

A Greener B.C.:

One of the largest and most important international gatherings of environmental business leaders and corporate environmental managers, and senior level executives from around the world is happening in Vancouver B.C. this year.

March 12-14, GLOBE 2008 will focus on five main themes: Corporate Sustainability, Energy & Climate Change, Finance and Sustainability, Future of the Automotive Industry and Building Better Cities.

Good News! :

The Expedited Labour Market Opinion (E-LMO) pilot project to bring in foreign workers to British Columbia has been expanded for an additional 21 occupations. It will now be much faster for BC employers to hire temporary foreign workers for a greater number of occupations.



Minister Colin Hansen celebrates with Manley McLachlan, president of the B.C. Construction Association and Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, during the announcement of the Federal Expedited Labour Market Opinion program expansion.

Innovative B.C. Business:

Canadian Autoparts Toyota Inc. (CAPTIN) in Delta, B.C. was the first manufacturing investment by a Japanese automaker in Canada 25 years ago. Since then they have undergone six expansions and have invested over \$23 million into B.C.'s economy. CAPTIN's commitment to continuous Power Smart improvement and its innovative approach to energy management earned them the BC Hydro designation as B.C.'s first Power Smart Certified manufacturer.

The government's goal is to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 33 per cent by 2020.

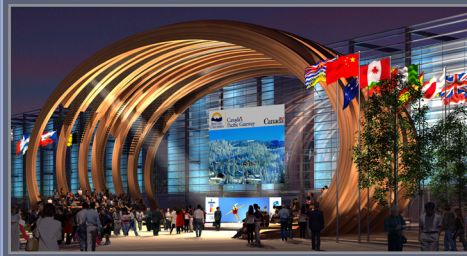
Join the fight against climate change by participating in energy-saving programs that include reducing power use, dumping old cars and planting trees.

2008 Beijing Olympic Games:

B.C. Canada Pavilion in Beijing

Building on the success of BC-Canada Place at the Torino 2006 Olympic Winter Games, the B.C. Canada Pavilion in Beijing will be open May 1 to Sept. 30, 2008, showcasing the province's industry, culture and innovation.

The Pavilion will promote BC's products and services, facilitate trade and investment, raise awareness of tourism and cultural opportunities and build recognition of BC as host of the 2010 Olympic Games.



The B.C. Canada Pavilion in Beijing, China will house the best of B.C. and Canadian culture, business, tourism and industry from May to September.

In 2006, 8,529 temporary workers from the Philippines arrived in Canada, according to the government, and that number is expected to increase as employers seek workers to fill jobs.

The Industry Training Authority (ITA) has sanctioned PROPEL, a division of go2, to take on an industry-driven training mandate for British Columbia's tourism sector. Apprenticeship programs for cooks, bakers and meat-cutters will help address labour shortages within British Columbia's tourism sector.

Minister Colin Hansen faced off against former Canuck alum and restaurant owner Kirk McLean, in a black box Culinary face off to launch PROPEL, a new division of go2 human resources association, in the B.C. Foodservice Expo at B.C. Place Stadium.

Pine Beetle Solution 101:

The Richmond Oval's massive 6.5-acre roof, the size of approx. 6 football fields, was lifted into place on January 15th. The Oval's roof includes 15 B.C.-manufactured glulam beams that are nearly 100 metres in length. The beams are linked by "wood wave" roof sections constructed from one million board feet of pine beetle-killed wood. The one-of-a-kind "wood wave" design was developed in B.C. and features arched trusses and rafters, and a curvature in the surface panels that will give the roof a rippled appearance. The Oval is the first building in the world built exclusively from wood and will use more than one million board feet of pine beetle-killed wood from B.C. forests.

Minister Colin Hansen joins Premier Gordon Campbell, VANOC CEO John Furlong, Canadian speed skater Jeff Kitura, Richmond mayor Malcolm Brodie and other dignitaries to mark a construction milestone for the final section of the Richmond Oval's massive 6.5-acre roof.

2010 Olympic Q & A:

After launching a Call for Volunteers and celebrating the two-year countdown to the 2010 Winter Games, vancouver2010.com set a single-day record with over 1.3 million page views, which more than tripled the previous all-time high of 480,310 page views set during the launch of the Vancouver 2010 mascots in November 2007.

Asia Pacific Progress:

The Province of British Columbia is committed to establishing an international presence in India to help B.C. companies do business there. B.C.'s goal to connect with the region is expected to provide as much as \$77 billion in increased trade and 255,000 new jobs by 2020. B.C. currently has international representation in China, Japan, the United States and Europe.

B.C. needs to attract 30,000 workers per year with specific skills from outside the province.