

Richmond Olympic Oval – Speed Skating

The Coastal Douglas-fir Podium

Powell River

Powell River Community Forest

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



The Coastal Douglas-fir podium is used at the Richmond Oval for individual speed skating events. It is 478 centimetres long, 171 cm deep, 50 cm at its tallest point and assembled from 241 pieces.



Powell River – The Pearl on the Sunshine Coast

Powell River is a community of 20,000 on the north end of British Columbia's Sunshine Coast. The rainforests are green and rich, the skies and ocean, blue. Powell River has a history and tradition of forestry, which continues to drive the local economy. Mills produce cedar and Douglas-fir lumber, flooring, panelling and shingles while local craftsmen make high quality doors and furniture for customers around the world. People are attracted to Powell River for the vibrant local arts, culture and entertainment scene as well as the area's natural beauty and recreation.



Powell River Community Forest

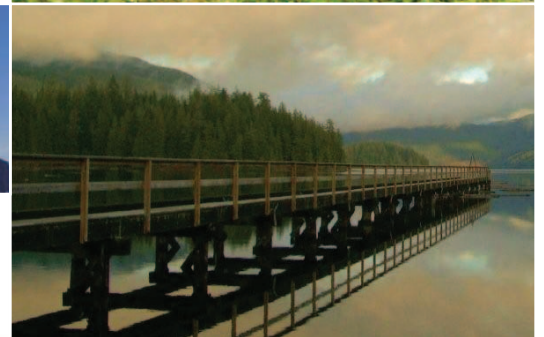
The Coastal Douglas-fir for the podium was donated by the Powell River Community Forest. Established in 2006, it encompasses 7,100 hectares of sustainably managed forest, with job creation, water-quality preservation, and recreation opportunities as key

Greg Hemphill, Powell River Community Forest president. Greg enjoys international travel, curling, kayaks, golf and fishing.



"We live, work and play in our forests, so it's important we understand the full range of forest values and the need for sustainable management."

management principles. It is a huge success, benefiting residents, outdoor enthusiasts and tourists, as well as local contractors, mill owners and value-added manufacturers. Operations from 2008 resulted in a \$500,000 dividend to the City of Powell River, which was used to build a new running track.



Coastal Douglas-fir

Often held as a symbol of the coastal rainforest, Douglas-fir is one British Columbia's iconic tree species. These giants are British Columbia's tallest-growing trees, reaching over 85 metres in height. Douglas-fir is exceptionally hard, stiff and durable, which makes it outstanding for heavy-duty construction such as wharves, trestles, bridges and buildings. Douglas-fir wood products were also used in the construction of the Richmond Oval with 19,000 sheets of plywood in the roof panels and about 2,400 cubic metres in the roof beams.



The podiums of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

The Coastal Douglas-fir Podium

Powell River

Powell River Community Forest



Chris Laing, Community Forest general manager. Chris is also the proud father of a growing family, a fisherman, hiker, snowboarder, and builder of his 2,200 square foot home / office from the ground up.

"It's very rewarding to know that when we grab our tools and put on our boots to go work in the community forest, we are supporting local people and businesses and ultimately working to support community improvements in our City."



Stewart Alsgard, mayor of the City of Powell River



"Powell River is the Pearl on the Sunshine Coast and a Cultural Capital of Canada. Come and visit our beautiful, friendly community."

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.

Contacts

Greg Hemphill
Powell River Community Forest Ltd
604 223-4887
greghemphill@shaw.ca
www.prcommunityforest.ca
www.powellriver.ca

Ministry of Forests and Range
Province of British Columbia
250 387-8482
PABFOR.MediaRequests@gov.bc.ca



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

