



# British Columbia: Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games - OPPORTUNITIES NOW!

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## Summary

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. (*Note: updates/revision in blue, italicized text*).

## 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 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. <i>The Ministry of Transportation and S2S Transportation Group reached a final agreement in June 2005 to design, build, finance, and operate the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project. The project is to be split up in different segments each with its own starting and completion timelines. Most of these segments have started construction and are all scheduled to finish by the summer of 2009.</i>	484	Sept-04	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. <i>Construction has commenced for the oval and is on target to be completed by fall of 2008. 55% of the construction trade tenders have been awarded and the project is on budget. Tenders are still being awarded and can be found on the City of Richmond website. (<a href="http://www.richmond.ca">www.richmond.ca</a>)</i>	125	Nov-06	Nov-08
Whistler Sliding Center	Whistler	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <i>Construction for this venue started in June of 2005 and the bid for the first phase of construction was awarded to Whistler-based Coastal Mountain Excavations. Various tenders for the second phase of the construction have already been awarded.</i>	42.8	June-05	Dec-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. <i>Millennium Properties Limited has been selected to oversee the construction for the Village. Site preparation and infrastructure work began in February 2006. Building construction is planned to start in early 2007, with completion in 2009.</i>	76.7	Feb-06	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. <i>Construction for this venue began in April 2005 with the various tenders being offered to these companies: Emil Anderson Construction Inc., Surespan Structures Inc., Murrin Construction Ltd., Chatwin Engineering Ltd.</i>	80.7	Apr-05	Sep-07

		<i>Geotech Drilling Services Ltd. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2007. Temporary construction and facilities set-up will commence in summer 2009.</i>			
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. <i>Improvements began in summer 2006 and are to be completed by Fall 2007. Temporary structures for the Games will be set up August 2009.</i>	12.9	July-06	Oct-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. <i>Construction began in April 2006 and will be completed by Spring 2008.</i>	32.9	Jan-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. <i>Construction has already begun for these modifications with various tenders awarded to: Dayton &amp; Knight, McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd., Jacques Whitford &amp; Associates.</i>	8.7	May-06	Sept-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 anticipated to be published in February 2006. RFP for geothermal investigation services was due April 11, 2006. <i>Construction began in February of 2007 and is slated for completion by the Fall of 2008. The multi-purpose centre has been designed using leading environmental and business practices and is targeted for LEED Gold certification. An example of the environmentally sustainable features planned include the transfer of waste heat from the refrigeration plant to heat other building spaces, the adjacent aquatics centre and the venue site.</i>	22.8	Feb-07	Sept-08
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. <i>Site planning has already been completed. Venue construction is scheduled to start in March 2007 with completion in Summer 2009. Temporary structures for the Games will be set up starting in September 2009. Removal of temporary structures will start in March 2010 and the village will assume its post-Games legacy design.</i>	76.7	Mar-07	July-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. <i>Renovations are ongoing, but most have already been completed. Temporary facilities will be constructed most likely in 2009.</i>	18.6	Aug-06	Oct-09
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. <i>Will commence construction sometime in 2009. Bids have not been awarded as of yet.</i>	2	2009	TBD
General Motors Place Modifications	Vancouver	Renovations to accommodate international-sized ice surfaces. <i>On June 7, 2006, VANOC and the IIHF announced the 2010 ice hockey tournaments will be played on North American size ice surfaces rather than converting to the larger international size. Engineering studies are underway to determine building modifications that will be necessary to meet Olympic Games requirements. Modifications at General Motors Place will be timed to minimize any disruption to regular activities in the building.</i>	4	TBD	TBD
Whistler Entertainment Center	Whistler	Construction of a new multi-purpose facility including hockey rink to host the paralympic sledge hockey. <i>This facility is not to be built anymore and the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games ice sledge hockey tournament will be moved to the UBC Winter Sports Centre in Vancouver.</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A
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. <i>InTransit BC is overseeing construction. Construction is on schedule with lots of work being done between Vancouver and Richmond. Most tenders have been awarded but any inquires can be forwarded to Mike Stevenson at <a href="mailto:mike.stevenson@snclavalin.com">mike.stevenson@snclavalin.com</a></i>	1668	Aug-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. Budget has increased to 620 million due to rises in construction costs. <i>Construction is still on schedule and will be completed in 2008. Many tenders have been awarded, but further procurement opportunities remain. These can be found at <a href="http://www.vccep.bc.ca">http://www.vccep.bc.ca</a></i>	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. <i>DeltaPort project has begun and is scheduled for completion in 2009. The main on-site project components include: a wharf to</i>	1040	Sept-05	2009

		<i>create the third berth, creation of land for a container storage yard, tug moorage area, ship access channel, terminal services and infrastructure.</i>			
Translink Transportation Projects	Vancouver	Translink, Vancouver's regional transportation authority, announced its 10-year outlook and three-year capital plan, which consists of projects valued at U.S. \$2.5 billion dollars. Projects will be implemented between 2005 and 2007. The entire capital plan is scheduled for completion by 2013. <i>Many different projects are underway. Examples include the Canada Line, the expansion of the bus fleet, the new Golden Ears bridge and other road improvements. Further information on the projects being initiated by Translink can be found on its website: <a href="http://www.translink.bc.ca">www.translink.bc.ca</a></i>	2500	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. <i>Vancouver International Airport Authority has announced a one billion dollar capital program that involves expanding the airport. Major projects include a 420 million dollar expansion of the international terminal and a 300 million dollar infrastructure project necessary to support the Canada Line.</i>	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

The U.S. Commercial Service in Vancouver, Canada can be contacted via e-mail at: [Judy.Simonite@mail.doc.gov](mailto:Judy.Simonite@mail.doc.gov); Phone: 604-685-3382; Fax: 604-687-6095 or visit our website: [www.buyusa.gov/canada](http://www.buyusa.gov/canada).

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