

Draft Script for Video Presentation

Olympic Legacy Project, Fort St. John, BC

Version Two

(Approx. Time: 6:30)

Prepared by Eagle Vision Video Productions Ltd.

(Note: Production features appear in blue; narrative commentary appears in black; revisions are highlighted in red)

Prologue

-The presentation will begin with a literal bang from the starting gun for a long-track speed-skating race. Images of the race will appear throughout the video, underscoring the construction of a speed-skating complex as the substance of Fort St. John's Olympic proposal. Ongoing images of the race will also serve as a visual metaphor for the "energetic city," for the bidding process, and for the Olympic games themselves.

-A high-tempo sound track will engage after the starter's gun is fired and the racers take-off. The sound of blades on ice will be audible amid the music. In this initial segment, the racers will be driving hard, skating directly toward the camera. Slow-motion frames could be effective here.

Introduction

The arched design of the Fort St. John city logo will arise on the screen (from bottom to top), temporarily eclipsing images of the race. Cut to circumpolar graphics that show the global location of Fort St. John. The sound track/music will be tempered to accommodate the introductory narrative segment. Narration will be accompanied by images of a busy downtown Fort St. John and of industrial activity. Shots may include national and provincial flags.

-Fort St. John, the energy capital of British Columbia, is the largest city in the northeastern region of the province, serving an area that is four times the size of Vancouver Island. As the service center for oil and gas activity in the northeast, Fort St. John manages a regional energy industry that contributes an estimated 1.4 billion dollars per year to the provincial economy. When other major northeastern resource industries are considered, such as forestry, Fort St. John's annual contribution to the provincial economy reaches 2.5 billion dollars.

-This presentation outlines an energetic vision from the energetic city: **in support of the 2010 Winter Olympics, based in Vancouver-Whistler, Fort St. John presents itself as a location for a new training facility that would serve Olympic speed skaters (and other athletes) from Canada and around the world.**

-The northern, co-operative spirit of the energetic city will get the job done, ensuring the success of this project.

Main Points

-Volume of sound track re-intensifies. Visual imagery momentarily returns to the speed skating race. The skaters are accelerating off a corner. The noise of blades on ice is again discernible. Music then becomes tempered to prepare for the first in a series main points presented by the narrator. These main points will explain why Fort St. John should be chosen as the site for a training complex. Textual subheadings could be effective throughout the core of the video, to accentuate main points.

-The "home-of-champions" theme will be accompanied by a montage of photographs, headlines, and video footage. This segment, will prioritize speed skating but also showcase Fort St. John's outstanding record in other sports.

(1) The Home of Champions

-Speed-skating visuals will include images of young beginners and championship highlights throughout the years--from the silver medal performance of Marian Thompson (nee Wiles) at the Canadian Winter Games in 1971, on to Linda Johnson Blair's accomplishments in the 1990s.

-Given its long and illustrious history in speed skating, Fort St. John would be an ideal place for the proposed training center.

-The Elks Speed Skating Club of Fort St. John was formed in 1964, with a contingent of twenty-five skaters. The members attended their first outdoor meet in 1965, and by 1966 the club had constructed its own outdoor oval. Today, the Fort St. John oval is one of the top long-track speed skating surfaces in the province.

-Through determination and love for the sport, skaters from the energetic city have excelled, gaining Fort St. John a reputation as one of the leading speed-skating communities in Canada. In total, Fort St. John has produced an astounding **sixty-four** national and/or world speed-skating champions, including **two-time Olympian Linda Johnson Blair**.

-The energetic city also has a strong tradition of accomplishment in other sports and cultural disciplines, producing champions in events ranging from Paralympic volleyball to Irish dancing.

-Visuals now reflect Fort St. John's broader athletic heritage. Material is still being sorted and considered. The city's provincial, national, and world champions include Geoffrey Hammond (a member of the 2002 Paralympic gold-medal volleyball team), curlers Heather Godberson and Jodi Bush, rodeo athletes Justin Volz and Bobbie-Lee Kjos, the Huskies and Eagles (in men's and women's hockey, respectively), track and field star Quinton Gamble (who recently won gold and silver medals at the Canadian Championships), Stephen Ferris and Tessa Bilodeau (from the Blizzard Bicycle Club), golfers Shelby and Kirby Dreher, and members of the Irish Dance clubs.

-As British Columbia prepares for the 2010 Winter Olympics, a new, multi-sport speed-skating facility would recognize Fort St. John's rich athletic heritage while providing a training complex for Olympians throughout Canada and around the world.

