

Date: June 30, 2025

To: **Mayor and Council.**

Name and title: Andy Beesley, Director of Civic Facilities and Events

Subject: Caledonia Nordic Ski Club hosting 2026 Olympic Trials

Attachment(s): None

Recommendation(s):

That Council APPROVES funding support from the City of Prince George of \$40,000 from the Major Events Reserve Fund as outlined in the report dated June 30, 2025, from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events titled "Caledonia Nordic Ski Club hosting 2026 Olympic Trials."

Purpose:

The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club will be hosting the official Canadian Olympic Cross Country Ski trials at their facility from December 10 – 16, 2025. Administration is requesting \$40,000 from the Major Events Reserve Fund to support the event.

Background:

On June 20th, 2025, Olympic Champion and CEO of Nordiq Canada, Beckie Scott, announced that Caledonia Nordic Ski Club was selected to host the Nordiq Canada 2026 Olympic Winter Games Trials in December, here in Prince George.

This is a high profile, prestigious and official Olympic Canada event, which will see Cross Country skiing athletes from across the Country vying to make the final Canadian team and represent our Country at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy. There will be approximately 250 athletes and coaches, as well as their families and friends. Young athletes and their families from Nordic Clubs around the region and Province will also likely attend to experience an event with such high caliber athletes.

Discussion:

The Canadian Olympic Committee has confirmed that this event will have full use of the Olympic branding/naming, which will enable the full recognition and display of government and other funding partners. The City of Prince George has been asked to be a funding partner along with the Province of BC and Tourism Prince George. This would enable the promotion of Prince George all across Canada. Livestreaming is also being planned and expected to be broadcast through YouTube Nordiq Canada as well as CBC Gem.

Financial Consideration:

Administration is requesting financial support for this event from the City of Prince George of \$40,000, to be funded from the Major Events Reserve Fund, as this event fits within the Major Sport Event Program in that it “significantly showcases Prince George at a high level”.

Strategic Priorities:

An event of this status and caliber contributes to Council’s strategic priorities including:

- Economic Diversity and Growth Priorities: Promote Prince George as a place for business to thrive; and building a strong, diverse and resilient economy.
- Social health and Well Being: Create a complete community that welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities and promoting the use of public spaces as places for outdoor community connection.

Summary and conclusion:

The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is hosting the official 2026 Olympic trials for Cross Country skiing in December of this year. This will be a historic event as the first time Olympic trials of any sport have been held in Prince George.

Respectfully submitted:

Andy Beesley, Director of Civic Facilities and Events

Prepared by: Debbie Heywood, Manager Event Services

Approved:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: 2025/07/14