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H1N1 and the global vaccine shortage

While thousands of parents stand in lines to ensure that their toddlers receive the free H1N1 vaccine, we should take a moment to remember the millions of parents whose poverty forces them to simply stand by while their children die from easily preventable diseases.

Opinion P7

All human rights film fest highlights courage

Twenty-five films and an art exhibit set to teach and inspire at Vancity Theatre in Vancouver

Arts & Culture P12



COURTESY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL VANCOUVER

Canada's cellular shake up

Mobile Goliaths may dual with new competitors Dave, Wind, and Public before Olympics

By MATTHEW LITTLE
Epoch Times Staff

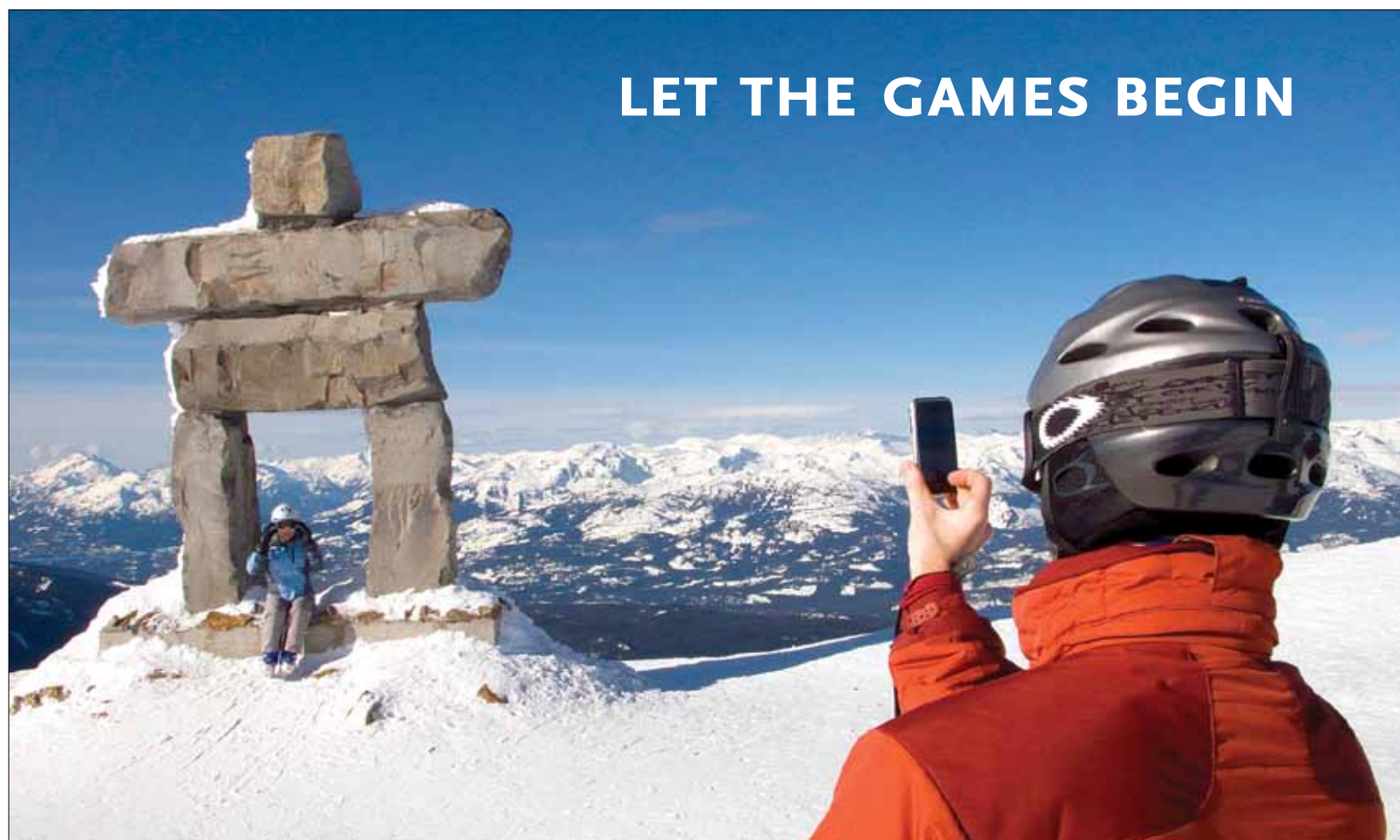
TORONTO—Three new companies are poised to enter Canada's cellular market in the coming months with promises of revolutionary deals that could change the wireless landscape.

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development, Canadians pay more than almost all other nationalities for their monthly mobility. They are also the least likely in the developed world to have a cell phone.

The current big three providers, Bell, Telus, and Rogers, have earned a certain notoriety for hidden fees and bill shocks that send users dialing *611 for a free call to customer service.

Analysts say that frustration could translate into easy market share for the new companies and the increased competition could bring Canada in from the wireless backwater.

