

Vancouver 2010 Olympics Free Events Guide from CityCaucus.com



Alberta House



OPEN NOW: Located at the intersection of [Robson and Beatty Streets](#) **Alberta Plaza**, in front of Alberta House, will be open to the public from 10:00 am – 11:00 pm daily and feature information about living, working, playing and investing in Alberta. Every evening the plaza will offer [free performances](#) featuring 40 of Alberta's established and emerging musicians and artists. The plaza will also showcase Alberta's diverse cuisine with food and beverage sales offered to the public.

Atlantic Canada House



OPEN NOW: Atlantic Canada's best will hit the world stage during the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador along with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency present Atlantic Canada House at [Granville Island's Arts Club Theatre](#) from February 13 to 28.

For two weeks, Canada's West Coast will come alive with East Coast performers on one of Vancouver's most historic sites, Granville Island. A popular local venue, Granville Island is expecting over 35,000 visitors daily. It is easily accessible by water taxis, bus, bicycle, streetcar and foot. It is highly recommended you do not drive on to Granville Island as there will be limited parking available. A Canada

Line to Bombardier streetcar connection would be easiest.

BC Hydro PowerSmart Village

OPEN NOW: This winter during the 2010 Games, [BC Hydro](#) will be opening the doors to the BC Hydro Power Smart Village, another free attraction. Visitors



are welcomed to celebrate the spirit of the Games in a theme of conservation and sustainability. Members of your entire family will enjoy a wide range of activities like dancing on a sustainable dance floor, creating an inspirational message on the digital expression wall or even taking a break from cheering on athletes to check out First Nation carvings or our "the future is now" home exhibit. You'll even have a chance to **win Olympic tickets** by taking part in one of their many events. Click [here](#) to read our special Editor's Review of this pavilion.



Click [here](#) if you want to find out more details regarding the CityCaucus.com and Team Power Smart promotion which might entitle you to win 2 free Olympic tickets to a quarter final men's hockey game! The promotion ends at 6 pm on Feb 22nd. Pop by the pavilion located at 333 Dunsmuir St. in Vancouver and take a photo of yourself there. Upload this photo to our [Flickr group](#) and you'll get two entries to win.

The venue is about one-block from the [LiveCity Downtown](#) site and the Canada Pavilion in Vancouver. During the Olympics (Feb 10 to 28) the hours of operation are Sun to Thurs - 10 am to 8 pm and Fri and Sat - 10am to 10pm. Click [here](#) for directions.

BC Pavilion (Vancouver Art Gallery)

OPEN NOW: The **British Columbia Pavilion** will be proudly located at the beautiful Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG) building next to Robson Square. You can expect to see a number of interactive displays that will highlight the rich cultural fabric of both British Columbia and Canada. You gotta check out BC's fantastic new [You Gotta Be Here](#) ad.



Live concert performances are taking place at Robson Square which will feature several BC musical artists (more information below). This downtown hub also features the International Media Centre where several live broadcasts are taking place, the Ziptrek line over Robson Square, and the GE Plaza skating rink.

A series of displays highlighting BC industry & tourism will also be on-site. Visitors will get [full access to the VAG for free](#) during the Games and the venue is anticipated to be open between **10:00 am – 5:00 pm daily** (no evening hours, private events [only](#)). A special Leonardo Da Vinci exhibit is available for public viewing. Located in the heart of downtown across from the [huge Canadian flag at Georgia & Howe Street](#) and right next to the GE Plaza outdoor skating rink, this will definitely become a popular gathering place. The north lawn is also home to the official [Omega Olympic and Paralympic Countdown Clock](#). The area is conveniently accessed by the Skytrain or Canada Line Vancouver City Centre stops. You, definitely, gotta be here.

Bell Ice Cube



OPEN NOW: The Bell Ice Cube will be a 3,000 square-foot temporary building located at [Robson & Beatty street in downtown Vancouver](#) and will open to the public on February 11th. It will be open February 11th to 28th from 11am to 11pm and will feature entertainment, **Olympic ticket giveaways** and interactive product demonstrations. The unique high-tech design of Bell Ice Cube will provide visitors an opportunity to view ceremonies and competitions on multiple plasma screens in high definition Bell TV. During the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and during major sporting events, visitors will be able to watch the magic on a large projection screen.

Bombardier Streetcar



Operating Now: Known as the Olympic Line, this will be a [demonstration project](#) between Granville Island "French Quarter" and the Olympic Village [Canada Line station](#). A modern and "high-end" European streetcar will shuttle passengers by rail between the [Canada Line](#) and the "French Quarter" at [Granville Island](#). It is free to ride, but they are expecting over 500,000 people will take the trip over the two month period when it will be in operation. The train is [scheduled](#) to start running on January 21st (open ceremonies take place at 9:30am at Cambie & 2nd Avenue, beside the Olympic Village Canada Line station) through March 21st, and it will run 18 hours per day. CityCaucus.com also took some [great photos](#) of the Olympic Line, and has this [exclusive first look video](#). Here's the map to the [Granville Island stop](#), and here is the map to the [Olympic Village stop](#).

Canada Line (to YVR)



While not *free*, for about the price of a cup of coffee, you can ride the beautiful new [Canada Line](#) rapid transit system, and head from the downtown Waterfront station all the way to the Vancouver International Airport. Along the way, you will cross the mighty Fraser River and have the opportunity to stop at trendy Oakridge Mall and Cambie Village.



When you arrive at the airport, be sure to visit one of the most beautiful airport [observatories](#) found anywhere on the planet. Here is a [YouTube video](#) you can watch before you go. We also have a [photo of it](#) on our Flickr page.

