Vancouver Reunion
By: Richard Koo (Canada)

The city of Vancouver, Canada was proud to host the XXI Olympic Winter Games in February of 2010. And in what has become tradition, the city was also the host to the bi-annual IOAPA/Olympic Games alumni reunion.

This year’s reunion took place on February 26 at the Aquarius Mews apartment complex, located minutes from BC Place Stadium (home to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies), and overlooking the Vancouver Athletes’ Village at False Creek. President Héctor Argüelles represented the IOAPA at this event.

While the Winter Games reunion is traditionally smaller compared to its summer counterpart, this meeting still attracted representation from three different continents. Those that attended were treated to a cozy atmosphere and great conversation as we saw new faces and reconnected with old friends. Adding to the festivities in the room was coverage of the Women’s Gold Medal curling match and the Men’s Ice Hockey semi-final game on the big-screen TV (the close results having kept many of us on the edge of our seats for much of the night).

The evening continued with drinks in the Yaletown entertainment district of Vancouver. Those who were unable to attend the formal reception joined us here as we continued the celebration of the Games and the friendships that we have made through the Olympic movement.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lisa Wallace from the Canadian Olympic Committee and Katherine Ringrose from 2010 Legacies Now for helping to organize and spread the word about this year’s event to the IOAPA alumni.

See you again in London in 2012!