



## Three Years to go until the World Masters Games 2017

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“The dates were selected because they are in the tourism shoulder season which means Auckland will have good capacity to cope with more than 25,000 athletes and their supporters. It is also the school holidays which offers opportunities to families to be a part of this global event being held all across Auckland and includes ANZAC Day, another opportunity to do something very special,” Ms Wootten said.

The event was also marked by the announcement of an inaugural group of ambassadors who have agreed to contribute their time to promote the Games to sportspeople here and overseas. The five inaugural ambassadors, all of whom were in Auckland for the announcement, are Olympic swimming bronze medalist Anthony Mosse, Olympic triathlon gold medalist Hamish Carter, real estate businessman and masters sports disciple Garth Barfoot, former Silver Fern and TV sports presenter Jenny-May Coffin and one of New Zealand’s leading sports administrators, Susie Simcock.

In March 2012 Auckland, New Zealand was awarded the rights to host the World Masters Games in 2017. The World Masters Games is the largest multi sport event in the world. It is expected more than 100 countries will be represented at the event with about half of the athletes, officials and spectators travelling to the country as visitors. The cost of staging the event in Auckland will be \$34 million. Auckland Council and the New Zealand Government have each approved an \$11 million investment with the remaining \$12 million to come from revenues including athlete registrations and sponsorship.

For more information visit [www.auckland2017wmg.com](http://www.auckland2017wmg.com)