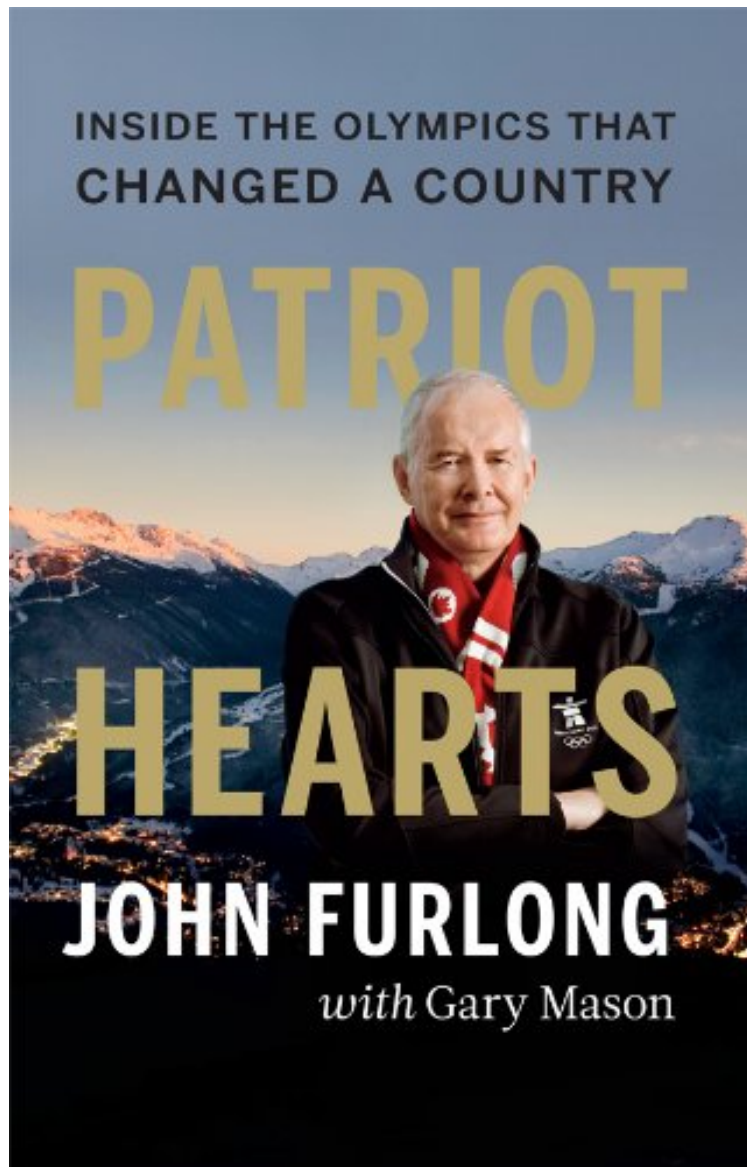


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Patriot Hearts: Inside the Olympics That Changed a Country

John Furlong

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John Furlong : Patriot Hearts: Inside the Olympics That Changed a Country before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Patriot Hearts: Inside the Olympics That Changed a Country:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great Read!By Rod TaylorI was living in the Greater Vancouver Area during these Olympics and got pretty caught up in all the excitement. Spending some time on the streets of Vancouver during the event with tens of thousands of other excited people was one of the best times in my

life. Although it seemed that the winter of 2010 and the Olympic Flame arriving in my area, just came about out of nowhere, not giving consideration to 8 years before when it was announced that Vancouver would host the 2010 games. And a fast 17 days later, it was all over and the games managed to do something that has never happened in the country before. Well this book is about that 8 years, and the 1000's of men and women that made these games happen. John Furlong and his team making up VANOC were a business, and he ran it like a business, which I am sure was very difficult dealing with a bunch of politicians looking only for political gain. B.C. residents would be surprised to find out which politician was only looking out for the benefit of the games, and not himself. This is a great read for individuals and business people alike, as it unfolds the exciting story and challenges leading up to the fantastic Vancouver 2010 winter games. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. GreatBy Fountain443An excellent look into an excellent Games! This provides tons of behind the scenes info, and it's interesting to see the reasoning behind some major decision. Very recommended for any Olympic fan. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy tricia barkerOne of my all time favorite books... and inspiration.

A riveting behind-the-scenes account of the transformative 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games—an extraordinary story of visionary leadership, love of country and the ability to dream boldly. When John Furlong emigrated from Ireland in 1974, the customs officer greeted him with “Welcome to Canada. Make us better” —an imperative that has defined Furlong’s life ever since. A passionate, accomplished athlete with a track record of community service, Furlong was a volunteer for Vancouver’s Olympic bid movement when it began in 1996 and then spent the next 14 years living and breathing the Olympics. Furlong and his organizing team, including 25,000 volunteers and many partners, orchestrated a remarkable Winter Games. *Patriot Hearts* is the story of how they did it. Working with Globe Mail columnist Gary Mason, Furlong recounts the lead up to the Games and describes how he handled seemingly insurmountable setbacks—such as the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili, a global recession and the washed out snow at Cypress Bowl — to achieve a runaway success and, ultimately, a pivotal moment of nationhood.

About the Author Gary Mason is a national affairs columnist for the Globe and Mail, based in Vancouver. Previously, Mason spent 19 years at the Vancouver Sun in various capacities, including a seven-year stint as a popular sports columnist. He has received the prestigious Jack Webster Award for journalism five times and has won two National Newspaper Awards. John Furlong was the leader behind the team that organized and delivered the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games to unprecedented, positive reviews the world over. Prior to his appointment as CEO of the Vancouver Olympic Committee in 2004, Furlong was the president and chief operating officer for the Vancouver 2010 Bid, clocking more than 1.2 million miles in his effort to promote Vancouver’s candidacy. Furlong has been involved with athletics all his life, having competed at the international level in basketball, European handball and squash. He was recently named Canada’s Sports Executive of the Year. For his contributions to the province and country he was recently announced an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Member of the Order of B.C. For more on John Furlong and *Patriot Hearts*, visit patriothearts.ca.