Canada Pavilion



OPEN NOW: Centrally located at Vancouver's [LiveCity Downtown](#) Celebration Site (corner of [Georgia St and Cambie St](#)), the Canada Pavilion will demonstrate Canada's commitment to creative excellence, sustainable development and fostering diversity with informative and innovative content that is sure to make Canadians proud. Inside the pavilion, visitors can use interactive technologies to learn about Canadian sport excellence, including Canada's Olympic and Paralympic history, trivia and visual displays illustrating Canadian innovation in sporting equipment and technology, and virtual snowboard

and slapshot games. The Pavilion will provide an opportunity to learn more about Olympic and Paralympic sports and help to choose an activity that's right for you. The pavilion will open on Saturday, Feb 13th. Hours of operation are February 13-27, 2010: 11:00 a.m. to midnight. February 28, 2010: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. March 12-14, 2010: 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. March 18-21, 2010: 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

See CityCaucus.com's [exclusive "first look" profile of the Canada Pavilion!](#)

Canada's Northern House



OPEN NOW: Canada's [Northern House](#), at [602 W. Hastings Street & Seymour](#) in Vancouver, is located in the heart of downtown. You can expect to be captivated with the simulated northern lights shining from the windows. The lights will draw people in to view and get information on Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon art, business, athletes, cultural performers and artists. Visitors to Northern House will be greeted at the entrance by an inuksuk built by

former Nunavut Commissioner Peter Irniq, using stone from Nunavut, Northwest Territories and British Columbia. Canada's Northern House will showcase talented performers such as Arcticq and throat singers, drum dancers, and traditional games athletes during the Olympic Games. Canada's Northern House will have an art lounge, story telling area and an exhibit called "The North Today" featuring interactive displays on living, visiting and investing in Nunavut. There will also be business information about the three territories. Visitors also have the chance to win an \$8,000 diamond or a 3.8 ounce gold nugget valued at \$7,000. The House is open through March 31, 2010. Daily hours [during](#) the 2010

Olympic Games will be **10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.** Before and after the 2010 Olympic Games, it will be **open from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Check out some cool CityCaucus.com exclusive photos and video of the pavilion by clicking [here](#). Check out Daniel's review by clicking [here](#).

Casa Italia

OPEN NOW: In 2006, Italy played home to the Winter Olympics. In a few weeks, the historic Roundhouse Community Centre will play home to the 2010 pavilion known as Casa Italia. The pavilion will be open to feature an expo of the best products Italy has to offer. You can expect to see some other fine Italian products on display. Casa Italia will be open daily to the public between Feb 8 - 28th from 11am until 6pm daily. The pavilion is only one block north of the LiveCity Yaletown. If you're looking for directions on how to get there, click [here](#).



CentrePlace Manitoba



OPEN NOW: CentrePlace Manitoba is a 2,560 sq ft, pre-fabricated, sustainable building featuring Manitoba products and technology. Multimedia exhibits, developed in Manitoba, will showcase tourism, business, immigration and sport and highlight our province's prosperity, opportunity and potential. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights will be a partner and have a feature exhibit in the pavilion.

Thirty Manitoba artists and arts groups will perform, supported by the Manitoba Arts Council, as part of

the [2010 Cultural Olympiad](#). Many of our province's Aboriginal artists will also perform at the [Four Host First Nations](#) pavilion. CentrePlace Manitoba will be located at the [LiveCity Vancouver](#) – Downtown site (on Georgia Street at Cambie). CentrePlace Manitoba will be open during both the 2010 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Games. Hours of Operation: February 13 – 27, 11 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. February 28, 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. See a [short video here with more info](#).

Coca Cola Pavilion (LiveCity Yaletown)

OPEN NOW: A big red temporary 8600 square foot structure is going up at [LiveCity Yaletown](#) in David Lam Park. This will become home to the new Coca Cola Happiness Pavilion. They are one of the major



international sponsors of the Games, including the Olympic Torch Relay and you can expect to see a lot of them around town in the next couple of months. Fans will have an opportunity to learn more about Coca-Cola and their history with the Olympic Games, sample ice cold Coca-Cola products, see the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch, and much more! (See our [sneak preview](#) & [video](#)) The venue provides state of the art interactive displays and unique bottle artwork. Coke is showing off recycling and sustainability as a theme for their new line of products. If you compete in at least 2 of the on-site interactive games you earn a prize that you collect as you leave.



At night the translucent roof becomes the canopy for a spectacular light display. CityCaucus.com caught a [photo of it](#) a few weeks ago. **Hours of Operation: 11am - 11pm daily.** Access from Yaletown-Roundhouse Canada Line – LiveCity site requires security check, no bottled liquids carried on-site. For more information visit [www.icoke.ca](#).

Discover Calabria

OPEN NOW: Do you like a pavilion with no line-ups? If so, why not explore the Calabria region by visiting this venue. The unique sensations from a remarkable land with an ancient history is unleashed on the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic games from fashion to food, Italian pottery to exquisite jewelry, business opportunities to Mediterranean vacation plans, and of course wine, olive oil and cheese. The Discover Calabria venue is located at 851 Homer Street in Vancouver.



Unioncamere Calabria has recognized the unique opportunity afforded by the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games to organize, in collaboration with the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Vancouver, a "Discover Calabria" showroom to showcase the rich culture and heritage of Calabria as well as their businesses in key sectors. The showroom is open to the public and visitors will learn more about Calabria's cultural heritage, economic system, investment opportunities and local products. You are able to sample food specialties, view artisans plying their crafts, and view one-of-a-kind products. Special seminars are free of charge and will educate visitors on Calabria's tourism, Mediterranean cuisine and the health benefits of red wine (previous registration is required for the seminars, so please contact iccbc@iccbc.com). Calabria is a region in southern Italy, south of Naples, located at the "toe" of the Italian peninsula. For directions on how to get to the venue, click [here](#).

