

Summary

*Note: Updates and changes from the “Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games – OPPORTUNITIES NOW! - April 2005” report are indicated in **BOLD**.

This is an update to previous 2010 Winter Olympic Games reports written by Commercial Service Vancouver announcing a variety of export opportunities for U.S. Firms.

History

In 2003, the city of Vancouver won the competition to host the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The Olympic Games will be held February 12-28, 2010; and the Paralympic Games will be held March 12-21, 2010.

Although 2010 may appear to be a distant date in the future, the reality is that many of the over US\$7 billion dollars worth of projects directly and indirectly related to the 2010 Olympics are starting NOW, so it is critical to establish key business relationships in British Columbia ASAP in order to take advantage of the bonanza of opportunities that have been created as a result of 2010.

The Olympics sports facilities are scheduled for completion by 2008, two years prior to the Olympics, in order to hold international competitions at those sites prior to the Games as part of the preparation process.

The Winter Olympic Games have acted as a catalyst for the British Columbia economy in general, moving many major projects ahead faster than they normally would have proceeded without the Games. As a result, projects that have already begun their initial phases, or will do so shortly, include: 1) A new high speed commuter rail line (RAV) between Vancouver International Airport and downtown (**note: Summer 2005 – project new name changed to CANADA LINE**); 2) upgrading of the Sea-to-Sky highway between Vancouver and the nearby ski resort of Whistler (where a number of events will also be held and a second Athletes Village will be built); 3) major expansion of the Vancouver Exhibition & Convention Center; 4) major expansions of the Vancouver International Airport and the Port of Vancouver; and 5) a variety of area transportation projects (Translink).

The capital costs for construction projects directly associated with the 2010 Winter Olympic Games are estimated at approximately US\$1.6 billion. Along with the many construction projects listed below, this also includes US\$122 million on security and medical services, US\$120 million on the operation of the various venues, US\$170 million on the event's workforce, US\$63 million on the opening, closing, medal, and cultural ceremonies, \$12.5 million on food catering, and US\$4.5 million on internet connections and communication. The federal and provincial governments have committed to spending US\$190 million towards the event.

Following is a list of the projects that are currently in progress and/or will be undertaken in preparation for the 2010 Winter Olympics. CS Vancouver will monitor and report the progress of each of these projects.

2010 Winter Olympic Games Projects

| Project Name | City | Project Description | Cost (US\$ millions) | Start Date | End Date |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|------------|----------|
| Sea-to-Sky Highway Upgrading | Vancouver to Callaghan Valley | Major upgrades including widening highway at various parts with 3 and 4 lanes. 75% of highway will have 3 lanes or more. | 484 | N/A | Nov-09 |
| Richmond Indoor Speed Skating Oval | Richmond | New long track speed skating oval which can be used after Olympics for hockey, short track speed skating, and indoor summer sports. Dominion Fairmile Construction, the construction manager, has requested RFP's for various trade tender packages, and this tender was closed February 10, 2006. | 125 | N/A | Apr-08 |
| Richmond Riverfront Residential & Commercial Development | Richmond | The City of Richmond plans on developing 18.6 acres of prime waterfront land on the banks for the Fraser River and adjacent to the site of the Richmond Oval. The land is divided into 7 parcels, and is to be used for residential and commercial purposes. RFP's have been issued, and the deadline is May 11, 2006. Cost of the project and other details will be known once the proposals are reviewed and the project manager is selected. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Whistler Sliding Center | Whistler | 1. New bobsleigh, skeleton and luge track at base of Blackcomb Mountain. EOI for construction of the bobsleigh/luge track has been published. Anticipated date of issuance of RFP is December 2005/January 2006. 2. Construction of 7 buildings associated with Sliding Centre, ranging size from 50-1000 square meters. Tender has been published. Tender due date was March 21, 2006. | 42.8 | 2006 | Aug-07 |
| Vancouver Olympic Village | Vancouver | Development of accommodation for 2100 athletes and team officials on 6 hectares in False Creek, including dining halls, polyclinics, training facilities, convenience stores. 56,700 sq. meters of rental housing and 3,300 sq. meters of commercial space. EOI was closed in September 2005. | 76.7 | Jun-08 | Sep-09 |
| Whistler Nordic Center | Whistler | Development of 50 km of new trails and facilities for biathlon, cross country, Nordic combined, ski jumping and 60m and 90m high jumps, and paralympic Nordic events. RFP for the South Site works has been published. | 80.7 | N/A | Oct-07 |
| Whistler Creekside Whistler/Blackcomb Resort Modifications | Whistler | Run modifications and spectator facilities for alpine downhill, super G, and combined downhill, Alpine Giant Slalom, Slalom and combined slalom and paralympic alpine events | 12.9 | N/A | Nov-07 |
| UBC Winter Sports Center | Vancouver | New winter sports center to replace Thunderbird Sport Center. Two ice sheets will be built. Tender for Phase I has been awarded. | 32.9 | Apr-06 | Apr-08 |
| Cypress Mountain Resort Modifications | West Vancouver | Run modifications and spectator facilities for freestyle skiing and snowboarding competitions, plus small snow-making facilities installation | 8.7 | N/A | Nov-07 |
| Hillcrest Park Stadium Park | Vancouver | Replacement of existing Vancouver curling club with a new permanent community center containing 10 to 12 ice sheets and 6000 temporary spectator seats. RFP for construction management services is anticipated to be published in February 2006. RFP for geothermal investigation services was due April 11, 2006. | 24.7 | Jun-07 | Dec-08 |

