



For Immediate Release  
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## **2021 Southern Alberta Summer Games Cancelled**

In light of ongoing restrictions due to Covid-19, the 2021 Southern Alberta Summer Games scheduled July 7-10, 2021 in Medicine Hat, AB have been cancelled by the organizing community. The City of Medicine Hat had stepped up to host the games for 2021 this past fall, when the Town of Claresholm made the decision that hosting the SASG 2021 would not be a good option in light of the pandemic.

“This decision was made with a heavy heart, after a year of disappointments,” said Adam Grose, Chair of the Southern Alberta Recreation Association. “This is the second cancellation in our 52-year history of the Games, both due to this ongoing pandemic.”

The task of organizing an event that could be done within the guidelines, while ensuring the safety of participants, family members and the dedicated volunteers that work behind the scenes was a huge factor in this decision. This past year has shown that we can only plan so many Plan A’s and B’s, and that would not guarantee that the event would be able to run. The impact of this pandemic leaves many Southern Alberta communities in uncertain territory. Planning for a major event is just not feasible at this time.

The Southern Alberta Recreation Association wishes to express our gratitude to The City of Medicine Hat for stepping in to host the games for 2021. If things go well the next games will be held July 8-11, 2022, please mark these dates on your calendar.

*The Southern Alberta Summer Games have been occurring annually since 1970, making it the longest, consecutively-running, multi-sport event in Western Canada. In 2019 we celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Pincher Creek. The purpose of the Southern Alberta Summer Games to provide a grass roots sporting opportunity to those of all ages 6 and up, with participants from 13 communities in Southern Alberta*

Adam Grose  
Chair, Southern Alberta Recreation Association  
recmanager@pinchercreek.ca  
403-627-4322