

MOTION

7. **Beyond 2010: Consideration for the City of Vancouver to Participate in a Future Olympic Winter Games Bid**

At the Council meeting on March 10, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on April 1, 2020, in order to hear from speakers. Subsequently, the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on April 1, 2020, was cancelled, and this motion was placed on the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 4, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

Submitted by: Councillor De Genova

WHEREAS

1. February 12 to 28, 2010, Vancouver was the host city for the Winter Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games from March 12 to March 21, 2010;
2. The Four Host First Nations Protocol Agreement was signed on November 24, 2004, BETWEEN LIL'WAT NATION, MUSQUEAM FIRST NATION, SQUAMISH NATION, TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION, this agreement formed the Four Host Nations Secretariat;
3. 2,566 athletes participated in 86 events at the Games;
4. 13 Competition Venues hosted the 2010 Olympic Winter Games; this included 6 purpose-built new sports competition venues for the 2010 Winter Games in municipalities including Vancouver, Whistler, Richmond and West Vancouver. The venues in the City of Vancouver included:
 - HILLCREST CENTRE: Built to host curling events at the Winter Olympic Games and Paralympic games, and has since served the community as a community centre with an aquatic centre, fitness centre, ice rink, gymnasium, indoor cycling, multi-purpose rooms, games room, dance studio, playgrounds, childcare centre and café, curling club with dedicated space and library;
 - ROGERS ARENA: Venue for Ice Hockey during the 2010 Winter Olympic Games; and
 - PACIFIC COLISEUM: Venue for Figure Skating, Short-Track at the 2010 Olympic Games;
5. Beyond sport venues, other Olympic legacies included contributions by the International Olympic Committee and senior levels of government to massive infrastructure projects that benefit the City of Vancouver and

connect the city of Vancouver to other municipalities in the Lower Mainland. Including:

- VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE: A state of the art facility with a green roof. This operated at the main media centre during the 2010 Winter Games;
- CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE and OLYMPIC VILLAGE;
- CAULDRON: Provided by FortisBC through a legacy investment and partnership with the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Organizing Committee, this is a permanent landmark at Jack Poole Plaza;
- PUBLIC ART: Including “The Birds” in Olympic Village; and
- INVESTMENT IN TRANSIT: The Canada Line and Sea-to-Sky Highway, linking essential transit in Vancouver and across the Lower Mainland;

6. The City of Vancouver and the regional benefited from investment in the economy, including but not limited to:

- 2,500 new full-time positions in the region;
- 100 of the construction jobs in the Olympic Village were given to inner city residents. This was in addition to training;
- Vancouver 2010 Fabrication (FAB) Shop, where indigenous people and local groups, including disadvantaged youth, single mothers and new immigrants were provided training and jobs; and
- \$15 million to local Vancouver businesses during the games;

7. The City of Vancouver: Olympic Legacy Reserve Fund- Olympic Sustainability Initiative Projects Final Report 2010 stated that, “Vancouver’s bid developed these unique commitments in order to ensure that the inner city communities of the Downtown Eastside, Downtown South and Mount Pleasant would realize gains from the Olympic experience. It was agreed that resources be invested to assist in achieving the well-being of those communities and to facilitate inclusion, investment in social sustainability and sharing of the 2010 Winter Games’ benefits.”¹;

¹ Olympic Legacy Reserve Fund- Olympic Sustainability Initiative Projects Final Report, August 2010, City of Vancouver https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/Great-beginnings-OSSFfinal_Report.pdf

² International Olympic Committee, 2011. FACTSHEET: Vancouver Facts & Figures: Updated February 2011. s.l.: https://stillmed.olympic.org/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/Games/Winter-Games/Games-Vancouver-2010-Winter-Olympic-Games/Facts-and-Figures/Facts-and-Figures-Vancouver-2010.pdf#_ga=2.233894941.241347544.1582269759-738561800.1582269759.

8. According to a PricewaterhouseCoopers report looking at the impact prior to the games, “between 2003 and 2008, 20,780 jobs were produced in BC and another 1,750 jobs across Canada through interprovincial trade; more than 800 new business were created as a result of incremental economic growth stimulated by the Games; and the Games also generated between \$70.2 million and \$91.9 million in federal tax revenues and as much as \$1.05 billion in real GDP.”²;
9. Employment in BC was given a bump up in February 2010 according to Statistics Canada, Employment and jobs increased in February 2010. “This amounted to 8,300 positions with average weekly earnings, including overtime, of \$843.91”;
10. Former VANOC CEO, John Furlong, has made recent comments in the media, urging Vancouver to consider a bid as the host city on the 2030 Olympic Games;
11. Premier John Horgan is quoted by Global as saying “It needs to come from the community. It needs to come from Vancouver. This is not something we will be initiating; and
12. Mayor Stewart issued a statement saying, “the very first thing that would need to happen, however, is that residents of Vancouver get to express their support through a referendum much like the first bid”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council request the Mayor to send a letter on behalf of Council to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), and copy the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC), to request their input on the potential of Vancouver considering a bid as the host city for the Winter Olympic Games in the next 10 years.
- B. THAT Council request the Mayor to send a letter on behalf of Council to the Four Host First Nations of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, including the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and also the Lil'wat First Nation, and request their input on the potential of Vancouver considering a bid as the host city for the Winter Olympic Games in the next ten (10) years.
- C. THAT Council request the Mayor send letters to Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Horgan, on behalf of Council, requesting they each provide a response addressing if the federal government and provincial government will contribute necessary funding for Vancouver to participate in a competitive Olympic Winter Games bid in 2030, including funding for potential infrastructure projects in the City of Vancouver and throughout the region.

- D. THAT, if both senior levels of government confirm consideration for funding, Council direct staff to engage with the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), and other relevant partners, to explore and consider the impact a future Olympic bid may have on the City of Vancouver, including the impact on affordability for businesses and residents, and report back to Council with recommendations, including considerations for a referendum to poll the support of Vancouver residents and property owners.

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