-A testimonial from one of our athletes could be used to emphasize Fort St. John's ability to "get the job done."

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur, involving sound-track adjustments and images from the speed-skating race. These central motifs now fade to scenes that complement the experienced host theme.

(2) An Experienced Host

-Fort St. John has demonstrated that it has the commitment and the ability to host major events.

-The energetic city was the birthplace of the **Northern** BC Winter Games in 1975 and has hosted this annual event a total of four times, more than any other northern community in the province. Fort St. John also hosted the **BC** Winter Games in 1984, making the energetic city the only community in British Columbia to have hosted five multi-sport winter games. Other major events held in Fort St. John include the Speed Skating Nationals in 2000, the BC Festival of the Arts in 2001, and the BC Amateur Golf Championships in 2003. In 2004, Fort St. John will host the Junior Canadian Speed Skating Championships.

-This record of accomplishment shows that the energetic city, with its enthusiastic volunteers, gets the job done--on time and in style.

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur, involving sound-track adjustments and images from the speed-skating race. These central motifs fade to scenes that reflect Fort St. John's strong economy.

(3) Economic Strength

-Fort St. John's economic strength resides not only in rich supplies of oil and gas, but in forestry and agriculture. These "big three" industries give Fort St. John an economic diversity that is rare among resource communities.

-Today, Fort St. John has one of the strongest economies in Canada, and the stability of its diversified economy will support the long-term viability of a world-class training facility, creating a lasting Olympic legacy in northeastern British Columbia.

-Another "we-can-do-it" testimonial, perhaps from someone in industry, may be effective.

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur, involving sound-track adjustments and images from the speed-skating race. These central motifs fade to scenes that reflect Fort St. John's cultural diversity.

(4) Cultural Diversity

-Characterized by a blend of frontier hardiness and urban sophistication, the culture of Fort St. John is as diverse as its economy. Here, people of all ages and backgrounds enjoy opportunities to celebrate the richness of the human spirit.

-Drawing on long cultural traditions, local First Nations impart a reverence for the land while looking ahead to new developments. Furthermore, a successful international program at Northern Lights College draws students from countries in Asia, Europe, Africa, and South America.

-Clearly, Fort St. John is ready to embrace athletes from adoptive countries around the world: **the northern hospitality of the energetic city will make people feel at home.**

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur, involving sound-track adjustments and images from the speed-skating race. These central motifs fade to images that demonstrate Fort St. John's strong infrastructure—the hospital, the airport, educational institutions, and existing facilities in Centennial Park. The infrastructure segment of the video will conclude with depictions of the proposed training center.

(5) Municipal Infrastructure

-Fort St. John has a growing infrastructure that will support the proposed training facility.

-Services include an acute-care hospital with full emergency services and specialists in areas such as radiology and internal medicine, **plus a modern regional airport that provides two daily flights to Vancouver, with one-stop connections to most major cities around the globe.** Meanwhile, university-level programming for young athletes is offered by the local community college, in partnership with Simon Fraser University and the University of Northern British Columbia.

-Moreover, Centennial Park, in downtown Fort St. John, already the site of major indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, is large enough to accommodate the proposed training complex, creating an opportunity for integrated, multi-sport recreational venues in the very heart of the energetic city.

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur, involving sound-track adjustments and images from the speed-skating race. These base motifs fade to scenes that show the natural splendour of the backcountry around Fort St. John.

(6) The Great Outdoors

-Finally, for those who want to experience the great outdoors, Fort St. John is a gateway to the spectacular beauty of northern British Columbia. A treasure for all to cherish, the region's unique and varied ecosystem comprises some of the last true wilderness in the world.

-Unifying audio and visual motifs recur. As the presentation draws to a close, the speed skaters cross the finish line, and the lead skater raises his/her arms in victory. These images fade to stills and motion shots of the city and of the current crop of championship speed skaters, such as Jay and Denny Morrison.

Conclusion

-This is Fort St. John: a land of energy and opportunity, the birthplace of the Northern BC Winter Games, and the home of champions. Fort St. John's long tradition of success in speed skating continues today, with a crop of young, top-ranked Canadian skaters, many of whom are potential Olympians. Indeed, Linda Johnson Blair has passed the torch to a new group of champions.

-The selection of Fort St. John as a location for a new, multi-sport speed-skating complex would enable some of Canada's most promising young athletes to train at home, while giving the world an opportunity to experience all that Fort St. John and northeastern British Columbia have to offer.

-Fort St. John ~~can~~ welcomes the world: **come feel the energy!** ↗

-Music reaches a crescendo. Fort St. John logo reappears on the screen.