

Whistler Olympic Park – Cross-Country Skiing

The White Spruce Podium District of Fort St. James *Fort St. James Community Forest*

The podiums of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games
18 wood types. 23 podiums. Hundreds of stories.

The White Spruce podium is used at Whistler Olympic Park for individual cross-country events. It is 478 centimetres long, 171 cm deep, 50 cm at its tallest point and assembled from 241 pieces.

District of Fort St. James – Historic and Resourceful

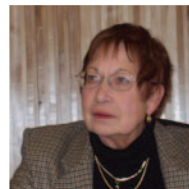
Fort St. James was founded in 1806 on the shores of Stuart Lake and serves as a gateway to 400 kilometres of river and lake adventure in northern British Columbia. Warm and friendly people offer wilderness tours by boat, snowmobile, dog sled or ski and welcome visitors to a winter triathlon and dog-sled competitions. Forestry is the major employer, with modern mills and value-added manufacturers producing lumber, posts, beams, rails, carvings, and lathe-turned products.

Fort St. James Community Forest

The White Spruce was harvested and donated by the Fort St. James Community Forest, a 15,000-hectare area managed by the community to promote recreation, water quality, public access, and a sustainable supply of pine, spruce and fir. The wood was milled by Conifex, an independent forest products company based in Fort St. James.

White Spruce

Found in north and central British Columbia, White Spruce is one of the province's most important commercial tree species, yielding excellent lumber and pulp. First Nations used the tree to make snowshoe frames, bows, glue, cooking pots and trays. White Spruce grows in a wide range of environments that often support diverse wildlife including lynx, snowshoe hares, wolves, and moose.



Mayor Sandra Harwood,
District of Fort St. James.

"The Olympics are about excellence in sport, so it's a perfect opportunity to highlight excellence in forest management as well. Community Forests are a perfect example of this."



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Fort St. James Community Forest



Ross Hamilton, Registered Professional Forester and Manager of the Fort St. James Community Forest.

"We see the Olympic Podium project as a great way to show the world our community and our wood."



Nigel Black, Chief Administrative Officer – District of Fort St. James.

"The community forest has allowed residents to benefit from projects that would not have otherwise been possible."

Podium Production

British Columbia's Ministry of Forests and Range sourced the wood and co-ordinated podium production. The rough lumber was converted to panels at Metro Vancouver's Bayview Millworks, a high-end wood product manufacturer and distributor, and cut into complex shapes using sophisticated computer controlled machinery at the University of British Columbia's state-of-the-art Centre for Advanced Wood Processing. They were assembled at Canadian hardware retail leader RONA's Vancouver 2010 Fabrication Shop, a community-based training centre that teaches carpentry skills to new Canadians and at-risk youth.

British Columbia's Forest Sector

The wood podiums highlight the importance of forestry in British Columbia. The province is a global leader in sustainable forest management and the world's largest exporter of softwood lumber, paper and bio-energy products that help mitigate climate change and provide innovative solutions to green building and energy needs.

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All 23 podium profiles, high definition video, and more information about British Columbia's forest sector are available at www.gov.bc.ca/for and www.naturallywood.com

