

NWS participation in weather support for the Toronto Pan American Games

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The Pan American Games in Toronto, Ontario - July 10-26, 2015 - offered a unique opportunity to capitalize on recent cross-border collaborative exchange efforts. The Ontario Storm Prediction Centre (OSPC) provided general and hazardous weather support to Provincial authorities, first responders, and game organizers. The emphasis of the exchange was to bring additional Great Lakes regional and decision support expertise to the OSPC, while offering an opportunity for additional exposure to long term decision support services. Specifically, the NWS goals were to gather and develop best practices for provision of decision support services for special events. The perspective should include science and tool development; forecast strategies; and service delivery tools and strategies with an emphasis on nearshore marine forecasts and severe storm forecasts. Participants spent time with operations, science liaisons, and event briefers. The OSPC Goals for NWS participants included feedback/evaluation of OSPC marine and severe storm forecasting tools, methodology, culture, and philosophies as they relate to decision making processes.