



BRIEFING TEAMS

The 2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games will take place this year in Toronto and surrounding areas from July 10-26 and August 7-15, respectively. The Toronto 2015 Games is the largest multi-sport event Canada has ever hosted, involving 7,600 athletes competing in 51 sports (36 Pan Am and 15 Parapan) in 30 different venues located in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Area. Environment Canada is providing state-of-the-art, 24/7 dedicated, venue-specific weather alerting services and environmental emergency support for the Toronto 2015 Games. The TO2015 Games are also a catalyst for enhancing existing weather services through research and demonstration projects that will benefit future generations of Canadians.

What is the role of the briefing teams during the TO2015 Games?

During the TO2015 Pan American and Parapan American Games, two teams of weather briefers will be dispatched to work in two separate locations in the Greater Toronto Area. The first is a team of five bilingual briefers that will be located at the TO2015 Main Operations Centre at Corus Quay. This briefing team will be Environment Canada's first and primary point of contact for TO2015 in support of their operations for the Games. The second team has four briefers that will be located at the Unified Command Centre in Brampton supporting municipal, regional, provincial and federal police services in support of safety and security for the Games.

What's new about these briefing functions?

The briefing teams will use products from Environment Canada's Ontario Storm Prediction Centre (OSPC) and data being collected specifically for the TO2015 Games to brief these organizations and assist in decision making as required. They will be equipped with a highly customized workstation specifically designed for the Games. This workstation, and the ones used by the OSPC will also be ingesting weather and air quality data specifically collected for the TO2015 Games from Environment Canada's enhanced Pan Am Mesonet observing station network setup in and around the Greater Golden Horseshoe Area (GGHA). The Mesonet's high density of weather stations in the GGHA will provide data minutely to the briefing



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teams and the OSPC, supplementing hourly observations from the standard reporting network. The increased number of weather observations within the Pan Am Games area will provide a more detailed view of the state of the atmosphere during the Games. The briefing teams will tailor this information to be relevant and easily interpreted by the TO2015 Games decision makers.

What is the legacy for Canadians?

The Briefing Team Representatives are an important part of this new system that Environment Canada has developed for enhanced weather monitoring and alerting services for the Games. The aim is to ensure the safety and security of Canadians and visitors from the Torch Relays through to the closing ceremonies. Once the Games have ended, there will be a thorough understanding of the investment required in order to establish the level of service being provided to targeted clients and stakeholders.

