provide strong fields - for both the men's and women's divisions - for the Vancouver Showcase for 2019, we will not be proceeding with the 2019 event.

While our intention was to support the Vancouver Showcase as a part of the Sport Hosting Vancouver annual event calendar, we do not feel this event is the best use of our resources moving forward.

Sport Hosting Vancouver remains committed to supporting and hosting major events in Vancouver and we hope to identify additional basketball events in the future for our city. We will assess options for 2020 and onward.

While Sport Hosting Vancouver does not intend to publically announce the 2019 cancellation, we are prepared should comment be requested.

Best,
Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.