

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Whistler Landscape Architects win national award for Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Bid project.

WHISTLER, BC, MARCH 21, 2003: On the heels of the International Olympic Committee's visit to Vancouver and Whistler, a team of Whistler Landscape Architects has received national recognition for their significant role in the Vancouver 2010 Bid process and documentation. Of the 62 entries in the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Professional Awards Program, top honors were awarded to Whistler's Jan Jansen, Manager of Bid Development Whistler, and Tom Barratt, President of Tom Barratt Ltd.

Both Jansen and Barratt served distinct roles in the development of Vancouver's Bid, which outlines all aspects of hosting the 2010 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Winter Games as required by the IOC. Jansen, who is also the Manager of Parks Planning Services for the Resort Municipality of Whistler, was responsible for overseeing the development of the plans and budgets for the competition and non-competition venues in Whistler. Barratt played a key role in the development of competition venue plans in the Callaghan Valley and the Bid Book's mapping and graphical content.

Sponsored by the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects in association with its component Associations, the purpose of the CSLA Professional Awards Program is to recognize and encourage excellence in all aspects of the profession and to promote a strong awareness of landscape architecture as a profession amongst related professions, clients and the general public. The project, which spanned over a two year period and required three months to compile for the Bid Book, was submitted under the New Directions category of the Program, which included projects by CSLA members practicing in non-traditional areas of the profession.

The project provided the Landscape Architects with an opportunity to educate themselves and work in non traditional areas of the profession.

The Landscape Architect's role included the development of facility/venue programs based on the interpretation of IOC and International Sport Federation guidelines, site assessment and selection, participation in Theme Work Groups, coordinating / leading consultant teams, liaising with sport Work Groups, international sport federations and government agencies in the development of venue plans, overseeing the development of venue budgets, participating in the development of venue fit out plans, legacy plans and bid book content and illustrations.

The role of Jan Jansen as Manager of Bid development, Whistler, included overseeing the development of facility plans and budgets for proposed capital infrastructure associated with the Whistler Sliding Centre, Whistler Athlete's Village, Whistler Nordic Centre, and Paralympic Sledge Hockey facility with an estimated value in excess of \$200 million (CDN).

Tom Barratt has played a key role in the development of detailed plans for the Whistler Nordic Centre (Cross Country Skiing, Biathlon, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined) as well as the development of snow based venue plans illustrated in Sport Federation documents and the bid book. The Bid took advantage of the graphic abilities offered by Barratt's group and utilized them throughout the course of the project, culminating with their inclusion in the Book.

According to Barratt, the project was one of the most challenging projects of his career particularly as there was no room for error. Said Tom Barratt. "It is very rewarding to have participated in the Bid process on behalf of Whistler and Vancouver as the project allowed us to apply everything that we have learned over the years working in the area and in our profession. It will be even more rewarding if the Bid is successful to have world-class athletes using the venues."

Project credits include Jeremy Burrows, Laurelin Fondacaro and Kim Rooney of Tom Barratt Ltd.; Joel Roy, Venue Development Designer, Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation; Susie Stewart, Manager Bid Development, Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation; Erin Konantz, Graphic Designer, Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation; Bob McKay, Concert Properties; Carson Hamm, Planimetrix Design Group Inc.; Norm Hotson, Bruce Haden, Hotson Bakker Architects; Brent Harley, Brent Harley & Associates Inc.; Gerrit Timmerman, Brendan Walashek, McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd; and Jay Hiscox, Stantec Architecture.

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PROJECT TEAM BACKGROUNDER:

TOM BARRATT LTD.

Tom Barratt, B.A., B.L.A., M.L.A., is Principal of Tom Barratt Ltd., a Whistler based firm which has undertaken landscape architecture, site planning, analysis and design services for a wide range of landscape projects since 1986, including resort development projects, resort hotels, residences, environmental rehabilitation and multi family housing, throughout the Lower Mainland and Whistler area. Barratt has been actively involved in the development of the Whistler Parks System including the valley trail system, beaches and parks; as well as the landscape architecture projects for the Blackcomb Benchlands Area, Whistler Village and Whistler Village North.

JAN JANSEN

Jan Jansen, B.A., B.L.A., has been working for the Resort Municipality of Whistler since the late 1980's. As Manager of Parks Planning Services, Jansen has been involved in a broad range of work that includes: municipal representation in developing, coordinating, and overseeing of major capital and special projects such as the Meadow Park Sports Centre, and the coordination and development of project studies and master plans. Since being seconded to the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation over two years ago, acting as Manager of Bid Development Whistler, Jansen has been responsible for overseeing the development of Whistler's proposed competition and non competition venues.

PROJECT BACKGROUNDER:

Statement of Purpose of the Project:

Vancouver is Canada's Candidate City for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Winter Games. The Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation has submitted a bid book to the International Olympic Committee outlining all aspects of hosting the Games.

The Olympic Plan contained within the bid book must demonstrate the feasibility of all competition and non-competition venues and meet the requirements of the international sport federations. Detailed venue programs, site assessments, Olympic and Post Olympic plans and cost estimates are required of all proposed facilities for review by the IOC and sport federations. A rigorous public consultation plan is executed to ensure integration of stakeholder input. Preliminary approvals from government and regulatory agencies must be secured. The integration of the three pillars of the modern Olympic movement, Sport, Culture and Environment are incorporated in all aspects of the Olympic Plan.

A cornerstone of the Bid is the integration of a sustainability framework providing policy guidance and a set of best practices based on principles of ecological limits, interdependence, long-term view, stakeholder engagement, equity, accessibility and healthy communities.

Statement Regarding the Local/Regional Significance of the Project

The competition to win the right to host the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games is a competition of Provincial, National and International stature. A candidate city's bid is scrutinized by a myriad of government agencies, national and international sport organizations and federations, special interest groups, and the IOC to ensure it's viability technically, operationally, environmentally and economically.

Because of the Bid's prominence and the Landscape Architects' key involvement in the rigorous process of preparing venue plans and budgets, the project has provided significant exposure of the Landscape Architecture profession to the public, Bid team and sport organizations and federations.

Statement of Special Factors Relating to the Project

The preparation of an Olympic Bid occurs infrequently in Canada and, by its nature presents unique challenges and opportunities. With the addition of the third pillar to the Olympic Movement, that being Environment, the bid process has provided an opportunity for Landscape Architects to develop a Bid that speaks to a city's, region's and nation's commitment to sustainability beyond environmental stewardship to include social responsibility, economic opportunity, sport development and health promotion.

The development of highly technical venue plans, athlete village plan, fit out plans, associated budgets and communication tools has given Landscape Architects an opportunity to educate themselves and practice in non traditional areas of the profession.

The involvement of Landscape Architects has strengthened the Olympic Plan and provided considerable exposure of the profession to the public, sports interest and the project team.

COMMENTS FROM JURORS

2003 Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Professional Awards

'Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Games Bid'

National Honour – New Directions

- Very solid and professional work
- Highly complex mandate communicated clearly and concisely
- The Landscape Architect plays a decisive and 'key' role in the elaboration of the Bid which is encouraging – confirms the leadership role of the professional
- The Landscape Architect as 'generalist' brings together and 'orients' a complex, multi-disciplinary team – in a return to the 'historic' role of Landscape Architect as 'maitre d'oeuvre'
- Provides visibility and credibility for the profession on international, regional and local levels
- Communication report employs state of the art 'techniques' and uses current technology to produce 'superior graphics and illustrations, suited to the needs of the study – an excellent presentation
- Project highlights protected areas and promotes sustainability