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FOR COUNCIL - MARCH 3, 2009

B.4

4. Welcome Women Ski Jumpers to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games

MOVER: Councillor Geoff Meggs

SECONDER: Councillor Heather Deal

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver is host city for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and prides itself on its commitment to women's equality; and

WHEREAS the International Olympic Committee has a record of leadership in supporting the development of women's sport; and

WHEREAS the IOC has so far refused to allow the inclusion of women ski-jumpers in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games despite the fact that their participation would be consistent with their technical proficiency, the 114-1 vote of the International Ski Federation, the recent World Championships in the Czech Republic and the recent inclusion in the Games of many new facility-based winter sports enjoyed by women; and

WHEREAS failure to include women's ski-jumping in the 2010 Olympic Games may expose the City, the Province and other Olympic Partners to court rulings finding the ban in violation of Canadian human rights law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver confirm its unanimous resolution of February 26, 2008, calling for the inclusion of women's ski-jumping in the 2010 Games; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver call upon the IOC and VANOC to include a women's ski-jumping event during the 2010 Games to ensure that the Games are free of discrimination and organized with full respect for the rights to equality enjoyed by women under Canadian law.

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