

# **Jumbo Glacier Resort Master Plan**

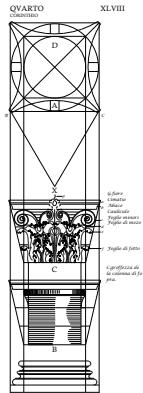
## **Appendix 4-B**

July 2004 Glacier Dome  
Summer Skiing Field Investigation

# pheidias project management corporation

suite 1660 – 1188 west georgia street, vancouver, british columbia v6e 4a2 canada  
www.pheidias.ca

t: 604-662-8833 f: 604-662-7958  
info@pheidias.ca



July 28, 2004

**Mr. Martyn Glassman**  
Project Assessment Director  
Environmental Assessment Office  
P.O. Box 9426  
STN. PROV. GOVT.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

**Re: Olympic summer ski training potential on Glacier Dome**

Dear Mr. Irwin:

I am pleased to report to you the result of our field investigation of summer skiing on Glacier Dome on July 25, 2004.

The purpose of the field investigation was to demonstrate the potential of Glacier Dome for summer training as an alternative to Farnham Glacier to a representative from CODA and to the coaches of the Canadian National Ski Team.

We believe that initiating the Olympic training program at Glacier Dome may allow an easier, earlier and more economical start than on Farnham Glacier, especially if it can be timed to begin near the same time as Phase One of the Jumbo Glacier Resort project.

The participants were (in addition to two guides to whom we entrusted the organization of the trip, Grant Costello and the writer for the proponent group):

- Al Murray, Vice President, **CODA**, Calgary
- Dusan Grasic, Technical Director, **Canadian Men's Alpine Ski Team**, ACA, Invermere
- Dale Stephens, Head Coach, **BC Ski Team**, Invermere
- Matthew Ney, CFO, **Kinbasket Development Corporation**, Invermere
- Brian Smythe, Mountain Planner, **IRIS Environmental Systems**, Banff
- Carol Cohen, Parent, **Kimberley Ski Club** (former Whistler Mountain Ski Club coach), Kimberley
- Scott Blissett, Parent, **Kimberley Ski Club**, Kimberley
- Johnson Rose, Parent, **Windermere Valley Ski Club**, Invermere

The reconnaissance was delayed for a couple of hours by a technical problem with the helicopter, which reduced the number of ski runs to be explored, but it was successful in every other respect. It was particularly significant that the weather was exceptionally hot (at one point in the morning 12 degrees centigrade were recorded near 2,850 metres elevation) and the snow cover was unusually low. Despite the low snow cover, the crevasse bridging was

adequate for skiing without any advance grooming and it was possible to determine a skiable vertical drop of at least 540 meters (in the Master Plan Concept and Project Report we had estimated 500 meters).

It should be noted that despite the favourable weather, in the two days of our reconnaissance, on Saturday July 24, 2004 by air and on Sunday July 25, 2004 on site, we could confirm that there was no hiking activity on Glacier Dome area and its surrounding area, from the sawmill site to Starbird Pass. The passage from Monica Meadows into the Horsethief Creek drainage and up to Glacier Dome did not show any trace of activity. Aerial and on site reconnaissance indicated vehicles parked near the trail to Jumbo Pass in the Jumbo Creek drainage and at the foot of the trail to the Lake of the Hanging Glacier in the Horsethief Creek drainage. This confirms the experience of many earlier site visits during the busy summer months, when only on rare occasions have hiking tracks to Glacier Dome been observed.

We are attaching a report from the two guides that we utilized to organize and direct the reconnaissance, Robert Koell and Reinhard Bergerweiss. These guides, in addition to being eminently qualified and coming from the two leading heli-skiing organizations, CMH and Mike Wiegele, have also been coaches in the Austrian racing environment.

We have also included an e-mail report from Scott Blisset and a selection of pictures. The pictures are also available for viewing online at: [www.jumboglacierresort.com/glacierdome/](http://www.jumboglacierresort.com/glacierdome/)

Yours truly,

**Pheidias Project Management Corporation**

Per: Oberto Oberti, MAIBC  
President

**Encl.**

cc: Bill Irwin  
**Environmental Assessment Office**

OO/ga

**Here are the stats of the proposed World Cup Ski Racing training site at Glacier Dome:**

Please check on the lengths of the runs, as I did not measure them but guessed. The verticals are accurate, taken with my professional Thommen altimeter. The slope Incline may vary slightly.

