

# AROUND THE RINGS



VANCOUVER VIEW - No.3

Vancouver: Partly Cloudy 10°C / 2°C - Whistler: Sunny 8°C / -2°C

FEBRUARY 17, 2010

## 2018 Winter Bids Launch Media Campaigns

For the first time since becoming candidates for the 2018 Winter Olympics, the three cities in the race hold briefings for the international media.

Teams from Annecy, Munich and PyeongChang appeared in a series of briefings Monday at the Main Media Center in Vancouver.

The three cities are in the applicant phase of the campaign when only limited contact with international media is permitted. The 2018 bids are taking part in the official observer program for the Vancouver Olympics and will file their first dossiers to the IOC next month.

The international campaign for the bids will begin in June, after the IOC Executive Board rules on which, if not all three cities, will be accepted as finalists. The IOC will vote on the 2018 host at the Session in Durban.

### Annecy Proposes Return to French Alps



Annecy CEO Edgar Grosperon, gold medalist in moguls at the 1992 Olympics. (ATR)

The Annecy bid for 2018 made its first presentation with a team drawn from the local and national levels.



Seth Wescott, USA, in 1st place; Mike Robertson, Canada, in 2nd, in Men's Snowboard Cross February 15, at Cypress Mountain. (Getty Images)

PHOTO OF THE DAY

The panel included Mayor Luc Rigault, French Minister for Sport Roselyne Bayot, French NOC President Denis Masseglia, 1992/1998 alpine bronze medalist Florence Mesnada, 2002 ice dancer Gwendal Peizerat and bid chief Edgar Grosperon, 1992 moguls gold medalist.

Missing from the dais were either of France's two IOC members, Jean Claude Killy or Guy Drut.

Grosperon says that Annecy offers a solid platform to stage the Games.

"We have exceptional, spectacular scenery with Mont Blanc, economic strength with one million tourists every year and so we believe that our bid is credible."

Annecy would be the third Olympics for the region, including 1924 in Chamonix and 1992 in Albertville. (cont' page 4)

## The View From Here:

### Good Things for Vancouver

Ok, Vancouver is taking a stumble or two as it tries to hit full stride for the remainder of the Games.

But there are also a lot of good things to say about these Winter Olympics, despite the early misuses.

The good of Vancouver starts appropriately with arrival at the Vancouver airport. Even before the Olympics, it was one of the easiest airports in the world to use. Volunteers and staff at desks just past passport control quickly processed accreditations, making Olympic visitors good to go well before hitting baggage claim.

Those airport volunteers – and their

colleagues across the Olympic theater – are giving these Games a big boost with their enthusiasm and willingness to help. The volunteer corps is always the backbone of Games-time operations, and in Vancouver they are keeping things running.

