



Homeowners and visitors  
coming together for home  
stays, celebration and a  
good cause.

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For immediate release

## News Release

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# 2010 Olympic accommodation website offers a legacy for future Games

VANCOUVER, BC – Home For The Games, a first-of-its kind Olympic accommodation website with a charitable twist, says the innovative concept can serve as a model for future host cities. Through [homeforthegames.com](http://homeforthegames.com), citizens can host Games visitors from around the world, with proceeds going to charities tackling homelessness.

“We’re creating a win-win situation by harnessing the energy of the Olympics to foster friendship, generosity and a cultural exchange while giving back to the community. We’re providing more affordable, socially conscious accommodation and the response we’ve received from hosts and visitors proves it can be done. We’ve raised \$50,000 through home stay fees to date,” said Charles Montgomery, founder of Home For The Games.

Home For The Games is a unique non-profit web-based system that matches 2010 Winter Games visitors with Metro Vancouver hosts for short-term home stays, with half of the nightly fee directed to charitable organizations – [Streethome Foundation](#) and [Covenant House Vancouver](#).

“The program rewards generosity,” said Montgomery. “There’s no fee to list or book a room on the Home For The Games website. Hosts set their own rates, although we encourage them to set more affordable fees, and they receive a tax receipt for the portion of the home stay fee that goes to charity.”

Home For The Games has been received positively by Metro Vancouver citizens, the City of Vancouver and visitors from across Canada, the U.S. and Europe. Vancouver City Council endorsed the efforts of Home For The Games by passing a motion of support and the organization is referenced on the city’s website.

“We’re creating a legacy of a different sort: opportunities for people to share an unforgettable Olympic experience with guests from around the world while earning modest rental income and helping those less fortunate. This concept has never been done and we’re encouraging future Olympic host cities to replicate the idea. Now that we’ve proved the model works, we’d like help people replicate the concept in other Olympic host cities,” said Montgomery.

To learn more about Home For The Games, visit [www.homeforthegames.com](http://www.homeforthegames.com)

– 30 –

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### About Home For The Games

Home For The Games is a non-profit web-based system to match 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games visitors with Metro Vancouver hosts for short-term home stays with half of the nightly fee directed to charitable organizations tackling homelessness. Home For The Games is building a legacy of a different sort: creating opportunities for people to share an unforgettable Olympic experience with guests from around the world while earning modest rental income, while helping Metro Vancouver’s most vulnerable citizens. There’s no fee to list or book a room on the Home For The Games website. Hosts will receive a tax receipt for the portion of the home stay fee that goes to charity. Funds raised through home stay fees will be directed to Streethome Foundation and Covenant House Vancouver. For more information, visit [www.homeforthegames.com](http://www.homeforthegames.com)

.../2

## About Streetohome Foundation

Streetohome is a community-based foundation dedicated to reducing homelessness through housing and support services in the City of Vancouver. Streetohome brings together partners across the community to pool their energy and resources to provide supportive, safe, affordable, clean housing. Through Streetohome, corporate leaders, non-profits and government are working together to develop real, sustainable change. Current initiatives include funding and facilitating the creation of housing for people who are homeless, including supportive housing for homeless mothers and babies. Funds raised through Home For The Games will support an innovative project to help address homelessness among people with mental illness spearheaded by the Mental Health Commission of Canada. The four-year pilot project will help them secure housing while ensuring they receive access to integrated treatment and services. For more information, please visit [www.streetohome.org](http://www.streetohome.org)

## About Covenant House

Covenant House Vancouver exists for young people who often have no one else – people between the ages of 16 and 24 who have fled physical, emotional or sexual abuse or have been forced from their homes. Primarily privately funded, Covenant House relies on the generosity of over 50,000 individuals and organizations to provide shelter, food, clothing and counselling to over 2,000 young people each year. Funds raised through Home For The Games will directly support the shelter housing these street-engaged youth. For more information visit [www.covenanthousebc.org](http://www.covenanthousebc.org)

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