

## Lausanne 2020: Preparation Events to Take Place This Winter in Most Competition Sites

**Lausanne, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2018** - *This week, The Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee held a meeting with representatives from all the host competition sites to do a full overview of the progress made by the organisation as of today. Pleasingly, preparations are on track and even ahead of schedule in many areas.*

The Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee announced in April that it had entered a more concrete organisational phase, with more detailed and complex planning. This week, 17 months before the opening ceremony, all the competition sites' representatives met in the resort of Champéry, host of the Curling competitions in 2020, for a full debrief on ongoing projects. The meeting included the President of the Organising Committee, Patrick Baumann, the Vice-President and State Councillor Philippe Leuba, the Member of the Board and Lausanne Municipal Councillor Oscar Tosato, and Ian Logan, CEO.

Following the meeting, it is clear that the organizational phase is progressing very well with competition sites working on detailed plans, by day and by discipline. Moreover, some competition sites are adding up their own projects aimed at upgrading their infrastructures, including the remodelling of a key ski-lift at the Vaud Alps resort of Les Diablerets. This accelerated refurbishment will have a strong positive impact the economic development of the resort, and is progressing at a fast pace.

In Leysin too, the halfpipe project is in full swing and continues to advance rapidly. Importantly, this project will enable the Vaud Alps resort to strengthen its position as an important freestyle skiing centre in Switzerland – leaving a lasting legacy. In Lausanne, *Vortex*, which will serve as the Olympic Village during the event, and the new ice rink in Malley, are also on track. Preparation competitions are planned to be launched this winter in most competition sites, including the FIS Women's European Ski Cup in *Les Diablerets*, providing an important landmark in their development.

After the meeting, Patrick Baumann, IOC Member and President of the Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee, commented: *"The Olympic Games can be used as a tool for sustainable development. With Lausanne 2020, we are seeing a united team of regions, municipalities and volunteers striving to achieve a common goal, accelerating their decision making processes and preparing the slopes and venues in Lausanne and in the mountains at the required standards. We are extremely proud of what they have achieved so far. With the magnificent Swiss Alps as our natural backdrop and the heart of the Olympic Movement at its centre, we will have memorable Youth Olympic Games."*

Ian Logan, CEO of the Lausanne 2020 Organising Committee, added: *"I am pleased to note the excellent collaboration between the host competition sites, which are all clearly working towards the same objective: to organise an event that will enable young athletes to shine in the best possible conditions, here in 2020. We all look forward to seeing all our sites promote themselves in the best possible way to the sporting youth of the world in just 17 months."*

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