



Construction on the Richmond Olympic Oval looms in the background as Lloyd Lukban runs with his two dogs along the Fraser River in Richmond yesterday. Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan hopes to use the Olympic building boom to address the city's social challenges. JEFF VINNICK FOR THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Olympic village to employ inner-city Vancouverites

VANCOUVER

The City of Vancouver has signed a deal with the company building the Olympic village that means the project would provide 100 jobs to inner-city residents.

The deal involving Millennium Southeast False Creek Properties Ltd. and the Building Opportunities with Business Inner-city Society also includes the provision that \$15-million will be spent at inner-city businesses.

The city says in a news release that it's continuing its work toward achieving economic revitalization without displacement in Vancouver's neighbourhoods.

Mayor Sam Sullivan says the agreement exemplifies the

commitment to use the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games as a catalyst to address the social challenges the community faces.

He says the deal will help ensure that residents benefit from Vancouver's role as host

city for the Games.

The agreement also includes \$750,000 to cover the cost of pre-employment and construction training, the provision of job coaches and employment retention support.

» *The Canadian Press*