Edgewater Casino Celebration Village



OPEN NOW: Edgewater Casino hosts their



"[Celebration Village 2010](#)" an unprecedented Chinese New Years' Celebration worthy of welcoming the world to Vancouver. From February 12 – 28, 2010 the "Celebration Village 2010" invites you to enjoy FREE daily entertainment Monday to Thursday 2pm-11pm; and Friday to Sunday 12pm – midnight.

The February 14 grand opening will celebrate the *Year of the Tiger* with an exclusive traditional Chinese Lion Dance, featuring five different lions (symbolic of the Olympic rings) as part of an incredibly memorable day of ceremonies. This

spectacular showcase will feature free entertainment from traditional, comedy, Kung Fu, and Cabaret performers. The Chinese New Year festivities will span 17 days and feature 120 different food and shopping vendors in the heart of the city's flurry of activity.

Four Host First Nations Pavilion

OPEN NOW: Located on the plaza of the Queen Elizabeth Theatre at [Georgia and Hamilton](#) in downtown Vancouver, within easy walking distance of BC Place (venue for opening ceremonies) and Canada Hockey Place (venue for ice hockey), the 8,000 square-foot [2010 Aboriginal Pavilion](#) will be right in the heart of Olympic activity, with Vancouver's Celebration Site located immediately across Cambie Street. The pavilion features a high-tech 3,000 square-foot sphere, surrounded by a Coast Salish Longhouse. The Longhouse, which features a 1,500 square-foot Trading Post, will be relocated after the Games as a permanent legacy. As well, the adjacent 2,000 square-foot QE restaurant will be converted into a reception hall, featuring an Aboriginal showcase and cuisine. Special "theme" days will showcase Aboriginal groups from all regions of Canada. Live events will include Inuit throat singing, Métis jigging, hoop dancing, as well as spotlighting contemporary Aboriginal performances and other fields of achievement. We're advised the Yukon First Nations 2010 will be presenting their 45 minute show 'What the Land Remembers – Tales of Raven and Wolf' on Sunday, February 21, 2010 beginning at 11 am, ending at 3pm. GlobalTV did a great profile of the pavilion you can view [here](#). **Hours of operation** vary by day. Click [here](#) for a detailed schedule of events.



GE Plaza (Robson Square)



GE Plaza at Robson Square features a popular outdoor skating rink, and is the location for the International Media Centre and BC Pavilion during



the Games and centrally located at [Robson & Howe Streets](#). Thanks to the generous contribution from General Electric in partnership with the Province of BC, the skating is free and skate rentals are only \$3. The rink is open daily from noon to 9 pm.

The revitalization of the ice rink at GE Plaza has brought over 115,000 visitors to Robson Square to enjoy ice skating, concerts, and other special events since it re-opened in late November. Robson Square

is the BC's signature celebration site during the 2010 Winter Games. Live music performances are taking place day and night at this lively centre of activity. The nightly fireworks display are a must see. Check out this [video](#). Just look for the big glass bubbles from street level.

The site is just a 2-minute walk from the Vancouver City Centre Skytrain and Canada Line stations. Click [here](#) for directions on how to get there. Check out Daniel's review of this venue by clicking [here](#).

German Saxony House

OPEN NOW: During the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games, the [Vancouver Rowing Club in Stanley Park](#) will be transforming into the Saxony House. Be sure to drop by this free pavilion to experience the Olympics in true Saxon style! You'll have the opportunity to watch the games, meet medal winners, listen to live music and enjoy traditional German food and drinks.

The Vancouver Rowing Club (*Flickr photo by [Difei Li](#) seen above*) will transform its 19th century aura into a glittering Saxony House, offering magnificent views of Burrard Inlet and Downtown Vancouver. What better place to exhibit the prowess of Saxony's art, culture and booming economy, its sports and the innovative drive of Saxon inventors! The Saxony House is open free to the public, February 12th - 28th, from 12:00pm- 2:00am. There is plenty of low-cost metered parking during the day. Parking is free after 6 pm. Click [here](#) for more information.



Haida Gwaii House

OPEN NOW: Located at the ground level of the Hampton Inn is a mini Haida Gwaii. This venue will feature a special longhouse and will showcase Haida art and culture, wilderness, Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, marine animals, shore birds and much more. The Haida Gwaii House will be open from **February 11th to the 28th from 12 noon to 9 pm.**



Ambassadors will be available onsite to answer questions and talk about the place they live. Also on display will be a Haida mask carved by Regg Davidson, an 11 foot totem pole designed by Tim Boyko, and a number of scrolling images. If you're lucky, you may just see Haida in their own regalia. Or you may bump into Christian White, a Haida artist who will be at work carving on site.



Their new website is located at www.GoHaidaGwaii.ca. There will also be free contest prizes given away daily at the venue. Haida Gwaii House is really close to BC Place Stadium, home of the opening and closing ceremonies. If you want directions on how to get there, click [here](#).

