

ECHO

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Kelsey definitely noticed

Vancouver Sun reporter Jeff Lee was in Turin for the games, and made note of Susan Kelsey's presence there in this report:

When it comes to persistence in selling a community message, no one does it better than Susan Kelsey, an Olympic bronze medallist in swimming in 1976 now seeking to get cross-country skiers and biathletes to train at Mount Washington on Vancouver Island. Kelsey was at the front of a tiny vanguard of Vancouver Island officials who tried to meet with anyone they could find.

Kelsey, volunteer chairwoman of the Comox Valley Spirit of B.C. Community Committee, was armed with glossy

brochures about Mount Washington, which recently received a \$350,000 injection from the provincial government to help expand the Nordic centre there. She was working out of a bed-and-breakfast and using the World Olympians Association facility in the historic Armida Rowing Club to make connections.

"It's the ideal year-round facility," Kelsey said. "We have cross-country, Nordic, alpine, biathlon and snowboarding, and mountain biking in the summer."

Kelsey says it has similar topography and climate to the Callaghan Valley, site of the Olympic venues.