Top of Glacier Dome:	2900 meters
Course start:	2880 meters
Course finish:	2350 meters

Start of course: 2880m. Low angle ridge going SW of top. Approximately 400m, turning W into top part of Bowl. Incline 18 degrees. Terrain turns N and incline increases to about 22 degrees in middle part of approx. 500 meters wide bowl. Length of bowl after low angle top traverse approx. 1500 meters. Aspect: NNW. Bottom part of Bowl ends at flat low angle terrain.

Total length approx.:	2000 meters
Average incline approx.:	20 degrees
Average Snow depth on top of glacier as of July 25th:	165-cm
Total vertical:	530 meters

**Note:** This is not a representative year for snow cover on glaciers. Little early season snow last fall/early winter and very warm spring/early summer conditions are responsible for the lowest snow cover on glaciers in over a period. At good snow depth on the area, more vertical distance can be gained. The given verticals are representative for the conditions of this summer.

Terrain at the visited site offers two more training routes with various course lines. From same start position and top traverse the line leads NNW before reaching the main bowl into steeper terrain with an approx. incline of 30 degrees. The terrain has more interesting character with a break-over at the top and one smaller one at the bottom. Line connects to the same finish as at above described course.

Total length approx.:	1700 meters
Average incline approx.:	28 degrees
Snow depth:	same
Total vertical:	540 meters

The third course line starts at top of second proposed T-bar lift. Leads N down steeper top part into lower angle bowl to very steep break-over with maximum incline of about 40 degrees down steep slope turning NW and connecting to same finish area as the other two course routes.

Total length approx.:	1400 meters
Average incline:	20 degrees
Snow depth:	same
Total vertical:	400 meters

Robert Koell  
U.I.A.G.M. Mountain and Ski Guide  
R.R. 5, 4339 Park Street  
Wilmer B.C. V0A 1K5  
Home: 1-250-342-0282  
Cell: 1-250-342-1133  
E-mail: [rokokoell@mac.com](mailto:rokokoell@mac.com)

Reinhard Bergerweiss  
9981 Kals am Grossglockner Tirol Austria  
E-mail: [rmountainwhite@hotmail.com](mailto:rmountainwhite@hotmail.com)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Glacier Dome

From: "Scott Blissett" <[sblissett@intref.bc.ca](mailto:sblissett@intref.bc.ca)>

Date: Wed, July 28, 2004 10:39 am

To: "'Grant Costello'" <[grantcostello@jumboglacierresort.com](mailto:grantcostello@jumboglacierresort.com)> Cc:  
"Carol Cohen (E-mail)" <[carol@tallpinesna.com](mailto:carol@tallpinesna.com)>

Hi Grant: Thanks again for the opportunity to participate in the field investigation of the proposed Jumbo development on July 25, 2004. It was a good opportunity to review the site and evaluate the summer ski race training potential. I think Glacier dome if developed, would provide good summer training opportunities for alpine racing and would welcome an invitation to share in the offer made to the Panorama Club to have lane space available to train local K and J level athletes at no charge(as you had mentioned). I believe there would be support from local ski clubs if more cost efficient opportunities were made available to train K and J level athletes locally.

Flying up to the proposed Gondola/Teahouse location adjacent to Glacier Dome afforded awesome panoramic views of the Lake of the Hanging Glacier, Starbird Pass, and Glacier Dome. The weather was beautifully sunny and warm throughout the morning. No visible signs of human presence were noted while flying the area or traversing Glacier Dome. There were a few parked vehicles observed on the way out at around noon near the old lumber mill site (representing some hiking groups). I noticed that the Lake of the Hanging Glacier was not visible from the proposed site of the Gondola/Teahouse. Glacier Dome has the potential to provide excellent summer training for alpine racing if the risks are managed. The risks include mitigation of the hazards associated with crevasses, signage to assist under bad weather conditions, and a means to effect an emergency evacuation. It has adequate vertical, suitable snow conditions, and steepness to facilitate summer SL, GS and SG race training. The area has great potential as a ski mecca and through careful planning, could be an example for other similar planned developments. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss further involvement with you at your convenience.





