

Olympic Figure Skating Team to Train in Abbotsford

Abbotsford, BC (June 4, 2009) – The Russian Figure Skating Federation has announced that their Pairs, Ice Dance Couples and Men Figure Skaters will be training in Abbotsford for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games from February 3 – 17, 2010 at the Abbotsford Recreation Centre.

“The Russian Figure Skating Federation contacted Hosting BC, a department of 2010 Legacies Now, looking for an international size ice rink close to Vancouver and a community partner willing to embrace the team and that’s when Sport Town Canada, aka Abbotsford, jumped on the opportunity” says Allison Longshore, Sales & Marketing Manager Tourism Abbotsford. “The City of Abbotsford, the Ramada Plaza & Conference Centre and Tourism Abbotsford, created an all-inclusive training camp package that was customized to their needs within days of the inquiry.”

Mayor George Peary says “This is another great opportunity to connect Abbotsford with the biggest sports event in the world. The Russian Figure Skaters will help to position Abbotsford internationally for more sport hosting opportunities.”

Tourism Abbotsford and City staff will work with the Federation on developing “Meet & Greet” events with the skaters and coaches during the training camp. The training camp will also take place during a portion of the Olympic Live Site Celebration at the Abbotsford Recreation Centre.

For more information on Abbotsford’s sport hosting strategy and sport events visit www.sporttowncanada.com.

Fast Facts:

- ◆ Abbotsford, Surrey and Port Moody are the only communities in the Lower Mainland and the Fraser Valley that have an international size ice rink.
- ◆ This is the first Olympic team to train here in Abbotsford for 2010. The USA Wheelchair Curling Team trained here a few months ago for the World Wheelchair Curling Championships.
- ◆ Other Olympic teams are aware of our facilities and our ability to host training camps but most cannot commit until their qualification events are complete.

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