



**Chefs de Mission Seminar for the XXI Olympic Winter Games  
Vancouver, 18-21 February 2009  
Closing remarks by ANOC Secretary General  
Ms Gunilla Lindberg**

On the very last day of the excellent Chefs de Mission Seminar in Vancouver I would like to make some closing remarks on behalf of ANOC and the 72 NOCs that have gathered here in the beautiful host city of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

This Chefs de Mission Seminar has been organized in a very efficient and informative way and I would propose it to be a role model for the future. Thanks to the excellent preparation work supervised by John Furlong and Cathy Priestner Allinger and with all the hard work and support for the NOCs by Andreja McQuarrie and her team this seminar has been a great success.

We have listened to very good presentations which has given us a lot of information to bring back to our home countries for the important final preparations for the last year before the Olympic Winter Games 2010.

We have been able to see all the competition venues and we have seen with our own eyes that they are ready and have been tested and this is one year before the Games. Congratulations.

We have been able to visit the Olympic villages in Whistler and Vancouver and they look very nice and we are all looking forward to make them our home in one year's time. They are so nice you might have a problem with us not wanting to move out.

I also would like to thank all the NOCs for all the support and input ANOC has received from you which has made it possible to put forward with one voice the needs of the NOCs in the IOC Coordination Commission. Special thanks to Marit Myrmael, Caroline Assalian and Lezlie Gamez for all their cooperation and help to identify problems so we have been able to solve them before they really become a problem.

Special thanks also to the IOC and especially Tosh Tsurinaga for excellent cooperation. His work has really been crucial to be where we are today in the preparation for the NOCs for the Olympic Games. Thanks Tosh.

With saying this I also know that we have one year to go and this last year will be hard work for VANOC, for the IOC, for us the NOCs and for the athletes who now are in their final preparations.

During this seminar we have been able to identify some issues which we will bring back again to VANOC and ask for solutions and clarification in the near future.

The Games are for the athletes, and in order to have the best possible Games for the athletes, we would like to raise the points covered in the PowerPoint document entitled "Chefs de Mission Seminar – Vancouver, 18-21 February 2009 – Conclusions".