

**Premier Gordon Campbell's Congratulations to Olympic Athletes
From the Debates of the Legislative Assembly
Monday, February 25, 2002**

Hon. G. Campbell: Yesterday all of Canada celebrated the incredibly successful Olympic event that we had. I thought it would be worthwhile for this House to recognize, in particular, the 25 B.C. Olympians who participated during the Olympics.

While we all celebrate the men's hockey success and the women's hockey success and the excellence that they brought to their sports, I think we have to recognize the incredible effort that went in for over two dozen B.C. athletes who dedicated their time, their effort and their energy to be able to compete on behalf of Canada in the Olympic Games. They would be the first to tell us that their support came from coaches, from family members and from friends who were always working to make sure they could achieve their best and reach their firm goals. I can't tell you how proud I was to see the Canadian athletes participating and being successful not just for Canada but for themselves, in their individual initiative as well as in their teamwork.

Yesterday Team Canada did an exceptional job, but I can tell you that I was in Williams Lake for the opening of the British Columbia Winter Games on a rainy, cold Thursday evening, and every single one of those people couldn't stop cheering for the Canadian women's hockey team, who won the first gold medal in hockey for Canada in 50 years. Everyone was glued to their television set yesterday as we watched as the men not only beat the United States, they trumped them with skill, with energy and with effort that reflects the skill, energy and effort of Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

On behalf of this Legislature, I would like to congratulate and would like the Legislature to congratulate our 25 Olympians and the contribution they made to the Canadian effort. I'd like to remind everyone that in the year 2010, we're going to do ten times that well.