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|---|--------------------------|--|------|---------------|---------------|
| Whistler Olympic Village | Whistler | Development of Accommodation for 2000 athletes and team officials in 554 units on 23 hectares, including dining halls, polyclinics, training facilities, convenience stores. 300 rooms will be wheelchair accessible. 37,880 sq. meters of rental housing and 2,800 sq. meters of commercial space. EOI is closed. | 76.7 | Apr-08 | Sep-09 |
| Hastings Park | Vancouver | Pacific Coliseum renovations for figure skating and short track speed skating; Agrodome renovations for speed skating and installation of new temporary facility for short track speed skating training. Tender has been awarded (March 29, 2005) to TRACK Corporation in Spring Lake, MI. | 20.1 | May-05 | Dec-07 |
| E-COMM - Emergency Services and Communications Facility | Vancouver | State-of-the-art facility for coordinating communications and emergency services during the Olympic Games. | 30 | May-08 | May-09 |
| B.C. Place Modifications | Vancouver | Renovations to accommodate opening, closing, and medal ceremonies. | 2 | TBD | TBD |
| General Motors Place Modifications | Vancouver | Renovations to accommodate international-sized ice surfaces. | 4 | TBD | TBD |
| Whistler Entertainment Center | Whistler | Construction of a new multi-purpose facility including hockey rink to host the paralympic sledge hockey. | 3 | Apr-07 | Jul-08 |
| Whistler Skiing Venue Course Construction | Whistler Mountain | Modifications to existing trails at Whistler Mountain, on an as-needed basis. RFP was due from qualified firms April 25, 2006. | | May-06 | Oct-07 |
| Southeast False Creek & Olympic Village Roadwork & Utilities | | Road construction, water main, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, district heating system, electrical/street lighting, hydro, telecommunications and related works. Tenders were due May 10, 2006. Pre-tender meeting took place in Vancouver on April 26, 2006. | | | |

In addition, the 2010 Winter Olympics are acting as a catalyst for economic activity in B.C., providing additional opportunities. Listed below are other major infrastructure projects.

Major Infrastructure Projects

| Project Name | City | Project Description | Cost (US\$ millions) | Start Date | End Date |
|---|-----------|---|----------------------|-------------|----------|
| Canada Line (formerly named RAV -Richmond Airport Vancouver) Rapid Transit Project. | Vancouver | The Richmond Airport Vancouver rapid transit project will connect the Vancouver International Airport area with downtown Vancouver. It will be 19.5km in length with 16 stations. Tender has been awarded. | 1668 | Sept/Oct-05 | Nov-09 |
| Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project Ltd | Vancouver | This \$470 million expansion to the Vancouver Convention Centre will increase the Centre's capacity to 1.2 million square feet. A marina, amphitheater civic park and gardens are included. Phase I has been awarded. | 470 | Nov-04 | Nov-08 |
| Vancouver Port expansions | Vancouver | Various port expansions announced: Delta Port, expanding facilities by 50 acres for operations and storage and a third berth. Lynnterm, Centerm and Vanterm expansions announced. | 1040 | Sept-05 | Sep-08 |

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|---|-----------|---|------|--------|--------|
| Translink Transportation Projects | Vancouver | Translink, Vancouver’s regional transportation authority, announced their 10-year outlook and three-year capital plan, which consists of projects valued at U.S. \$3.42 billion dollars. Projects will be implemented from 2005 to 2007. The entire capital plan is scheduled for completion by 2013. | 3423 | Jun-05 | Sep-13 |
| Vancouver International Airport expansion | Richmond | The addition of nine gates to the new international terminal, widening taxiways and other improvements over the next decade. | 1479 | Apr-00 | 2010 |

Opportunities for U.S. Firms

The British Columbia economy is currently Canada’s fastest growing market, with a boom in both commercial and residential construction. There is a lack of construction materials and equipment. U.S. contractors, architects and engineering consultants will find good possibilities for productive strategic alliances with B.C. firms.

There are numerous export opportunities for U.S. firms who manufacture the following: snow machines, electrical and plumbing equipment, artificial turf, stadium seating, ski jumps, hockey arena equipment, clocks, television screens, public announcement equipment, pavement recycling machines, industrial heaters, health science equipment, fitness equipment, physiotherapy equipment, portable lavatories, radio communication equipment, and zambonis.

In addition to the specific services, equipment and supplies need to build and equip the many Olympics facilities and B.C. infrastructure projects, the economic boom the province is currently experiencing will provide a myriad of opportunities for U.S. companies in most industries and sectors. As the expression says, “a rising tide lifts all boats” - now is the time to get on board to take advantage of this unique phenomenon – the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

For More Information

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