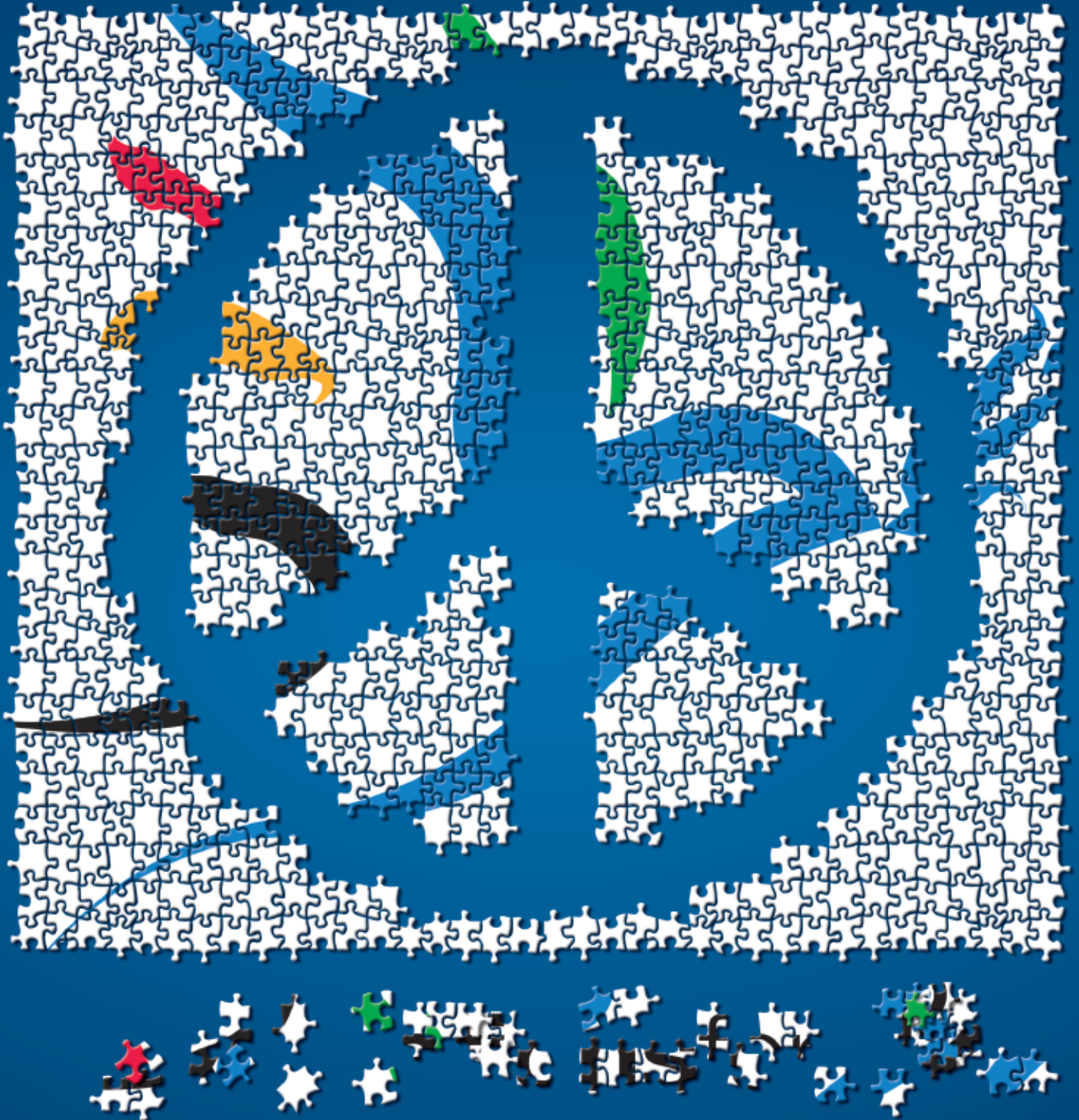
Security is unobtrusive. So far it's been incident-free, except for the anti-Games hooligan attack last weekend.

For media, Vancouver organizers have delivered a special treat: freedom from a mag and bag check to enter the Main Media Center. The bag and x-ray are still there, but only employed on a random basis.

At the transport mall underneath the MMC, media pass through the (cont' page 3)



# 42,000 Reasons For Peace



Over the last **2** years **373** youth leaders from conflicting regions, in **31** African and Asian countries have been directly trained by Generations For Peace.

They have gone on to train **2500** additional youth leaders and activists through **310** local sport-for-peace projects. As a result of their work **42000** of children and young people have been involved in peace activities.

And this is just the start of the journey with our Generations For Peace Pioneers...

[www.generationsforpeace.com](http://www.generationsforpeace.com)

## The View: cont' from page 1

mag and bag so that they are cleared before arriving at the venues.

It's also hard to emphasize the pleasure that comes from being able to move easily and quickly from one place to another, whether venue or party. Unlike Beijing, where attending anything often required an all-day commitment, here it is possible to attend a competition, a party or two, and still have time to finish the day's work.

I know these are the Winter Olympics and the Cypress Mountain is crying out for snow, not rain. The mild city weather makes everything and everyone run better.

The climate is good for the people buzz of the Games. Bustling crowds in downtown Vancouver and in Whistler give these Games a festive feel. The popularity of the legacy



Volunteers jokingly refer to themselves as "smurfs" due to their bright blue jackets. (Getty Images)

cauldron on the waterfront has apparently caught VANOC off-guard, with thousands of people streaming to Jack Poole Plaza every day.

The tastes of Vancouver are many and varied and well-priced. This may be the best food city of any recent Olympics, summer or winter.

The men's hockey tournament is underway,

the event of these Games that may turn the heat on high for the kettle of Olympic spirit in Vancouver. A new drama is underway in Vancouver as the Canadian team seeks the gold in the national sport.

