

FEB 14 2006

ECHO

Valley represented at Torino sports facilities event

Representatives from Powell River, Squamish, Richmond, Surrey and the Comox Valley met with National Olympic Committees and sport federations from around the world at B.C.-Canada Place on Thursday.

Their goal? To attract teams to train at their facil-

ities in the run up to 2010.

"We have excellent sport training facilities and capacity, and very few countries are aware of them," Minister of Sport, Tourism and the Arts, Olga Ilich, explained.

"We want to encourage more international coaches and athletes to consider B.C. for training as we all prepare for 2010." Officials

from the US Olympic Committee, the Japanese Olympic Committee,

Latvia, Scotland and Switzerland attended the event.