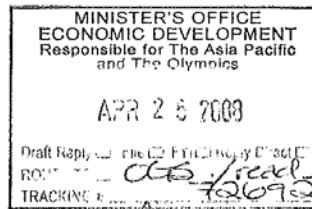




Vancouver, April 21, 2008

Minister Colin Hansen
Ministry of Economic Development
and Minister Responsible for the Asia
Pacific Initiative and the Olympics
PO Box 9046 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2



Dear Minister Hansen,

Thank you very much for your letter of March 6, 2008 suggesting that Washington State be included in the Olympic Torch Relay celebration.

Having personally carried the Olympic Torch in Montreal in 2004, I sincerely hope that everyone in British Columbia and across Canada has the opportunity to participate in some way in the torch relay celebrations. We want to make sure that the relay reaches the doorsteps of as many Canadians as possible, while still inspiring the world. We also want to make sure that jurisdictions like Washington State that have supported us from the time of the bid can be part of our celebrations. That said, the process as you know is complicated.

We have explored a number of options with respect to making a select few celebration stops as the torch travels from Greece to Canada. Given that our goal is to reach as many Canadians as we can, we are still debating whether these few international stops are practically and logistically possible, and whether they make sense in light of the fact that we want to maximize the number of days in which Canadians can be part of the torch relays.

I agree that this opportunity to extend the spirit of BC and the Games to our neighbours is unique and would be of great value. While we have not yet come to any final decision on the route plan, we are still seriously considering the possibility of including Washington State and the Peace Arch in our relay.

Best personal regards,


John A. Furlong
Chief Executive Officer

MISSION

To touch the soul of the nation and inspire the world by creating and delivering an extraordinary Olympic and Paralympic experience with lasting legacies.

Exalter l'âme de la nation et inspirer le monde entier grâce à l'organisation et à la tenue de jeux olympiques et paralympiques extraordinaires qui laisseront un héritage durable.



Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC)
Comité d'organisation des Jeux olympiques et paralympiques d'hiver de 2010 à Vancouver (COVAN)

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