



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

NEWS RELEASE

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FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT WELCOMES 2010 WINTER GAMES

The First Nations Summit is applauding the efforts of all those involved which has resulted in Vancouver being selected to host the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

"The successful 2010 Winter Olympic Games bid by Vancouver and Whistler provides a tremendous opportunity to showcase British Columbia, its tremendous pool of talent, cultural diversity and diverse geography. We applaud the efforts of the many people on the 2010 Bid Committee including Prime Minister Chretien, Premier Gordon Campbell, Jack Poole and John Furlong who made the Olympic and Paralympic Winter games a reality", said Grand Chief Edward John, a member of the First Nations Summit political executive.

"The First Nations Summit, in particular, wishes to thank Chief Gibby Jacobs (Squamish Nation), Chief Ernie Campbell (Musqueam First Nation), Chief Maureen Thomas (Tsleil-Waututh First Nation) and Chief Leonard Andrew (Lil' Wat Nation) for their involvement in bringing forward the views of their communities as well as those of the many First Nations in this province during the bid process", added Chief John.

The Summit officially endorsed the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic bid by passing a resolution of support in March of 2003.

The First Nations Summit believes that given the many different challenges the youth in our communities face, the 2010 Games will provide a unique opportunity to focus and shape their energies and dreams.

The Summit is also confident and proud that over the next seven years, the 2010 Olympic Games will provide an opportunity to showcase the strength and cultural diversity (including art, music, and cultural/traditional ceremonies) of First Nations in British Columbia to the rest of the world.

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The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in the treaty negotiation process in British Columbia. Further background information on the Summit may be found at www.fns.bc.ca.

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