



Ministry of
Tourism, Trade
and Investment

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John Furlong to Receive the BC Export Awards 2010 Leadership Award

Award recognizes the benefit of hosting the 2010 Games to BC's exporters

Vancouver, BC – Craig Williams, Vice President BC Division, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME), and the Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Investment announced the 2010 BC Export Awards Leadership Award will go to John Furlong for his contributions to British Columbia and Canada through his leadership of the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in Vancouver and Whistler.

“We are honoured to have Mr. Furlong accept this award,” said Mr. Williams. “He has been such an inspirational leader for our province and businesses for much of this decade and we look forward to recognizing the contributions he has made to our export industries as a result of putting BC on the world stage.”

The BC Export Leadership Award recognizes contributions to exporting in BC. This year the award, presented by the BC Institute of Technology, acknowledges the tremendous positive impact of hosting the Games to British Columbia and the BC export industry. Under Mr. Furlong’s leadership, VANOC drew the world’s attention to BC and its businesses from 2003, when the International Olympic Committee named Vancouver and Whistler as the host cities for the 2010 Winter Games through March 2010 at the closing of the 2010 Winter Paralympic Games. BC’s top business leaders and government officials will celebrate Mr. Furlong’s achievements at the annual BC Export Awards Gala on November 19, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver.

“John Furlong is a true visionary,” commented Minister Margaret MacDiarmid, Minister of Tourism, Trade and Investment. “From the very beginning of the Olympic bid for Vancouver and Whistler, he envisioned that the Games could be a true nation builder. His leadership was critical to putting BC and its businesses on the world stage from the time of the bid process through March 2010.”

“Hundreds of BC businessmen met decision makers from all over the world as a result of the 2010 Games and the provincial business hosting program in the lead up to and during the Games,” added Williams. “As these opportunities develop over the coming years, the successful ones will create new export and investment opportunities in British Columbia, create new jobs within the province and lead to productive new partnerships for BC-based businesses.”

The Gala luncheon will also recognize all the [finalists](#) for the 2010 BC Export Awards and announce the winners from each of the nine business award categories, one of whom will be named the Exporter of the Year.

For more information and to buy tickets visit www.bcexportawards.com



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About the BC Export Awards

The BC Export Awards are co-hosted annually by CME and the Provincial Government of BC. They are open to all BC companies that have been exporting a product or service for two or more years. Since inception, the BC Export Awards has recognized the achievements of more than 310 BC exporters.

Sponsors of this year's awards include RBC Financial Group, Export Development Canada, Initiatives Prince George, Prince George Airport Authority, Prince Rupert Port Authority, CN, The Eyes Television Production Ltd., Air Canada Cargo, BCIT, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, UPS Canada, WorkSafeBC, SYSPRO Canada, Fireworks Marketing Group, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, International Financial Centre BC, BC Council for International Education, Business Development Bank of Canada, BC Hydro Power Smart, GCT Global Container Terminals Inc., Port Metro Vancouver.

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About Mr. Furlong

Mr. Furlong is the leader behind the team that organized and staged the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. From the very beginning of the project, Mr. Furlong envisioned that the Games could be a true nation builder, helping to improve the fabric of Canadian society. Prior to his appointment at VANOC in 2004, Furlong was the President and Chief Operating Officer for the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation. In his role, he became the Bid's international face and key spokesperson, tirelessly clocking more than 1.2 million miles in his travels to promote the Bid.

Mr. Furlong has been involved with athletics all his life, having competed at the international level in basketball, European handball and squash, becoming Canadian Squash Champion in 1986. Mr. Furlong has been a long time member of the Canadian Olympic Committee and has led many high profile sport organizations in Canada. In 2009, he was named Canada's Most Influential Sport Figure by both the Globe and Mail and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and listed #1 on Vancouver Magazine's Vancouver Power 50 2009 list. Around the Rings Magazine has listed Mr. Furlong as one of the world's top five most influential Olympic Officials in both 2009 and 2010. Most recently, he was named Sport BC's Sportsman of the Decade. Mr. Furlong was acclaimed as the 2004 Canadian Sport Awards' Sport Leadership Winner for his service to sport in Canada over a lifetime. He has won Vancouver's most prestigious tourism award for the promotion of Vancouver around the world and was inducted into the BC Sports Hall of Fame as the 2004 W.A.C. Bennett Award winner. On July 1, 2010, Mr. Furlong was named an Officer of the Order of Canada and received the Order of British Columbia on October 21, 2010.

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