Heineken House (Holland)

OPEN NOW: Located near the O Zone in Richmond, the highlight of the [Holland Heineken House](#) experience is the main hall, which can host thousands of people every night, and features celebratory medal ceremonies for successful Dutch athletes as well as nightly performances by renowned Dutch artists and DJ's. The Holland Heineken House is located in Minoru Arenas in the Richmond O Zone and is open daily from **February 12 to 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.** Along with the nightly live entertainment, there is lots to do during the daytime in the Holland Heineken House such as shopping, internet surfing, getting health checks, competing virtually against Olympic athletes, watching sports on dozens of screens, reading, eating, drinking and watching several sponsor events.



Please note: There are **long line-ups and limited access to Heineken House**. Entrance to the Holland Heineken House is **free of charge**, but ID must be shown. Minors (those less than 19 years) should be **accompanied by an adult at all times**. Those **under 14 years of age are not allowed in the venue after 8 p.m.** We're also advised that 400 Dutch bikes will be available for **free** for guests to use. Click [here](#) for directions on how to get there.

House of Switzerland

OPEN NOW: Located on picturesque [Granville Island](#) in Vancouver, Bridges Restaurant will play home to the [House of Switzerland](#) during the Games. Plans are to dress up the restaurant and their menu in a Swiss theme. We're told to expect a lot of Swiss athletes there on a nightly basis. If a Swiss athlete wins a medal, they will be taken from BC Place and brought to the House by water taxi. The athletes then plan to hold a media event outside the House of



Switzerland as well as meet with fans.

House organizers tell us they will have on-hand some of the best Swiss chocolates and cheese for the public to sample on select dates and times. The venue will be operating as a restaurant with Swiss hospitality and touches and is open to the public on a first seated basis on the main floor and by reservation on the upper floor. It is officially open from Feb 5th - Feb 28th. The hours of operation starting on Feb 5th will be 8 am to 1 am each day – a full [calendar of events is posted here](#) (pdf). Note that public parking will be at a premium and is limited to the **west side of the Island only**. Metered parking **is in effect** and will cost around \$6 for 2 hours. Consider taking transit there if you can (the Bombardier streetcar station is a pleasant five minute walk). Expect this to be one of the top hot spots in town! Click [here](#) for directions on how to get to this destination. **See our [House of Switzerland Pavilion Profile](#).

Kla-howya: Aboriginal Village Welcome

OPEN NOW: The lobby of the **Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver** (at Canada Place) will be transformed into a stunning 16-day showcase of Aboriginal art, performances, and culture – free to residents and visitors during the upcoming 2010 Games. Organizers tell CityCaucus.com they want to share the cultural richness, stories and traditions of British Columbia's Aboriginal people, and promote Aboriginal tourism across British Columbia. The *Kla-howya: Aboriginal Village Welcome* will feature traditional dancing, cedar bark weaving, Aboriginal fashions, birch bark chewing, moose hide tufting, jewelry making, carving, storytelling and an opportunity to explore the harvesting of wild herbs for traditional medicines. They have set up a [blog](#) where you can read all about the various exhibits and entertainment. If you would like to see other First Nations art and culture, you should also visit the [Four Host First Nations Pavilion](#) and [Canada's Northern House](#).



The Pan Pacific is located at the Waterfront terminus station for Skytrain and Canada Line. For a map on how to get there, click [here](#).

Korea House



OPEN NOW: The City of Pyeongchang, Korea is trying to successfully do what Vancouver did in 2003. They want to impress the International Olympic Committee in order to [win the right to host the 2018 Winter Olympic Games](#). Perhaps that's why they plan to pull out all the stops with their interactive Korea House pavilion located on the 2nd floor of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Vancouver.



Representatives from Korea House advise CityCaucus.com that the pavilion will be open to the public **every day from 11 am to 6 pm.**

Check out Daniel's review of this venue by clicking [here](#).

Laser Waterworks Show



NIGHTLY: Join friends or family at False Creek to see the nightly laser waterworks show which will take place next to the [LiveCity Yaletown](#) location. A large pipe in False Creek will stream water high into the air providing the backdrop for what will become a vivid backdrop to all the excitement. The staging (seen left), and is located along the seawall beside David Lam Park. The City of Vancouver says the fireworks and water show will start in the late evening, but they don't provide a start time. Once we have this, we'll post it here. For a map showing you how to get to David Lam Park, click [here](#).

LiveCity Downtown



OPEN NOW: This [site](#) located at [Georgia and Beatty](#) will open during both the Olympic and Paralympic Games and will be Vancouver's version of a downtown "piazza" with a large outdoor screen, daytime interactive school programming, engaging street entertainment, and late-night entertainment. Additional partners and governmental agencies will bring programs and pavilions to complement the site. The site will be open and programmed throughout the Olympic period commencing the day after the Opening Ceremony and concluding right before the Closing Ceremony (February 13-February 28). Hours

of operation: 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 a.m. daily - February 28 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. The site will re-open during the Paralympic period (March 12 through March 21) with a mix of on-screen programming, demonstration sport events and entertainment. Both the Canada and Manitoba pavilions will be on-site. See this [link for a full schedule of events and live performances at the LiveCity Vancouver sites!](#) Check out Daniel's review of this venue by clicking [here](#).

LiveCity Yaletown



OPEN NOW: LiveCity Yaletown is a family-friendly venue that will feature live local, national, and international entertainment on the main stage in the afternoon and into the night, culminating each evening with a dynamic water and fireworks closing show. Giant screens will show highlights of Olympic Winter Games sport coverage and visitors can enjoy the interactive Olympic sponsor pavilions (Coca-Cola, Acer, Panasonic & Samsung), Vancouver House, and much more... all for free!

Monday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., LiveCity Yaletown will be offering exciting educational programs for Vancouver students Grades 6 – 12. The public is welcome to join in!

