

December 2008



RE/MAX SEA TO SKY REAL ESTATE WHISTLER

# News from the office of Sally Warner

## PEAK 2 PEAK

Imagine soaking up the exhilarating views of British Columbia's snow-capped peaks on the world's longest spanning gondola.

The Whistler-Blackcomb Resort's Peak 2 Peak Gondola, which makes its winter operation debut Dec. 12, is part of a massive expansion the two resorts are undergoing in preparation for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

The cost of the lift project alone is \$52 million Canadian. Construction began in spring of 2007, and it will be the world's longest unsupported span for a lift of this kind.

The total free span between the towers (two on each peak) is 1.88 miles. The lift covers 2.73 miles between Whistler and Blackcomb peaks.

If you were a really fast skier and didn't encounter

a lot of lift lines, it would take about 40 minutes to get between both mountains. But if you went at a normal pace and had to stand in lines, it could take about an hour or longer.

Each gondola cabin can hold 28 people (22 sitting and six standing) and can transport 2,050 people per hour each way. It takes each gondola about 11 minutes to cross each peak, and one cabin departs every 49 seconds.

The system will have 28 cabins, including two silver-colored gondolas that will feature real glass floors for a bird's-eye view of Fitzsimmons Valley 1,427 feet below.

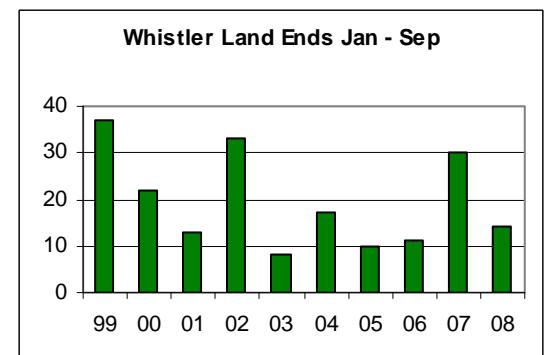
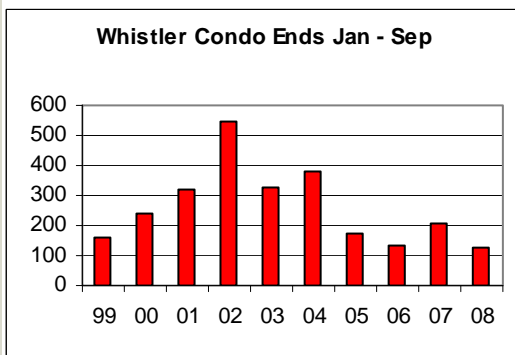
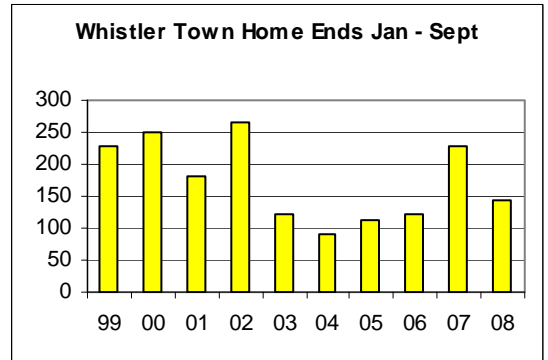
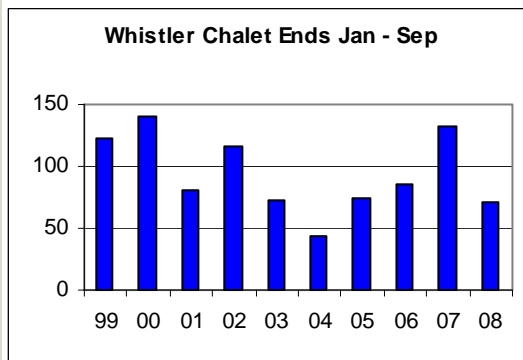
The lift is also greener. Since there is no elevation gain,

energy consumption is much less than a traditional lift, and it uses less energy than the Emerald Express high-speed quad on Blackcomb.

The resort also utilizes hydro power, which is considered a renewable resource, to power its operations.



By Mark Yuasa  
The Seattle Times  
December 2, 2008



# Economy to Rebound by 2010

By The Canadian Press

OTTAWA - The economy is in good shape to weather a global recession, although growth will be anemic for the next six months, the Bank of Canada said recently.

In its fall Monetary Policy Report, the bank said Canada's economic growth will be sluggish through the first quarter of next year, but will then start to pick up and will hit 3.4 per cent in 2010. It predicted real economic growth of 0.6 per cent this year and next.

It said lower world demand, lower commodity prices and tight credit will all contribute to sluggish growth.

The weaker Canadian dollar, however, will help, by lowering the cost of the country's exports and making them more attractive to foreign customers.

The report said inflation will stay below two per cent through 2010.

The central bank, which cut its key interest rate by three-quarters of a percentage point in October, says another cut is likely.

The report said the world is entering a "mild recession" and the United States, wracked by the sub-prime mortgage situation, is already in recession.

Canada is not immune, the

bank said, but it is bolstered by a strong financial system.

"The weaker outlook for global demand will increase the drag on the Canadian economy coming from exports," the report said.

"Lower commodity prices will also dampen the outlook, working though a deterioration in Canada's terms of trade to moderate domestic demand growth.

"The marked tightening in Canadian credit conditions in recent weeks will restrain business and housing investment."

