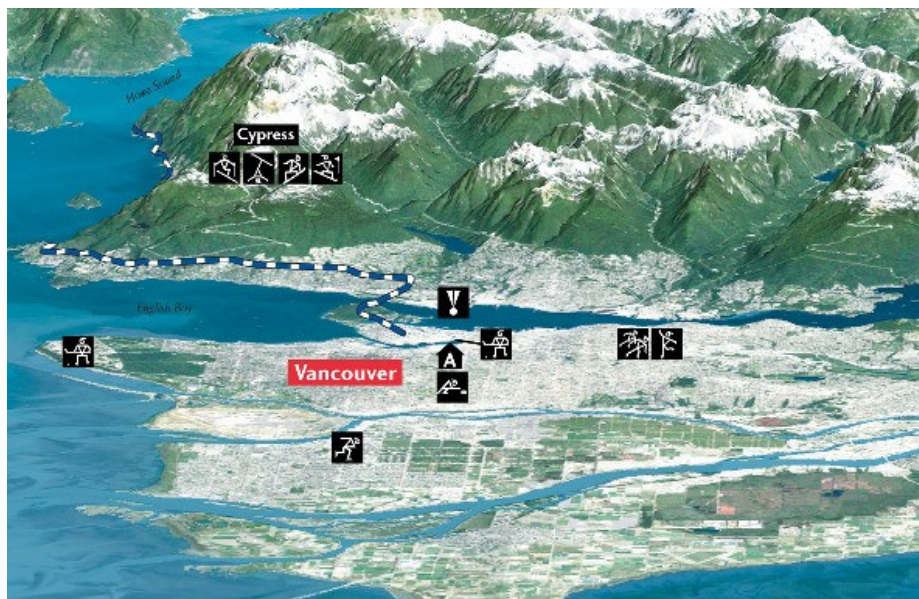


## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

On July 2, 2003, Members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) selected Vancouver and Whistler as the host cities of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Consequently, British Columbia will host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games (the Games) in February and the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games in March.

The majority of the Olympic events and venues are proposed to take place in the Vancouver region (Figure 1-1), including the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, nightly Medal Ceremonies, Main Press Centre, International Broadcast Centre, Ice Hockey, Figure Skating, Speed Skating, Short Track Speed Skating, Curling, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding and the majority of the Arts and Cultural activities. Whistler will host Alpine Skiing, Biathlon, Cross-Country Skiing, Nordic Combined, Ski Jumping, Bobsleigh, Skeleton, Luge, and medals ceremonies for the Olympics. All of the Paralympic events will also be held at Whistler.

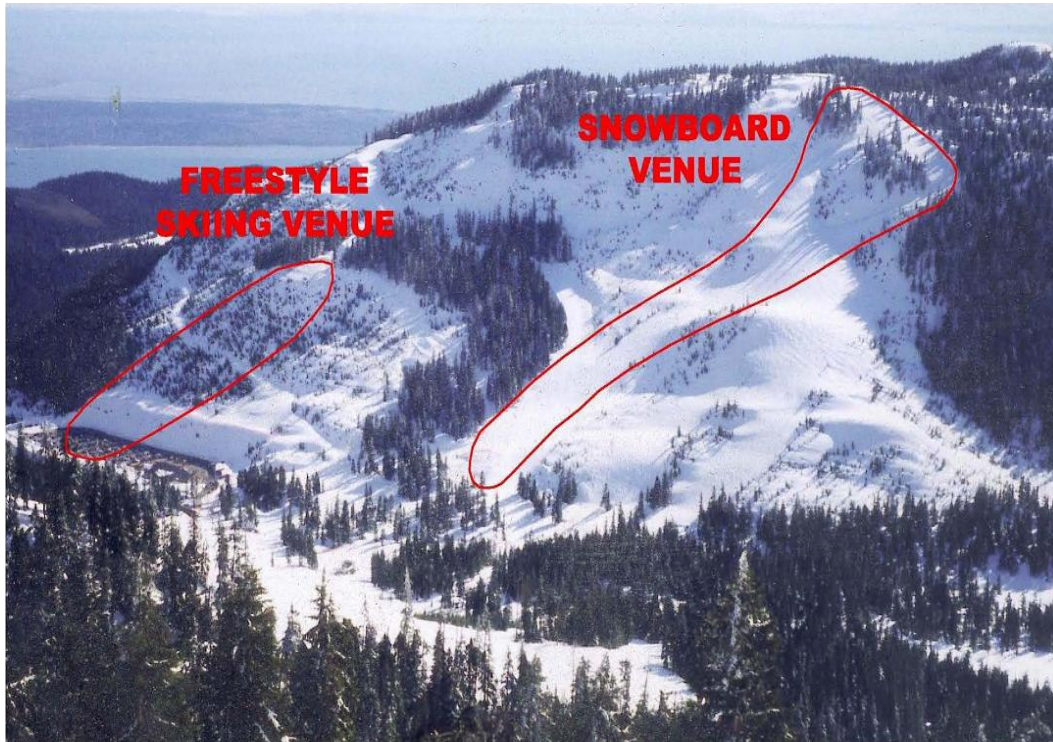
Figure 1-1 Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games Venue Locations



Cypress Provincial Park, located in West Vancouver, has been identified as the location for the Olympic Snowboarding and Freestyle Skiing competitions. These competitions will occur on Black Mountain in the Cypress Mountain Ski Area (Figure 1-2). The Cypress Venue (the Project) will include mogul and aerial freestyle skiing events, and halfpipe, border cross and parallel giant slalom snowboard events. The Cypress Venue will not host any Paralympic events.