Friday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., family programming, similar to the weekday educational component, will offer kids the chance to experience the Games in a family friendly environment. The afternoons will feature highlights from the day's sporting events on the giant screens followed by late afternoon live entertainment and the official medals presentations. See this [link for a full schedule of events and live performances at the LiveCity Vancouver sites!](#)

New Westminster

Historic New Westminster (Western Canada's oldest incorporated city) is hosting something they are calling *Keep the Dream Alive*. Join the excitement of the Olympics! Watch Canada bring home the gold at the [Queensborough Community Centre](#). Learn about local Olympic athletes that will be competing in the 2010 Winter Olympics. Catch the Olympic spirit in New Westminster. For more information on hours of operation, call 604-525-7388.



Nightly Medal Award Ceremony

This is the most inexpensive way to participate in an [official](#) Olympic event. Tickets [costs as little as \\$22 dollars per person](#) and this provides you access to some of North America's best entertainers as well as the medal winning athletes. Some of the [confirmed bands](#) include Barenaked Ladies, INXS, Nelly Furtado, Hedley, Theory of a Dead Man and many more. The newly renovated [BC Place Stadium](#) will play home to this nightly event, in the heart of several other nearby pavilions. If you are taking the Expo Line SkyTrain,



get off at the "Stadium" station. You will have to walk about 5 minutes to get there. Click [here](#) for directions on how to get there. A note for out-of-town visitors, BC Place will undergo a massive renovation after the Games and will have a brand new retractable roof installed (see illustration).



O Zone Richmond

OPEN NOW: 17 days and nights. Exhilarating. Amazing. Once in a lifetime. [The O Zone](#) is where you can be part of a real Olympic Games experience, with thousands of your closest friends, cheering on Canada's athletes, exploring cool stuff, and rocking to some of the hottest young bands in Canada. The O Zone is also the biggest celebration of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, amassed over 60 acres in the [heart of Richmond City Centre](#), just minutes from the new [Canada Line Brighthouse Station](#) near Richmond City Hall and Minoru Park.



You've never seen Richmond like this: mammoth ice art, massive high-definition screen, outdoor skating on real ice, entertainment from around the region and around the world, art, athletes, exhibits, virtual reality (bobsleigh ride anyone?), food and fireworks. Bands like Our lady Peace, Hawksley Workman, Bedouin Soundclash, Toyko Police Club and Wintersleep headline. Theme nights saluting Canada's diverse cultures and regions from World Beat rhythms and South Asian dance and music to Pan Northern sounds from above the Arctic Circle. There's something for everyone, and for all ages. Did we mention it's free? Check the [O Zone's Calendar page for their event and free concert line-up](#), or read [O Zone news](#).

Olympic Cauldron

At the end of the opening ceremonies of Vancouver's Olympic Games, hockey legend Wayne Gretzky jumped in the back of a pickup truck and made his way to Vancouver's waterfront to light up the cauldron. It now shines brightly just east of the new convention centre and has become an instant attraction. Unfortunately, you are only able to see the flame from behind a secure chain link fence. According to VANOC officials, it is a security risk to allow people too close to the flame. If you want a nice photo of the Olympic cauldron (without the chain link fence), VANOC says they will post a few photos you can download off their website [vancouver2010.com](#). If you want directions on how to get there, click [here](#). Check out Daniel's review of this venue by clicking [here](#).



Ontario House

OPEN NOW: Located in [between BC Place Stadium and Sochi House \(Science World\)](#), [Ontario House](#) plans to set a new standard in creativity and innovation. CityCaucus.com dropped by the pavilion on Jan 24th and can confirm they are constructing a special 4D theatre. Once you enter, why not use your brain waves to turn on the lights at the CN tower. Don't believe us, check out this [video](#). They also plan to feature many other exciting and original exhibits, events and performances; showcase made-in-Ontario products and services; and be technologically state-of-the-art while being supported using environmentally sustainable systems and technologies. Ontario House will offer visitors a unique, one-of-a-kind, inspirational experience that will live on in their memories for years to come and reinforce Ontario's Olympic brand message — "There's No Place Like This..." If you want to see some exclusive photos of the pavilion, click [here](#). If you're looking for directions on how to get to the pavilion then click [here](#). Hours of operation: 10 am to 2 am daily.



PRIDE House Vancouver



For the very first time in Olympic history there will be LGBT pavilions, one here in Vancouver and another in Whistler. [PRIDE House Vancouver](#) is happening at Qmunity, 1170 Bute Street, in the Davie Village.

PRIDE House will have on hand friendly ambassadors who know about all that is

fabulously queer in Vancouver. PRIDE House will also have on hand immigration and refugee experts with a wealth of knowledge and resources for visitors. PRIDE House will be that special social welcoming spot for LGBT athletes, family, friends and visitors. PRIDE House Vancouver will be open 7 days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. throughout the Games. There will be fabulous PRIDE House swag available for sale including the most attractive pin out there (only \$5, pin traders will want to take note that this is a limited release) as well as t-shirts and jackets.

PRIDE House Vancouver is having its Grand Opening Thursday February 11th at 2:00 p.m. with entertainment, dignitaries, sport excitement and an innovative ribbon cutting ceremony.

Park Royal Winter Carnival

OPEN NOW: It may not be the most flashy venue, but Park Royal Shopping Centre in West Vancouver is planning on hosting a special winter pavilion during the Games. They advise [CityCaucus.com](#) they've set up a special outdoor skating rink where your family can lace up and enjoy some time on the ice. There are limited skate rentals, so it's best you bring your own. There will also be live music performances on Friday and Saturday evenings. A large screen



displaying the live CTV broadcast of Olympic events will allow you to cheer on your favourite athlete.