But hockey aside, the gold medal won this week by moguls skier Eric Bilodeau is the early sports highlight of the Games, ending Canada's drought of home Games gold. The fans, we hope, will be twice as noisy when the next Canadian stands atop the podium in the coming days. +

ED HULA



**The Swiss Alpine team seem to like Canadian snow. Veteran Swiss speedster Didier Defago won Monday's men's downhill in Whistler, ending a 22-year gold-medal drought for Switzerland in Olympic Alpine events. The Swiss hadn't won alpine gold since Purmin Zurbriggen in 1988 in Calgary. Defago, who at 32 years and 4 months, also became the oldest winner in the history of the event.**

"This is one of the most beautiful days of my life," said Defago at the post-race press conference. "The conditions were perfect for me. I knew I would do well, but I never expected to do this well. I had a great year with Wengen and Kitzbuhel. A medal had to come eventually for me. This was always my goal. I wanted to bring home more weight in my luggage than I came here with."

Defago skied flawlessly on a the perfectly-groomed Dave Murray course in Whistler to win

in 1:54.31. Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway, the defending overall World Cup champion, captured the silver medal, finishing just 0.07 seconds behind Defago. Bode Miller of the United States finished third, 0.09 back.

"It's such a relief to get a medal," said Miller. "The fact that those guys beat me to the hundredth of a second doesn't bother me." Miller, who disappointed many at the Turin Games in Italy amidst reports of partying and lack of dedication, was happy with his bronze-medal performance in Whistler.

"It was hard for me to push without making mistakes," said Miller, who won two silver medals at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games. "I skied really well at the top but I was pushing too hard."

After a massive effort by race officials and hundreds of hard-working volunteers to get the course race-ready following Saturday's postponement, Mother Nature also lent a hand with cold overnight temperatures and clear skies

## Whistler Blog Swiss Slump Ends

for Monday's race.

"The conditions were great," said Canadian Manuel Osborne-Paradis, who finished a disappointing 17th on his home track. "There's no way I thought it would be in such good shape after the weather we've been having."

Canada's Eric Guay finished a respectable 5th, while fellow Canuck Jan Hudec finished 25th. The other 'Canadian Cowboy' in the race, Whistler local Robbie Dixon, missed a gate near the top of the course and was disqualified.

The men's downhill was originally scheduled for Saturday but was postponed for 48 hours due to the mix of warm temperatures, heavy snowfall, rain and fog that have wreaked havoc with the Alpine schedule. +

TODD LAWSON



## YOU'RE INVITED!

Around the Rings Newsmaker Breakfast

"Keeping the Games Alive"

Monday, February 22

Olympians Reunion Center - 51 Pender St.

RSVP: [breakfast@aroundtherings.com](mailto:breakfast@aroundtherings.com)

## PANELISTS:

**Dmitry Chernyshenko**, Sochi 2014 CEO  
**Charmaine Crooks**, Olympian/VANOC  
**Colin Hansen**, BC Finance Minister  
**Craig Reddie**, IOC member, Great Britain  
**John Steele**, UK Sport CEO

## AROUND THE RINGS

### EXECUTIVE

Ed Hula - Founder, Editor  
Sheila Scott Hula - Publisher  
Peter Lewman - COO  
Mark Bisson - European Editor

### CORRESPONDENTS

Bob Mackin - Vancouver  
Todd Lawson - Whistler  
Karen Rosen - The Americas  
Anthony Stavrinou - Oceania  
James Corbett - Europe

### PUBLICATIONS & NEW MEDIA DIRECTOR

Tristan Lucioti

### EDITORIAL

Edward Hula III - Reporter  
Sam Steinberg - Writer  
Isia Reaves - Writer

### BUSINESS

Cathy Herman - Accounting Manager  
Rui Kang - Accounting Asst.  
Janice McDonald - Special Projects  
Kathy Kuczka - Circulation Director

## AROUND THE RINGS

(ISSN 1095-9394)

[www.aroundtherings.com](http://www.aroundtherings.com)

World Football Insider

[www.worldfootballinsider.com](http://www.worldfootballinsider.com)

### CONTACT

1776 Peachtree Street  
Suite 436 North  
Atlanta, GA 30309 USA

### PHONE

+1 404 874 1603

### FAX

+1 404 874 3248

### ADVERTISING

[Ads@aroundtherings.com](mailto:Ads@aroundtherings.com)

## SUBSCRIBE TO ATR

SAVE 15%

USE PROMO CODE:  
**2010WOG**

Go to [AroundTheRings.com](http://AroundTheRings.com)  
Click "SUBSCRIBE"



## 2018 Winter Bids: cont' from page 1

Anney offers a three-cluster venue plan. Figure skating, speedskating, biathlon, ski jumping and cross country will be near Anney. A cluster of venues is located about 100km away in Mount Blanc/Chamonix, including alpine events and hockey.