The report predicts a modest decline in housing prices and in household net worth, due to declines in housing equity. Consumer spending will also be lower than earlier predicted, as people adjust to harder times.

Consumers are also going to borrow less, the bank said.

The bank warned, though, that its forecasts are subject to greater uncertainty than usual, as the world grapples with what it called "the deepest, broadest and most persistent financial crisis in decades."

"The bank judges that the risks are roughly balanced around its revised base-case project for inflation in Canada - a base case that now incorporates the recent intensification of the global financial crisis, a mild global recession and the measures that have been taken to resolve the crisis.

"The evolution of the financial crisis, its impact on the global economy and the timing of the effect of the various extraordinary measures being taken to address it post significant risks to the inflation prediction on both the upside and the downside."

## Garibaldi Mortgage Current Rates First Mortgages

Terms	Ours:	Banks:	Variable Rate Mortgage finance starting @ 5.00%
6 months	5.60%	6.21%	Canadian Prime Rate @ 4.00%
1 year	4.35%	6.35%	Rates as of:
2 year	5.00%	6.75%	Dec. 3, 2008
3 year	5.10%	6.75%	
4 year	5.24%	7.04%	
5 year	5.25%	7.20%	
7 year	5.84%	7.65%	
10 year	6.10%	7.80%	
15 year	6.65%	7.15%	
18 year	6.65%	7.15%	
25 year	6.75%	7.25%	



# The Real Estate Market Highlights for September, October & November (Whistler)

Total Sales for September:	50	Total Sales for October:	40	Total Sales for November :	21
Single Family:	11	Single Family:	5	Single Family:	1
Condominiums/Townhomes:	29	Condominiums/Townhomes:	30	Condominiums/Townhomes:	13
Shared Ownership:	9	Shared Ownership:	2	Shared Ownership:	6
Vacant Land:	1	Vacant Land:	3	Vacant Land:	1

## Whistler Film Festival Bigger and Better than Ever!

Bigger, better and now with extra added premieres. It sounds a bit like an ad for laundry detergent, but what it really means is that the Whistler Film Festival is on the verge of becoming important.

It's important enough that Donald Sutherland will lead the festival jury and hand out the prize for the feature film that captures the Borsos Award, named for late Sutherland collaborator and legendary filmmaker Phillip Borsos.

"We've been trying to get him for years, so we are really excited," said festival director and co-founder Shauna Hardy Mishaw.

Sutherland -- who has starred in M\*A\*S\*H, Klute, Bethune and dozens of other films -- will judge the Borsos contenders with director Patricia Rozema (Kit Kittredge: An American Girl, I've Heard Mermaids Singing) and filmmaker Sturla Gunnarson (Air India 182, Beowulf and Grendel) and award a prize of \$15,000.

As jury president Sutherland is in exclusive company. Past Borsos jury presidents include Norman Jewison and Atom Egoyan.

"Getting that award from Donald Sutherland would be a marquee moment for your career," said Mishaw.

This year's festival, the eighth, will bring in 92 films, five world

premieres, eight Canadian premieres and 19 B.C. premieres. Five of the six films competing for the Borsos award have never been seen in B.C. before.

"Half the films at this year's festival are Canadian," said Mishaw. "We are an International festival, but these films are the cornerstone."

The festival opens and closes with Canadian films. Michael McGowan's One Week screens opening night, while Bruce McDonald's zombie suspense flick Pontypool closes proceedings.

True to its roots, the Whistler fest includes a roster of films in the Mountain Culture category and four short films from Whistler will screen at the opening gala.

When the 2010 Winter Olympic Games were awarded to Vancouver and Whistler, the Whistler fest brain trust paid a visit to Raymond Grant, the executive director of the Sundance Institute and the director of cultural programming for the cultural Olympiad for the Salt Lake Games in 2002.

"He said no matter what you do, tell your own stories," said Mishaw. "That's how

Whistler Stories was born."

The festival has commissioned four films for \$5,000 apiece in each of the past five years, "about some little part of Whistler that is special and important," Mishaw said.

One of this year's films chronicle's Whistler's history of Olympic bids, while another follows the Hair Farmers, a musical duo that is a staple act on the local apres-ski circuit.

Mishaw hopes the collection -- which should total 24 films by 2010 -- will be shown during the Winter Olympic Games as part of the Cultural Olympiad.

Next year's Whistler stories will all be shot by high school students involved in the media arts program the festival has created in partnership with the Whistler Arts Council, Shaw Cable and the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation.

Randy Shore, Vancouver Sun

December 4, 2008

**whistler**   
**film festival**  
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## Whistler Olympic Park

The Whistler Olympic Park is located in the beautiful Callaghan Valley. It will host the cross-country, biathlon, Nordic combined and ski jumping events for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Whistler Olympic Park offers 55 kilometers of cross-country ski trails expertly groomed for both classic and skating and ranging from beginner to Olympic caliber. With 5 kilometers of lit trails for night skiing, a biathlon range and stadium, snowshoeing trails, a cozy day

lodge, impressive ski jumps and stunning views, Whistler Olympic Park has something for everyone.

For those who want to explore further, the connected Callaghan Country trail system brings the total groomed skiing available to almost 100 kilometers, making the Callaghan Valley a truly world-class cross-country ski area.

The Grand Opening of the new Whistler Olympic Park Daylodge and First day of 2008/2009 public ski season—November 22