Place de la Francophonie 2010



OPEN NOW: Located [just south of the downtown](#), the popular **Granville Island** tourist attraction will become the place to celebrate Canada's French heritage. During the Games, **Place de la Francophonie 2010** will become Vancouver's French Quarter, a place to live and celebrate the Games in French. Highlights will include over 400 hours of FREE live entertainment, more than 100 performances by artists and performers from Canada and around the world, 1 sports bar, 5 stages, 3 exhibitions locations, exciting agritourism showcase, and lots more!

During the day, people can visit the agritourism pavilion where producers will show case their local products, and Canadian tourism organizations will present tourist trails. Next to the agritourism pavilion is Club Adrenaline, a sports bar where everyone can follow Olympic events, eat the finest that Canada has to offer in the culinary arts and starting at 9:30 p.m. get entertained by our artists, who are sure to get the crowd going! Also everyday starting at 5:30 p.m. is the Grand Défilé of Big Nazo. Where weird and wonderful creatures will be appearing at Place de la Francophonie. Starting on February 11th at 6:30 p.m. are our shows featuring artists from the Francophone world.

You can get there by taking the free streetcar from the Olympic Canada Line Station to [Granville Island](#). Vancouver's famous [False Creek water taxis](#) will also provide transportation across the water during the Games. Expect this site to be extremely popular so get there early and take transit if you can.

PoCo Zone

Hey PoCo residents, where will you be watching the 2010 Winter Games? Starting with the opening ceremonies on Feb. 12, [Port Coquitlam](#) residents can cheer on the action on a big screen at the **2010 PoCo Zone** at the [Port Coquitlam Recreation Complex](#) at [2150 Wilson Avenue](#) in Port Coquitlam.

As part of the Port Coquitlam's Spirit Week activities, Olympic events will be playing all day long on a nine-foot screen at the PoCo Zone – the City's self-proclaimed *Live Site* – from Feb. 12 to 26. Local individuals and families who want to share in the Olympic spirit with other members of the community are welcome to drop by the PoCo Zone whenever the Rec Complex is open (approximately 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.). Tables and chairs will be set up in the Rec Complex's spacious lobby, and the concession will be open during peak hours. Admission is free.



Quebec House (Maison du Quebec)



OPEN NOW: Quebec House (La Maison du Quebec) is located at the [Concord Pacific site](#) between Sochi House (Science World) and BC Place in Vancouver. The pavilion will show thousands of foreign visitors the distinctiveness of Quebec culture, expertise and tourist attractions. For Quebecers coming to participate in Olympic events in Vancouver, Quebec House will be the place to assemble. Many Quebec artists will perform at the House from the 12th to 28th of February. **Hours of operation:** Noon to midnight daily. Note however that there is almost nothing to see on site prior to 5:30 pm when the performers hit

the stage. Prior to 5:30 pm, there is simply a small merchandise shop where you can purchase authentic Quebec cuisine. As for the performances, you should bring your umbrella as everything is exposed to the elements. Although the pavilion looks large from the outside, it is very tight for space inside.

Click [here](#) for map to pavilion. Quebec House is about a five-minute walk from the Main Street Skytrain station.

Royal Canadian Mint Pavilion

OPEN NOW: Are you curious about how all those Olympic medals are made? Are you collecting all of those special edition 2010 Olympic quarters that are now in circulation? If you answered yes to either of those questions, chances are you may want to drop by the official [2010 Royal Canadian Mint pavilion](#) located at 500 Granville Street (at Pender) in downtown Vancouver. The Mint is the official supplier of medals for the Olympic Games and will have some of them on display for the public to view. You can also see the Mint's world-famous dollar gold coin and other gold products. There is also a special children's activities section located on the 1st floor (open 9:30 - 6 pm daily). If you mention "Mint.ca" at the Pavilion Boutique you get 10% off all purchases. The venue is open to the public from February 12th through 28th. The hours of operation are 9 am to 10 pm daily. For directions on how to get there, click [here](#). Check out Daniel's gold medal review of the pavilion by clicking [here](#).



Saskatchewan Pavilion



OPEN NOW: Located in [between BC Place Stadium and Sochi House \(Science World\)](#) in Vancouver, this [free pavilion](#)



will consist of two structures. One will house a business centre, the other an entertainment venue featuring [Saskatchewan](#) entertainment and food. We had a sneak peak of the pavilion including the massive 6-storey dome. The mainstage features Saskatchewan bands and two bars at the back of the room. It has the capacity to handle about 600 people after 8 pm. The onsite restaurant features massive \$8 bison burgers and \$6 sausages as well as some tasty perogies. You can expect this pavilion will be a great

place to hang out for anyone wanting to enjoy good music and prairie hospitality. **Hours of operation:** The big sphere will be open from 11 am daily through to 10 pm daily. Note that on Feb 21-24, the sphere will be **closed** to the public at approximately 6 pm due to private receptions. The big tent featuring all of the bands will remain open every evening until 1 am. The live entertainment starts at 3 pm daily. This is sure to be a popular venue, so try to get there early!

See our [Pavilion Preview](#), including [video here](#)!

Scandinavia House



OPEN NOW: Located in the heart of Burnaby, the [Scandinavian Community Centre](#) is inviting the public to join them in their celebration of the 2010 Olympic Games. Stefan Wallin, Finland's Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth will be on hand to officially open "Scandinavia House", the 2010 games hub for Scandinavians, Canadians and visitors alike on February 12th.