Sliding events are set for La Plagne, 100 km south of Anney, used for the 1992 Games.

Rigault estimates the budget for Anney is \$1.5 billion, noting that 65 percent of the venues exist.

He says a new speedskating oval, of which there are none in France, will be the biggest construction project needed for the Games.

Geneva Airport will be the international gateway and the site of some accommodations. Rigault says an agreement is already in place with the city of Geneva.

### PyeongChang Hopes Third Time Is the Charm

The PyeongChang bid for 2018 has learned from the losing bids for the 2010 and 2014 Winter Olympics, says co-chairman and Governor Jin Sun Kim.

This is a "more advanced PyeongChang, a new Pyeongchang," he said in a presentation. "As you know we have had our disappointment in the past, but we've never given up our hopes and dreams."

Kim was joined by Yang Ho Cho, co-chairman and former chairman of Korean



PyeongChang 2018 co-chairs Jin Sun Kim and Yang Ho Cho. (ATR)

Air; Yong Sung Park, president of the Korean Olympic Committee, and So Hee Kim, an Olympic gold medalist in short-track speedskating in 1994.

The panel did not include the country's two IOC members: Dae Sung Moon, a member of the athletes' commission since 2008, and Kun Hee Lee, the former Samsung chairman who was reinstated by the IOC after a pardon on corporate corruption charges.

Cho did not specify what Lee's role would be with the bid beyond working as an IOC member. "Like in your country, when somebody is pardoned, we're moving forward," he said.

The city boasts what it calls "the most compact venue concept," which is clustered around a \$1.5 billion new resort complex called Alpensia. Venues for ski jump, biathlon and cross country skiing have just been built.

All of the venues are within 30 minutes of each other.

Cho said that 90 percent of Koreans support the bid and he is confident the region will become a new winter sports center.

Officials emphasized that despite losing twice, they kept the promises they made. Kim said PyeongChang learned that the Winter Olympics must be athlete-centered and leave a legacy.

He also said a winning bid would symbolically unify the people of North and South Korea.

### Munich Wants to Host "Friendly Games"

Munich, which hosted the 1972 Summer Olympics, is trying to become the first city to host both the Summer and Winter Games.

"We have a clear vision," said Munich CEO Willy Bogner. "We'd like to make it the Friendly Games. First and foremost friendly to all athletes, we will provide them with excellent venues."

The "ice cluster" will be in Munich, the "snow cluster" in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and the sliding center in Koenigssee, 160km distant.

Bogner was joined by Thomas Bach, President of the German Olympic Sports Confederation and Vice President of the IOC; Munich Lord Mayor Christian Ude; Dr. Thomas de Maizière, Federal Minister of the Interior; Siegfried Schneider, Bavaria's State Minister and two-time Olympic figure skating gold medalist Katarina Witt, who is Chair of Munich 2018.

German IOC member Claudia Bokel was also in the audience.

Bogner said the distance between

Munich and Garmisch-Partenkirchen is only one hour (90km) and could be even faster in 2018.

Ude said Munich has learned from the massacre at the 1972 Olympics in which terrorists killed 11 Israeli athletes and coaches.



Skating legend Katarina Witt is part of the Munich 2018 team. (ATR)

He said that since the tragedy, Munich has hosted more than 10,000 big events in the Olympic park without any security problems. "That's a reason why we think we can deliver security and can make safe Games," he said.

de Maizière added, "We learned the lesson and history never repeats."

Munich must build only three venues.

Munich believes one of its strengths is that it has organized more than a dozen World Championships in Olympic sports in the past four years and will host the alpine skiing world championships at Garmisch in 2011.

The Olympics would also be used to renew the Munich Olympic Park as a great center of sports for future generations, says the bid. +

- ED HULA & KAREN ROSEN

## Inspiring Communication



The London 2012 bid had it. Rio 2016 had it. Rugby's Sevens campaign had it. And we're proud to have worked on all three...

Now, as the countdown to London intensifies, Seven46 is on-hand to help bring your story alive in one of the world's greatest cities.

