



June 26, 2010

A Message from the Premier

As Premier of the province of British Columbia, I am pleased to extend my best wishes to everyone participating in the Vancouver International Soccer Festival (VISF) at the Andy Livingstone Park and Sport Arena.

VISF is a celebration of not only soccer and sport, but a celebration of multiculturalism and team spirit. With a mission to promote global peace and social change through soccer, the Festival will welcome 48 local, international, First Nations and Homeless teams to Vancouver. We are fortunate to be living in a province that is home to a diverse population. This diversity fosters an environment of acceptance and understanding, and is a source of pride and strength for British Columbians and all those who visit with us.

Held during the FIFA World Cup, athletes and spectators will have the opportunity to join together to watch the tournament, enjoy the live round-robin festival, taste globally inspired cuisine, listen to house DJs and bring their kids to the play zone. Sport and all forms of athleticism is inspiring, exciting and personally fulfilling – that was the message of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games here in British Columbia, and that is the message these athletes are carrying during the Vancouver International Soccer Festival.

I would like to commend the organizers, sponsors, volunteers and coaches for all of the hard work they have invested in ensuring this year's event is an outstanding success. On behalf of the people of British Columbia, I would like to wish all the competitors the best of luck and hope everyone has an enjoyable time.

Sincerely,

Gordon Campbell
Premier