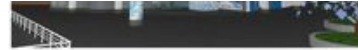
The Scandinavian Community Centre will be a games live site from February 12 – 28th, 9 am to midnight, for

event viewing, daily programs, special guest visits and seminar speakers including former athletes. Several big screen TVs have been installed to televise local CTV Olympic programming as well as European real-time streaming broadcasts provided by Finnish broadcaster YLE. The public is invited to watch the games at the centre. Entry is free. This is the only venue of its kind that we know of in the Burnaby region. For directions on how to get there, click [here](#).

Sochi House (Russia)



OPEN NOW: The Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2010 in Vancouver will be a significant milestone for the Sochi 2014 program, since it is in Vancouver that Russia's Sochi will officially take over and become the focus of the next Winter Olympic Games. Unprecedented in its scale, the [Sochi2014.ru World](#), Russky Dom project will be the only official location for the Russian delegation in Vancouver.



The doors to Sochi World will be open from February 12-28 for everyone who wants to become a part of the big Russian celebration at the Vancouver 2010 Games. It will bring together well-known athletes, eager fans and officials from around the world.

Every day from 12 pm to 5 pm, activities for Sochi World guests will include: meetings with Russia's celebrated athletes, as well as autograph signing and photo sessions, entertainment programs, contests, excursions and official project participant and Games Partner events.

The venue is free, however, Sochi 2014's website states the following regarding admission requirements:

In order to take part in the Sochi World activities, visitors must obtain accreditation (permanent access) or day-passes (single-use access). **Day-passes are available at the information desk or at the Accreditation Center at the entrance.** For Russian fans, entry passes will be created upon presentation of a Russian passport.

Surrey 2010 Celebration Zone



OPEN NOW: The [Surrey 2010 Celebration Zone](#) at [Holland Park](#) is promising two fun filled weeks of excitement and activity for the whole family! The sliding zone, skating rink and curling zone will be a great way to take in some classic Olympic sports and winter activities. Step into the future with Simon Fraser University's cutting edge Interactive Digital Media display, explore your creativity in their Kids World craft tent or cozy up in the Storytelling tent brought to you by Surrey Libraries. The RCMP Musical Ride will be performing shows daily, as well as other classic Canadian entertainment.

Evening performances at Surrey's Celebration Zone include **Blue Rodeo** (Feb 12th) and **The Sam Roberts Band** (Feb 19th). The activities are abundant so bring your energy and enthusiasm to the Festival Activity Zone and prepare for an experience of Olympic proportions! Hours of operation vary by day. Click [here](#) for a complete schedule of events. **UPDATE FEB 16TH: NEW INFORMATION ON THE MUSICAL RIDE IS AVAILABLE. CLICK READ MORE BELOW...**

Ukraine House



OPEN NOW: Official home of Ukraine's Olympic team for the 2010 Winter Olympics is being run jointly by the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, Embassy of Ukraine in Canada and Ukrainian Canadian Congress. [Ukraine House](#) will be open to the public every day during the Games except for Sunday, the 14th of February and Monday, February



15, 2010, as special events will take place on those days.

Activities are planned for all days and times that Ukraine House will be [open to the public](#) and will include a Ukrainian Olympic Ball, and a Youth Dance. Enjoy large screen TV coverage of Olympic events. See performers from both Ukraine and Canada. Participate in an auction of sports memorabilia - including the runners worn by pole-vaulter, Sergei Bubka, when he set the world record.

ValleyFest



Located on the beautiful North Shore Mountains, the District of North Vancouver will be ground zero for a special community celebration during the Games. ValleyFest is a 17 day event taking place in Lynn Valley and will feature live entertainment, childrens activities as well as a large screen TV broadcasting various sporting events. Join a 3 on 3 ball hockey game, try "kurling" or participate in their outdoor playground and cafe. Explore the history of sport and heritage at the Discovery Zone interpretive centre. Local organizers assure CityCaucus.com this will be a family-friendly venue that will be fun for all ages. The venue is free and will be programmed between Feb 12-28th. All events are taking place in Lynn Valley Village Square. It is beside the library and completely accessible by bus. For more information about ValleyFest click [here](#). For directions on how to get there, click [here](#).

Vancouver "Streets to Watch"

There will basically be four main thoroughfares in the downtown core which will have festive programming on a daily basis. These include [Robson Street](#), [Hamilton Street](#), [Mainland Street](#) and [Granville Street](#). With the exception of Robson Street (which will be closed east of Jervis street only) all the streets will be closed to vehicular traffic. Expect tens of thousands of people to be walking up and down here every night enjoying the atmosphere.



Vancouver City Hall

OPEN NOW: You can expect that Vancouver City Hall at [12th Avenue & Cambie Street](#) will become a hub of activity during the 2010 Games. A parade of dignitaries will be making their way in and out of the Mayor's office. This is also the site of the 1952 Oslo Flag which is [encased in glass on the main floor](#) of the building just as you enter. Once the Games are over, the flag will be placed back in its special case and delivered to the Mayor of Sochi, Russia, host of the 2014 Winter Games. Nightly light displays take



place after dark at the top of the hour on outside of City Hall. The show is called *Ice Light* by [Gunda Forster](#).



Vancouver House (LiveCity Yaletown)



OPEN NOW: The City's home during the 2010 Winter Games, Vancouver House is designed to tell the story of Vancouver's new business brand '[Vancouver Green Capital](#)'.

Visitors will understand the meaning of Vancouver Green Capital and meet the people from all walks of life and all areas of business who bring it to life. They will understand that Vancouver Green Capital is a logical extension of Vancouver's past successes, a meaningful and authentic position for the city given both its geographic nature and its human nature.

