



2008 COWICHAN NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES

MEDIA RELEASE

COWICHAN WINS BID TO HOST 2008 NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES

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Cowichan Valley, BC—The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) Council awarded Cowichan to host the 2008 North American Indigenous Games announced Chief Harvey Alphonse of Cowichan Tribes today, “The presentation in Connecticut by the Cowichan delegation was the last step in the selection process which initially included Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Cowichan,” said Alphonse.

“Only the Cowichan Valley, BC and Regina, Saskatchewan were remaining contenders to host the 2008 Indigenous Games. Regina’s bid was very strong but with the dedication and hard work of the Cowichan bid committee we emerged victorious.”

Cowichan delegation included: Honorable Graham Bruce MLA Cowichan, five time Olympian Charmaine Crooks, three time Para Olympic champion and Cowichan Tribes member Richard Peter, Youth Elders and the Cowichan Bid Team

“I am proud to be a part of this team” said Bruce. “The entire Cowichan area and the province stands with the Cowichan Tribes as they prepare to deliver the best NAIG ever, indeed the 2005 Seniors Games in Duncan will be a great practice for the 2008 NAIG.”

These Games with an economic spin off of more than 30 million dollars involve six thousand junior athletes, one thousand senior athletes, two thousand cultural performers and more than three thousand volunteers but the real benefits are for the youth of Cowichan explained Alphonse. Our youth will be empowered in their efforts to strive to be the best they can be.

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