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## Story Script and Shot log

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**STORY HEADLINE:** Canadian pair eye Gold in the luge doubles after Olympic dream inspired by their home Games

**LOCATION:** Olympia Bobrun, St Moritz, Switzerland

**DATE:** 14 January, 2020

**LANGUAGE:** English

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: <http://iocnewsroom.com>

### **STORY SCRIPT:**

Caitlin Nash was just seven when the Olympic Winter Games landed in her home town in Whistler, Canada, and witnessing the world's best sliders competing in the luge at Vancouver 2010 whet her appetite to try the sport for herself.

It took just one run for her to be hooked, and the now 17-year-old is currently in contention for what would be a first medal treble in women's luge at the Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) - at Lausanne 2020 doubles luge has been added to the women's individual event and the team relay in the programme.

Joining Nash in the double is Natalie Corless, who originally started the sport in Calgary, where the track was also a Games legacy from the 1988 edition, but has now also moved to Whistler, and while most of Canada's previous Olympic sliding success has come in the skeleton and bobsleigh, this pair have already proven themselves as a force to be reckoned with.

They made luge history on their home track in December 2019 when they became the first female team to compete in a World Cup doubles race - the fact that they finished 22 of 23 pairs scarcely meriting a mention given the overall achievement of making it onto the track.

But back to St Moritz, and while Nash conceded that they have had their struggles since arriving here, the pair have made steady improvements to underline their credentials as genuine medal contenders.

They finished eighth, fourth and second respectively in their three training runs today (January 14), and while the German pair of Jessica Degenhardt and Vanessa Schneider were the fastest in all three runs, the gap is closing.



Nash is also closing in on her rivals in the individual event and with racing set to get underway on Friday (17th January) both girls are confident that they will be reaching their peak just in time.

The world famous Olympia Bobrun is the only natural ice sliding track in the world and the Canadians hope it provides them the perfect surface for their golden ambition.

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter YOG, bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will be in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago.

As well as the brand new sport of Ski Mountaineering, Lausanne 2020 features five new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Mixed NOC 3x3 Ice Hockey, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

### SHOTLIST:

00:05 Scenic shots of the area

00:12 Lausanne 2020 flags

00:17 Natalie Corless and Caitlin Nash at the start of their training run

#### **00:31 SOUNDBITE: Caitlin Nash, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"I got involved after the 2010 Olympics, so I watched some of the events there and I thought that it was pretty cool and I had a friend in the programme. So I came out one day and I gave it a try and I really, really liked it."*

00:43 Nash visualising the run ahead of time

00:48 Close up of Nash

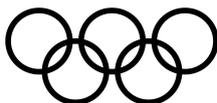
00:53 Nash and Corless preparing for their run

#### **01:00 SOUNDBITE: Caitlin Nash, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"Everyone is really very supportive. Half of our team is already in Europe, so they're going to be cheering us on and then our families are coming out to watch. So we definitely have a lot of support both on and off the track, so we're really excited that everyone can be here to help us and cheer us on."*

01:16 Mid shot of Corless and Nash in the start gate

01:27 Corless and Nash bring their visors down



**01:34 SOUNDBITE: Natalie Corless, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"I think a lot more people come out to watch (in Europe) The cheering is always a lot louder, so it's really fun that we get to do the Youth Olympics here in Europe."*

01:42 Start of their training run

01:49 Mid way down the training run

01:54 Nash and Corless meet up with their coaches after the training run

**01:58 SOUNDBITE: Natalie Corless, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"It's super pretty here to slide. It's the only natural track that is left for us to slide on so we're really lucky that we get to slide here."*

02:05 Various shots of Corless and Nash discussing their training run with their coaches

**02:18 SOUNDBITE: Caitlin Nash, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"We did have a bit of a difficult start to the week but it's definitely getting a lot better. We're feeling a lot more confident on the track. We were here last year for two weeks for a training camp before this, so we're feeling pretty good going into the event now so, yes, we're ready."*

02:35 Mid shot of Corless and Nash discussing their training run with their coaches

02:42 Close up of Nash

02:46 Close up of Corless

**02:50 SOUNDBITE: Natalie Corless, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"I think it would be the most exciting experience that we could have. Like, the Youth Olympics is honestly.... It's been our goal for a few years now as a doubles team so I think that it would be such an amazing experience to be able to take home a medal."*

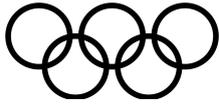
03:03 Corless and Nash at the end of their final training run of the day

**03:20 SOUNDBITE: Natalie Corless, Team Canada Luge (English Language).**

*"I'm hoping to bring home a medal in both events. That's my main goal for the end of this week. I think in doubles we really want to win, as well as in singles, so that's what we're aiming for."*

-- ENDS --

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