Figure 1-2 Proposed Locations for the Freestyle and Snowboard Venues on Black Mountain



## 1.1 Proponent Identification

The proponent of the project is the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC). The Organizing Committee was incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act. The Committee's mandate is to "support and promote the development of sport in Canada by planning, organizing, financing and staging the XXI Olympic Winter Games and X Paralympic Games in 2010".

VANOC is comprised of representatives from the Canadian Olympic Committee, including Canadian members of the International Olympic Committee; the Government of Canada; the Province of British Columbia; the City of Vancouver; the Resort Municipality of Whistler; the Canadian Paralympic Committee; and a joint representative nominated by the Band Councils of the Lil'wat Nation and the Squamish Nation.



---

The name, address and proponent contact for this Environmental Assessment Report are:

Project: Cypress Venue  
Proponent: Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games  
Proponent Contact: George McKay  
Address: Suite 400 – 1095 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, BC; V6E 2M6  
Telephone: 778-227-2176  
Fax: 778-328-2011

---

## 1.2 Sustainability Principles

During the international bid phase, the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation formally committed to moving beyond environmental stewardship, to embrace the economic and social components of sustainability in order to support balanced decision making, a long term view, inclusiveness, equity and healthy communities. Moving beyond environmental management, sustainability has been formally integrated within the Games' operational plans through a Sustainability Management System that is comprised of stages of commitment, planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting.

VANOC has formally indicated that it will adopt this integrated approach to identifying opportunities, so that it can:

- Incorporate sustainability into designs, and adopt appropriate sustainable actions in the construction and implementation phases of venues;
- Practice and demonstrate sustainability as a key aspect of the Games; and then
- Following the Games, account / report out as to how these sustainability commitments were achieved.

In order to integrate sustainability into all aspects of the Games, a sustainability policy based on key Sustainability Principles was developed. These six Sustainability Principles define the values and beliefs that form the basis of VANOC's commitment:

- **ECOLOGICAL LIMITS** – Society must live within the earth's capacity to sustain life;



- INTERDEPENDENCE – Economic and social prosperity are dependent upon the natural environment;
- LONG TERM VIEW – Today's decisions and actions must not compromise the choices available to future generations;
- INCLUSIVENESS – Participation by all people must be promoted and decisions must be based on input from key stakeholders;
- EQUITY – People must be empowered to live sustainably and resources must be used fairly and efficiently in order to meet basic human needs worldwide;
- HEALTHY COMMUNITIES – Community health and quality of life is integral to global sustainability.

VANOC is committed to sport development and sustainable environmental, economic and social practices in its plans and actions, and intends to ensure that its successors would meet its commitments to sport development and sustainable environmental, economic and social practices through:

#### Environmental Stewardship

- Conserving resources;
- Preventing pollution; and
- Protecting and enhancing natural systems.

#### Maximizing Economic Opportunity

- Supporting international trade and investment;
- Advancing social equity through economic opportunities; and
- Strengthening community and stakeholder partnerships.

#### Social Responsibility

- Communicating openly and consulting with stakeholders;
- Promoting diversity and celebrating cultural heritage;
- Increasing understanding of sustainability;
- Hosting inclusive and accessible Games; and
- Contributing to sport development and health promotion.

In developing the sustainable design objectives for this project, it has also been necessary to consider the overall project schedule to have the improvements completed by 2008, as well as budget constraints. The sustainable design process has involved the design team and VANOC to define and agree to specific sustainable design objectives and goals. Basic objectives have been identified, as follows:



- Employ strategies to protect and restore natural resources by designing the site to limit disruption to existing vegetated areas, and to use natural stormwater treatment systems and best management practices if and where practical.
- Reduce environmental impacts related to energy use by reducing reliance on fossil fuels by using cleaner sources of power. When evaluating systems options, consider overall source energy usage.
- Reduce water, chemical, construction materials, maximize materials efficiency in construction and operation and, reduce the generation of wastes.
- Conserve water and consider water re-use systems by employing water efficient design solutions.
- Use environmentally preferable building materials by evaluating the environmental impacts, resource efficiency, and performance of proposed building materials over their full life cycle. Use non-toxic materials from local, renewable, sustainably acquired resources that minimize waste and pollution from manufacturing, installation, and maintenance.
- Use plant material native to suit the local climate to ensure survival while reducing maintenance. Explore opportunities to provide habitat for wildlife and to restore degraded site areas.
- Plan for recycling during construction, demolition and occupancy by providing collection bins for recyclable materials for both construction and final occupancy usage.

VANOC will work to ensure these sustainability commitments are communicated and understood, and achieved to the greatest degree that the development and operation of the Cypress Venue permits.