CONTINUED ON P3 NATION



A skier uses a cell phone to take a photo of an inukshuk, the logo of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, on top of Whistler Mountain, British Columbia. Three new Canadian cellular companies have announced plans to begin service in early 2010. Two of them will provide service in Vancouver. REUTERS/WOLFGANG RATTAY (CANADA)

Canadian mining company loses Mexico case

By JOAN DELANEY
Epoch Times Staff

In the latest development in a long-running legal battle, a Mexican court has ordered the country's natural resources ministry to revoke a land-use permit granted to a Canadian mining company operating in Mexico.

Vancouver-based New Gold Inc. has been embroiled in controversy triggered by its operation of an open-pit gold and silver mine in Cerro de San Pedro (Saint Peter's Mount) in the state of San Luis Potosi.

The ruling by the Administrative Justice Tribunal of Mexico ends a decade-long legal campaign by Mexican-based Frente Amplio Opositor (FAO), a broad coalition of environmental and community groups.

The court ruled that the company's all-important land-use permit is null and void and that there is no possibility of appeal. As far as FAO is concerned, this settles a long line of appeals and legal revisions over the years and means the mine should cease operating.

New Gold, however, stated in a press release that all permits and licenses required to operate the mine are "valid and in force."

"New Gold is confident that all legal requirements related to its Cerro San Pedro Mine are being achieved or exceeded and that ongoing legal activities do not impact the continued operation of the mine," said President and CEO Robert Gallagher.

FAO has been trying to halt New Gold's project which they allege has destroyed the better part of what was once a historic and environmental preserve protected by state decrees. This includes a mountain that was the founding site for Cerro de San Pedro in 1592 and is a symbol on the state's coat of arms.

CONTINUED ON P2 NATION

Dropped murder charges raise doubts about 'Mr. Big' stings

Researcher says investigation method can elicit false confessions

By SANDY WU
Epoch Times Staff

A researcher on the "Mr. Big" investigative technique says the recent court decision to drop murder charges against Kyle Unger poses "serious ramifications" for the commonly used police tactic.

In a Mr. Big scenario, undercover police officers adopt fictitious criminal persona. Posing as organized crime

figures, they deceive the suspect into believing that he or she is being welcomed into an intricate and highly successful crime syndicate, which falls under the direction of Mr. Big, the gang boss.

Trust builds up over time as undercover police involve the target in staged criminal activities. Targets often receive generous compensation for relatively little work. Eventually the target gets to meet Mr. Big, who expresses concern about the target's criminal past which could jeopardize the integrity or the existence of the organization.

The target is shown an "official"

police document with some information indicating he is the focus of a serious criminal investigation, usually a murder investigation. Mr. Big promises to help make the problem go away, while the target is promised money, protection, and membership in the gang. Somewhere along the line a confession is elicited from the target.

Unger was convicted after a Mr. Big sting in which undercover police officers masquerading as criminals tricked him into confessing the crime to a fake mob boss.

CONTINUED ON P2 NATION

'Mr. Unger's acquittal definitely raises serious questions about the technique.'

— Kouri Keenan



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOUTH WALES POLICE

Man provides photo for his own wanted poster

LONDON (Reuters)—A British man on the run from police sent a picture of himself to his local paper because he disliked the mugshot they had printed of him as part of a public appeal to track him down.

South Wales Police had issued media with the photo of Matthew Maynard, wanted by officers investigating a house burglary, as part of a crackdown on crime in Swansea.

When it appeared in the South Wales Evening Post, the 23-year-old sent the newspaper a replacement photo of himself standing in front of a police van. They obligingly printed it on the front page.

The police thanked him for helping them in their appeal, saying: "Everyone in Swansea will know what he looks like now."



An aboriginal elder sits in the remains of a house at Hoppy's town camp in Alice Springs, Australia. ANOEK DE GROOT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Australia faces challenges in aboriginal 'town camps'

By SHAR ADAMS
Epoch Times Staff

The Australian government has upped its efforts to improve the squalid conditions in the aboriginal town camps of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory, but critics say unless indigenous people are included in the development plans the mistakes of past governments will only be repeated.

Town camps are special-purpose leases in perpetuity set up as aboriginal communal living areas, similar to the reservations in North America, though not as legislated. But they often end up as shanty towns, and the Australian government has offered to invest in housing in the town camps in exchange for control of

that investment and 40-year leases on the land.

The Rudd government has allocated C\$652 million dollars to improve housing in the Northern Territory, promising 750 new homes and 2,500 refurbishments. Of that, around C\$134 million has been allocated to the 18 town camps surrounding Alice Springs.

Ben Schokman, a human rights lawyer representing town camp residents opposed to the terms of the proposed 40-year lease, says the government should be "commended" for its considerable investment, as town camps have been in a state of disrepair for years, with little spent from either the Northern Territory administration or local councils.

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