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Press Release

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For immediate release

Inspired by the Winter Olympics? Explore Canada Beyond Whistler

With the Winter Olympics in Canada now over, many Australians who have been inspired by the beauty of this country will be tempted to pack their bags and trek to Whistler to join the thousands of other Aussies doing the same. While Whistler is a large and impressive resort town, there is much more to Canada than this one location and on a working holiday, eligible young Aussies have two years to live and work there, experiencing everything that this spectacular country has to offer.

While Australians do traditionally flock to Whistler, it is often due to a lack of awareness of other resorts and ski locations. Canada is home to around 200 resorts scattered throughout the different provinces, all offering a range of sports from the usual skiing, snowboarding and ice-skating to the more unusual dog-sledding, bob-sledding, ice-fishing, snow-shoeing and tobogganing.

Non-profit working holiday organisation, International Exchange Programs (IEP) can assist eligible Australians in obtaining this visa through their Work Canada Fully Loaded program or the Work & Ski Canada Job Fair option.

The job fair is a program designed to assist Australians in securing their winter resort jobs before they leave home by bringing a range of Canadian employers to Australia to interview in August, allowing participants to 'beat the crowd' of people from around the world, all vying for the resort jobs at the beginning of the season.

Last year's employers included Sunshine Village, Panorama Mountain Resort, Fairmont Chateau Whistler, The Banff Centre, Asessippi Ski Area and Resort, The Russell Inn and Conference Centre, Marmot Basin and Grouse Mountain.

The employers are situated in British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba. Applicants don't need to be able to ski or board and subsidised housing, heavily discounted season passes and other benefits are offered by many of the employers hiring.

IEP Marketing Manager, Tennille Balaz, encourages Australians to venture further than Whistler, explaining that the Rocky Mountains, straddling BC and Alberta are perhaps even more breathtaking.

"There is so much more to experience than just what we've seen with the Olympics and for Aussies wanting a cultural experience too, somewhere a little less known can provide great job opportunities and a more unique Canadian experience." Ms Balaz said.

Applications for 2010's *Work & Ski Canada Job Fair* program are now open and the program cost is \$595. Those interested in applying should contact IEP on 1300 300 912 or visit www.iep.org.au for further information.

*****ENDS*****

For more information, images or interviews please contact Fran Russo on the details below.

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