

**Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre to open June 2008
First Nations Meeting Venue in Whistler**

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada --- A world-class attraction, showcasing the distinct cultures of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations, is opening in North America's premier alpine resort and event site for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler, British Columbia, is a perfect venue for corporate events, receptions, and productive meetings.

Located in the Upper Village of Whistler in a spectacular natural setting on a 1.76 hectare (4.35 acre) site, the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre offers highly flexible space, accommodating banquets for up to 280 people and receptions for 500. Meeting planners can incorporate authentic First Nations traditional food, drumming and singing, or create their own entertainment in the permanent theatre, holding 80 people, or the Great Hall, adapted to a 250-seat theatre. As an added option, meeting planners can hold a private board meeting or planning session during the day in the Istken Hall.

Conveniently set next to luxury accommodations and all amenities, the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre will open in June 2008. Squamish and Lil'wat hosts will welcome guests as they approach on a walkway graced with pictograph-adorned boulders and enter through magnificent hand-carved cedar welcome figure doors. Once inside, massive spindle whorls, suspended canoes, intricate weavings and thundering drumming – with a spectacular backdrop of mountains seen through unobstructed glass - provide a truly dramatic setting for any meeting. Future plans include a traditional Squamish Longhouse, the Lil'wat Istken (earthen dwelling with fire pit), outdoor barbeque facility and ethno-botanical gardens.

The culturally rich program options and authentic arts add a new dimension to the already remarkable Whistle experience. With everything from entertainment to food service capacity — both indoors and outdoors, the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre will make a lasting impression on guests. The cuisine is world class, with the Four Seasons Resort Whistler signed on as the official caterer. The Centre, the newest conference venue in Whistler BC, will become an enriching addition to any program, or a signature platform for a stand-alone event or meeting.

The Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, "where rivers, mountains and people meet," is the result of an unprecedented partnership between two distinctly different First Nations, the coastal Squamish people and the interior Lil'wat people, to showcase their respective cultures. For more information on the Cultural Centre, go to www.slcc.ca or contact Deanna Bell by email at sales@slcc.ca or by phone at (604) 898-1822.

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