

VSB Celebration News!

A Vancouver School Board newsletter to help our schools celebrate the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

Jan/Feb 2010

www.vsb.bc.ca



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2010 Winter Games: Transportation Update

With the 2010 Winter Games nearly upon us, we would like to cover several important points to assist you with some of the challenges that lie ahead in the area of transportation.

Go Online to Plan Your Trips

The following websites will assist you in planning for your transportation.

- for information on roads, cycling and pedestrian routes www.vancouver.ca
- to plan a trip by public transit www.travelsmart2010.ca
- for general information about transit www.translink.ca
- Translink is suggesting that when possible, travel in off-peak hours to downtown Vancouver:
 - before 7a.m. and after 9a.m.
 - before 2p.m. and after 7p.m.

Peak Dates for Heavy Traffic

The following dates will be particularly busy in terms of transportation:

- Thursday, February 11
- Friday, February 12

Car Sharing

Additionally, the Vancouver School Board has established a sub-site on the Jack Bell Foundation car share website. This site enables VSB employees who would like to either find or offer car pooling opportunities to link with each other.

To access this site go to: <https://online.ride-share.com>

The Vancouver School Board is listed among the list of organizations which have created a sub-site. Kevin Millsip, VSB's Sustainability Coordinator, will send a separate email with detailed instructions on how to either join the existing VSB car pool sub-site.

Human Resources Issues

For Human Resources issues contact the appropriate individual as per present practice.

Keeping You Updated

Early next week each school will receive:

1. City of Vancouver maps with walking and pedestrian routes in downtown Vancouver and
2. City of Vancouver cycling maps. If you want more copies of the cycling map please email Kevin Millsip at kmillsip@vsb.bc.ca.

As part of our commitment to keep you informed this information is readily available on our website at www.vsb.bc.ca/OlympicTransportation

Live City Education Program (Feb. 5 – 19, 22 – 26 and March 18 & 19)

To date almost 10,000 students will be attending the LiveCity Education Program at LiveCity Yaletown. The education program which has been offered exclusively to our students features live performances from Canadian musicians and dancers, speeches by Olympians and Paralympians, Olympic competitions shown on the big screen and much more.



Following the show, students and teachers have the option of touring some of the interactive sponsor pavilions. 2010 Legacies Now has provided many schools with transportation subsidies for this event.

For more information about LiveCity Vancouver, go to www.vancouver.ca and look for the link.

Ticket to Inspiration

Over 7,100 students and staff from 51 schools in our district will be attending Paralympic events at the cost of \$5 per ticket with subsidized transportation. The students will attend sporting events at the Curling Venue, UBC Arena and Whistler/Callaghan Valley. Thanks to the Paralympic Organizing Committee for making these events available to our students.

Free Tickets for Kids – Opening Ceremonies

- VANOC has provided 40 free tickets for the Opening Ceremonies. 40 lucky students from 5 of our inner city schools will receive these tickets via a draw of grade 11 and 12 students. The students drawn will attend the opening ceremonies on Friday February 12th at B.C. Place.
- Also, VANOC will be distributing an additional 4,000 tickets for Olympic and Paralympic events from their Inner City Committee via More Sports. These are tickets for ceremonies, curling, preliminary hockey and aerials and they will be distributed through the Community School Teams to some of our students.



The torch passes through Alberta

Olympic Torch Celebrations

Two Vancouver schools will be host to Olympic Torch Relay celebrations sponsored by the City of Vancouver. The program will feature entertainment, Olympians and Paralympians and a few added surprises for the students.

Following the celebrations the students will be able to go out onto the street to watch the torch go by. Many thanks to our partners at the City of Vancouver for providing this opportunity for our students.

- Killarney Secondary School/Killarney Community Centre – Thursday, Feb. 11
- Thunderbird Elementary/Thunderbird Community Centre – Friday, Feb. 12

These celebrations are exclusively for the students and staff of Killarney and Thunderbird.

To view the route of the Olympic Torch relay go to www.vancouver.ca and click on Olympic Torch relay. Follow the links and you will find a pdf of the route plus info on celebration sites for Feb 11 and 12.

Students going to the Winter Games



StudentsLive – Olympic and Paralympic Reporter Program

Fourteen secondary students from Vancouver Schools were selected for this program which is sponsored by the B.C. Educational Leadership Council and the West Vancouver School District. These students will participate in a range of media activities including filing articles, capturing videos, conducting interviews and will be based at the BC International Media Centre at Robson Square.

They will share their experiences at www.studentslive.ca and apply a variety of social media tools including blogs, Facebook and Twitter. Students from across British Columbia, Canada and the world are also invited to contribute to the site.

VSB students selected include:

Lauren Byrne	Prince of Wales
Riley Chow	Prince of Wales
Stergois Darntanis	Prince of Wales
Jasmine Dhaliwal	David Thompson
Evelyn Dias	David Thompson
Emma Djwa	Britannia Secondary
Adeleine Estrada	Charles Tupper
Hannah Lim	Prince of Wales
Genny Nugent	Prince of Wales
James Nugent	Prince of Wales
Benjamin Pan	Prince of Wales
Tanya Shum	Prince of Wales
George Zhang	Prince of Wales
Richelle Zheng	Prince of Wales



Van tech students show off their Olympic hockey tickets with Tewanee Joseph, CEO and Executive Director of the Four Host First Nations Society (far right).

Van Tech student essays net Olympic hockey tickets

Vancouver Technical Secondary students were thrilled to learn that their essays were winners in a contest to receive tickets to Winter Olympics hockey. The students wrote essays describing the Olympic Truce and how it relates to peace and conflict resolution involved in everyday life.

Tewanee Joseph, CEO and Executive Director of the Four Host First Nations Society, came to Van Tech on January 12 to personally present the students with their tickets.

Hamber art students paint mural



Eric Hamber Secondary art students put their creativity to work and painted a large mural that will be displayed in a pavilion at LiveCity Downtown.



MittsForKids

To date, MittsForKids founded by Mary Ann Clark, has provided Olympic Mitts for all the kindergarten and grade 1 and 2 students in our district. Additionally, 62 schools were completely adopted and mitts provided for all students K-7.

What started off as a small scale program took quite a turn when private citizens wanted to sponsor schools to which they had a personal tie. In some cases donors sponsored their alma mater, others sponsored schools close to their homes and business.

It has been quite a production as the pallets of mittens have arrived in our mail room for distribution. On one occasion 14,000 pairs of mittens were bundled in the appropriate numbers for delivery to our schools. Many thanks to the staff in the mail room especially Mike and Renato for all their help in delivering the mitts.



Paint (your school) and the town red

- The Canadian Olympic Committee is encouraging everyone in Vancouver including our students and staff to participate in this program on February 11 and 12. All of our 53,000+ will receive Canadian Flags, pins, tattoos and book marks from the Canadian Heritage Ministry to use for Paint the Town Red and to also celebrate Flag Day on February 15. Visit <http://paint-town-red.olympic.ca> for more information.

If you'd like to share your stories with Celebration News email Patsy Peters at ppeters@vsb.bc.ca