



News Release



Agreement between Nunavut and the District of West Vancouver will bring mutual benefits

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 16, 2009) Peter Taptuna, Nunavut's Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, today announced an agreement with the Corporation of the District of West Vancouver to promote Nunavut during the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

"One of our government's goals as expressed in our mandate *CL^{CC} Tamapta* is to raise awareness of Nunavut throughout Canada and the world," said Minister Taptuna. "This Memorandum of Understanding with the District of West Vancouver will make it possible to showcase Nunavut's culture, history and economy during the Games."

Details of the agreement were finalized last week when West Vancouver Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones visited Iqaluit and Pangnirtung.

"In Nunavut, everyone I met is excited about the Olympic Games and inspired by our partnership," said Mayor Goldsmith-Jones. "For our residents and visitors, this will be an unforgettable cultural and educational experience and a key opportunity for business development."

Under the agreement, the District of West Vancouver will host a major mining gala, "A Mine Altering Experience," on February 17, 2010. As home to a number of junior mining companies, West Vancouver will showcase new investment opportunities and the mining success stories of Nunavut.

Other showcases include, "20 Days of Multimedia," a state-of-the-art projection and multi-media presentation that highlights the natural and untouched beauty of Nunavut. Giant film images of Nunavut's land and people will appear in the atrium of the West Vancouver Community Centre Spirit Square, an official 2010 Celebration Site.

During the Games, 2010 Explorer Camps and Educational Explorations for Children will deliver high-quality educational experiences focused on teaching new skills, languages, ways of living, northern film and Inuit games. These innovative programs also include tours of the Canadian Space Agency's *Sports in Space* exhibit – a debut exhibition built for the 2010 Games.

A proposed Nunavut lecture series rounds out the program in West Vancouver.

"I'm extremely pleased with the opportunities the District of West Vancouver will provide the people of Nunavut during the Games," said Minister Taptuna. "We are always looking for innovative ways to share our territory with the world, and West Vancouver during the Olympic Games is the best place and time to do this."

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