

Cypress Mountain – Snowboard, Freestyle Skiing

The Amabilis Fir Podium

Port Hardy

*Burgess Family Woodlot 0071,
SpikeTop Cedar Limited*

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



The Amabilis Fir podium is used at Cypress Mountain for snowboard and freestyle skiing events. It is 478 centimetres long, 171 cm deep, 50 cm at its tallest point and assembled from 241 pieces.



Port Hardy – Live the Adventure

Port Hardy is a welcoming community of 5,000 people at the northern tip of Vancouver Island in a wilderness shared by kayakers, hikers, eagles, cougars and whales. The area's beauty and natural resources drive the local economy with forestry, fishing, recreation and tourism all key activities. Lumber and roofing materials are manufactured at local mills while wood-working artisans produce crafts such as turned bowls and sculptures.



Burgess Family Woodlot 0071

The Amabilis Fir was milled and donated by SpikeTop Cedar and Woodlot 0071, two enterprises managed by the Burgess family. Their wood products reach customers as far away as Australia and The Netherlands. A woodlot licence is a partnership between an individual, family, group, or First Nation and the Province of British Columbia to manage a defined area of public and private forest land to increase productivity and promote excellence in forest management. The Burgess family's woodlot is one of more than 850 in British Columbia.

Jim Burgess, SpikeTop Cedar. Jim was born in Vancouver and arrived on Vancouver Island in 1974. While working on logging crews, Jim always wondered what it would be like to have his own tenure. After 20 years of hard work, Jim has carved out a niche for his family-run business in the global wood products market.

*"I knew which tree I would use
the moment I was asked."*



Amabilis Fir

Amabilis is Latin for "lovely," which also describes the light weight and clean appearance of the wood. These tall, straight trees reach up to 50 metres, are found along the Southern Coast, and are used in construction and to add style to home interiors, furniture, and doors. While among the lightest of the wood types used to build the podiums, Amabilis Fir cones are the largest and heaviest of British Columbia's fir species.



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Karen Burgess, Manager of Spiketop Cedar, Jim's wife and business partner looks after all the administrative work and is frequently referred to as "The Boss" by her husband and son Richard, who helps with the family business.

"I hope the athletes enjoy standing on our beautiful North Island wood."

Bev Parnham, Port Hardy Mayor.

"Our forest history goes back to the early 1900's and forestry continues as one of our region's key economic drivers to this day."

"Well-managed family woodlot operations are a source of pride for our community and make significant contributions to the local economy. Woodlots support the evolution of new business and aid in the diversification of our rural economies."

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