We create inspiring content for brands, campaigns and federations, helping you to build relationships and deliver lasting results.

Contact:  
Nick Varley, Editorial Director  
nick.varley@seven46.com  
www.seven46.com



  
**THE OLYMPIC  
MUSEUM  
COLLECTION**

Vintage designs for the Olympic athlete in all of us

*Officially licensed merchandise by XP International*



*Available at these and other fine stores:*

Hudson Bay Co. Super Store - Vancouver  
xpintl.com • NBC.com • Bloomingdales • Nordstrom's

COMING SOON TO CHINA



YOU KNOW DARTFISH FOR ITS STROMOTION™ AND EMMY AWARD WINNING SIMULCAM™ TECHNOLOGY, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- › Dartfish proudly claims over 100,000 users
- › We help coaches and athletes win by offering a total solution to capture, analyze, and publish videos
- › Dartfish users won 138 medals at the Winter Olympic Games in Torino
- › Dartfish.tv is our latest solution to help athletes win with performance critiqued online by coaches  
See [www.dartfish.tv](http://www.dartfish.tv) & [www.dartfish.tv/ussa](http://www.dartfish.tv/ussa)



**DARTFISH**   
SEE. LEARN. SUCCEED.

[info@dartfish.com](mailto:info@dartfish.com)  
[www.dartfish.com](http://www.dartfish.com)  
[www.dartfish.tv](http://www.dartfish.tv)

## The Great Vancouver Walk-Off Ed vs Sheila (She's Still Ahead)

**Fans of the Great Vancouver Walk-off can now send messages of support to their favorite competitor and follow the action on YouTube.**

The only competition that lasts the full 17 days of the Games is shaping up as a blowout, as Publisher Sheila S. Hula's blistering pace puts her far ahead of Editor Ed Hula at the end of the third full day of competition.

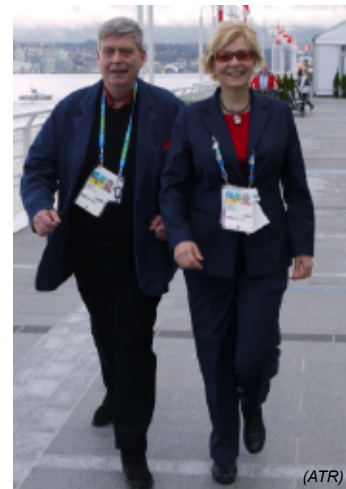
The publisher so far leads the editor 20.25km to 7.14km in the contest for the medal in Olympic walking.

"I've never even been close to winning a medal in anything athletic," the publisher said. "I'm determined that

victory will be mine this time."

Results will be verified via the VANOC-branded pedometers contained in kits for accredited media. They will be updated throughout the competition period on [AroundTheRings.com](http://AroundTheRings.com), [@aroundtherings](https://twitter.com/aroundtherings) on Twitter and [www.youtube.com/aroundtherings](http://www.youtube.com/aroundtherings).

Fans can send messages of support to either contestant (or both) at [Walk2010@aroundtherings.com](mailto:Walk2010@aroundtherings.com). +



**Britain**  
*You're invited*

## VisitBritain

invites our friends in the media to meet the team as we look ahead to 2012.

We'll be celebrating with world marathon record holder Paula Radcliffe on 24 February 2010.

Contact [invited@visitbritain.org](mailto:invited@visitbritain.org) if you'd like to join the party.





# IAAF World Championships *Daegu 2011*

*27 August - 4 September 2011*  
*Republic of Korea*

## **Ideals : Dream, Passion, and Challenge**

Daegu has chosen 'Dream, Passion, Challenge' as its ideals to pursue with the world. We believe that 'Dream' would help unite the world into one global community, where national borders and cultural differences will be overcome by 'Passion', which would develop camaraderie within the IAAF Family. It is our 'Challenge' to prevail over human limitations and inspire future generations of champions with our ideals.

## **Slogan : Sprint Together for Tomorrow**

For these noble aspirations, we decided that the slogan, 'Sprint Together for Tomorrow' would capture the competitive spirit and sense of solidarity within the IAAF Family.



**Organizing Committee for the  
IAAF World Championships Daegu 2011**

sochi.<sup>RU</sup>  
2014 

XXII Olympic Winter Games

Gateway to the Future

SOCHI  
2014  
Poehali!