



Springtime at the 2009 Canada Games

It's easy to think of early spring as down time, especially for those organizations that are as heavily venue-dependent as the 2009 Canada Games. However, that is certainly not the case with the 2009 Canada Games!

In Official Languages, the division responsible for providing translation services for Games information, they are dealing with three major projects; the Mission 2 conference, the Sponsorship 2 conference and Games-time publications. All three are coming up this spring and the translators are busier than ever.

Mission 2 is a second opportunity for Chefs de Mission from across Canada to visit us on PEI once again and ask questions, get the lay of the land and make connections with their fellow Chefs.

The Sponsorship 2 conference brings sponsors together under one roof. Guest speakers make informative presentations to help sponsors maximize their sponsorship. Division reps from the Host Society and the Canada Games Council will bring forward information that will be of interest to sponsors.

During the Games, the need for bilingual services will be huge. A request for bilingual volunteers during the Games has been sent out to all divisions. To date, 300 French-speaking volunteers have been recruited. Once these volunteers have been screened a selection of those with the appropriate skill level will be made and those volunteers will help in providing orientation for the entire team of French speaking volunteers.

Facilities division is looking forward to the day when the snow has receded and they are better able to assess the condition of the venue grounds. It was a pretty challenging winter and Facilities wants to get on top of making needed repairs as soon as possible.

Getting the grass in shape – and keeping it that way – is always a major consideration for Facilities. Achieving good quality grass for the many venues that require it takes a great deal of planning – even when the snow is still flying – and many hours of labour to achieve the end result.

Things are going well at Slemon Park, home of one of the Athletes' Villages. Work continues on the planned upgrades of those facilities that will provide important services, accommodations and competition sites for the athletes.

Media requests are increasing daily and MCRC have met with a number of media outlets to provide information and assess their needs. On-going news stories as well as advertisements keep the Games in the public eye, as do our Games Mascots, Abbie and Eddie who are spreading the good Games news, Island-wide.

MCRC, Media, Community Relations and Communications has begun the big job of accrediting 100 + covering and broadcast media who will provide coverage of the Games.

The big news in MCRC is our new website. Updated information and helpful links are now available on events, ticketing and accommodations.

To see what's new with the 2009 Canada Games Host Society, visit us at www.2009canadagames.ca.