



Canada's North Comes Alive in Downtown Vancouver As Canada's Northern House opens to the Public www.canadasnorth.com

Vancouver, BC (January 14, 2010) -- Starting January 15, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut will begin to showcase the economic opportunities in Canada's North to the world with the opening of **Canada's Northern House** in downtown Vancouver at 602 West Hastings Street.

The Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut chose a united approach to present the stories that make up Canada's northern identity. The vision of Canada's North is to celebrate the richness and diversity of its cultures as expressed through elders and youth, tradition and innovation, voices, images and performance.

Hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. until February 11, 2010, and from 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. February 12-28, 2010. For the month of March, Canada's Northern House will be open 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

A life-size inuksuk marks the interior entrance of Canada's Northern House at 602 West Hastings. Guests are treated to an interactive feast of performances, artistic demonstrations, educational kiosks and hosts, all highlighting the cultural, tourism, investment, and lifestyle opportunities in Canada's North.

Programming will build leading up to the Olympic Winter Games. Northern artists will demonstrate traditional and modern performance styles, sharing the unique talent on display within Canada's North.

Traditional Inuit and Dene Games are also an integral part of northern culture and will be demonstrated as a celebration of sport that is unique to northern communities. Athletes from across Canada's North will demonstrate sporting events including the one-foot high kick, the knuckle hop, the head pull, the sledge jump and the snow snake - all of which involve great skill, strength and concentration.

Canada's Northern House will serve as the centre for Canada's North to build relationships, profile business opportunities and showcase the stunning tourism experiences available. The pavilion is just part of the campaign in place to provide visitors a better understanding and appreciation of the role that Canada's North plays in the overall fabric of Canada.

Information about Canada's Northern House and Canada's North Weekend of Celebrations will be updated regularly at www.canadasnorth.com

Fast Facts:

The Yukon Territory covers 483,450 km² (186,660 sq mi). Population is approximately 31,000.

The Northwest Territories covers 1,140,835 km² (440,000 sq mi) Population is approximately 42,600.

Nunavut covers 1,932,255 km² (746,048 sq mi) of land and 160,935 km² (62,137 sq mi) of water. Population is approximately 29,400.

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