Visitors will also understand that a business can be green not just economically – in the way it makes money – or environmentally, in the way it produces a product, but also socially, in the way it affects people and creates wellness.

People will leave Vancouver House understanding why Vancouver is a magnet for sophisticated human capital and why it is an idea capital where people are thinking, planning and bringing to life the economic future of the city. In short, Vancouver Green Capital is a business story and also a human story.

Vancouver House will be located at [LiveCity Yaletown](#).

Vectorial Elevation (English Bay)



Operating Now (dusk until dawn): More than two million people are expected to [view the Vectorial Elevation Light Display installation in person](#) in Metro Vancouver. The [English Bay](#) display of lights runs from [dusk to dawn](#) until February 28, 2010. Visitors to this [www.vectorialvancouver.net](#) can design how the lights will move, their angles and how they are clustered in timed sequences to create their own patterns for the world to see. A personalized webpage will be automatically created for each participant to document their design. Organizers estimate 130,000 different patterns will be created in the 24 days the project operates. Why not design your own light show in the sky? Click [here](#) for

directions to Sunset Beach or click [here](#) for directions to Kits Beach.

West House

OPEN NOW: As part of its [EcoDensity](#) initiative, the City of Vancouver approved the creation of new laneway houses. If you want to see what EcoDensity living could be like, you should head down to the LiveCity Yaletown site to visit West House. This prototype 610-sq.-ft. house laneway house is a good demonstration of Vancouver's longstanding commitment to the environment. The house has a combined living/dining/kitchen area, bathroom and loft bedroom with a small balcony, plus a 226-sq.-ft. garage with an electric car charging outlet.



Laneway homes are garage-sized structures built on the existing lot of a single-family dwelling (at least 33 feet wide and facing onto an open lane). The homes can be used by students, boomerang kids, aging family members, caregivers or others. The City believes these homes, which replace carports or garages, can help ease the severe housing affordability problem in Vancouver while serving as mortgage helpers.

West Vancouver Spirit Square

OPEN NOW: Over the course of the 17 days of the Olympics West Vancouver, a Venue City, will activate their [Spirit Square](#) at the West Vancouver Community Centre. Discover your inner explorer and soar into the cosmos with the Canadian Space Agency. This rare experience provides a fun and interactive learning experience for everyone. Enjoy your self-guided tour of a scale model of the International Space Station and gain a sense of what it's like to live, work and play sports in space. Models of Canadarm2 and Dextre will be there for all ages to enjoy. Evenings will come alive with an array of national and local talent, from rock to pop to classical performances in the Atrium. Celebrations at West Vancouver's Spirit Square will showcase the unique character of the West Vancouver community featuring live performances, visual artistry, traditional and contemporary music.



WinterFest at Lonsdale

OPEN NOW: A 17 day [WinterFest](#) celebration is planned for Lonsdale Quay (across Burrard Inlet), a popular tourist destination situated on the waterfront in North Vancouver. Organizers tell CityCaucus.com they are planning numerous concerts, face painting, live cultural and street performances and much much



more. A large screen on site will broadcast CTV's live Olympic coverage. Kid's activities feature a newly renovated ballroom and animated play area with games and rides open daily from 9am – 9pm. Face painting and the ever-popular 'Q' balloons will be offered daily from 11am – 4pm.



Ziptrek Vancouver (Robson Square)



OPEN NOW: Come and be dazzled at [Ziptrek's](#) latest venture. Perched above the law courts at Robson Square, you will be provided the opportunity to zip over 170 metres (550') across Robson Street. Guests will zip high above the crowds an exhilarating six stories over Vancouver's iconic downtown core! [See photos](#) of the site posted on Ziptrek's website, or click the photo for a larger view.

Check out our video taken Feb. 1st showing the [Ziptrek crew testing out the line](#).

This unique endeavor will provide visitors the opportunity to experience the thrill and exhilaration of ziplining – brought to prominence in North America

by Ziptrek's flagship operation in Whistler. Switching the traditional backdrop of old growth forest, to cityscape, should prove to be an amazing and rare experience. Not to mention the fact it will be taking place at one of the key hubs of Olympic activity! This once-in-a-lifetime experience happens during the Olympics, and best of all **it's free!** The zipline will start operation on **Feb 12th and run through Feb 28th**. The hours of operation are **10:00 am - 9:00 pm daily**. Bring your camera and expect the line-ups to be around the corner! There are no age restrictions, but riders must weigh more than 65 pounds (29.5 kilograms). Organizers say they can accommodate about 1000 people per day. The lineups have been **very long** since this venue opened up...so be prepared to wait.

We're also aware that **CTV News** (official Olympic broadcast network) will be broadcasting their newscast live every evening 11 pm - 12 pm from Robson Street ([beside their HQ](#)). Hosts Bill Good and Pamela Martin will be on-hand nightly. In addition, **Global TV** will be broadcasting their newscasts from the rooftop of the Concord Pacific presentation centre. **CBC News** will be opening up their new downtown studios to the public every evening. They are located right across from LiveCity Downtown on Georgia Street.

For complete visitor information in Vancouver, visit www.tourismvancouver.com, or yougottabehere.com for BC Tourism information.

If you are aware of a free or low-cost Olympic community related event happening somewhere in Metro Vancouver, please drop us a line at CityCaucus@gmail.com and we'll consider adding it to our growing list. Please include as much information about the event as possible. We hope you enjoy

everything the Games has to offer Metro Vancouver and please consider sending a send a link of this page to your friends, family and colleagues. Help us to spread the word!!